

# Almond Blossom Special



**Tuesday, March 10, 2026**

Almonds thrive around Modesto because nature and history came together perfectly in California's Central Valley. The region offers deep, fertile alluvial soils, long sunny summers, and cool winter nights—exactly the conditions almond trees need. Modesto became part of the world's largest almond-growing region, to make California the source of over 80% of the world's almonds.

We will visit Hilltop Ranch, which is a family-owned almond farming and processing company founded in 1980 by David and Christine Long. It began with a small orchard and a custom hulling operation and expanded over decades into one of the largest privately owned almond processors in the region. You will see how the company handles hulling, shelling, cleaning, sorting, grading, and exporting premium California almonds to buyers in over 70 countries worldwide.



**HILLTOP**  
RANCH

**SETNESS**  
TOURS  
*Travel Adventures*



Enjoy a hosted lunch at Castle Noz in Snelling. It was built in the early 1900s by Armenian immigrant families as a grand private residence inspired by Old World European castles. Its towers and stonework symbolized prosperity, cultural pride, and the success of Central Valley farming families who helped shape the region's history.

End the tour with a stop at Roberts Ferry Gourmet Store, a family owned and operated company specializing in creating distinctive and irresistible confections, treats and snacks that are all made in the historic Gold Rush community of Roberts Ferry, using fresh locally-sourced ingredients.



### Departures

8:00 a.m. Lodi Departure  
8:30 a.m. Stockton Departure  
9:00 a.m. Manteca Departure

### Return

Approximately 4:30 - 5:30 p.m.  
Dropoff order: Lodi, Stockton & Manteca

### Tour Features

- Tour Coach Transportation
- Morning Snacks
- Almond Processing Facility
- Visit to Hilltop Ranch
- Lunch at Castle Noz
- Shopping Time in Roberts Ferry
- Escorted Trip

**Activity level: Moderate** – You will be walking over uneven ground with no hand rails. Some standing during commentary. Closed toed shoes are required. Tour will go rain or shine.

**SETNESS**  
TOURS  
*Travel Adventures*

E-Mail: [shawn@setness.com](mailto:shawn@setness.com)  
or Call: (209) 476-8486

2432 W. Benjamin Holt Drive  
Stockton, CA 95207

[www.setness.com](http://www.setness.com)

Price  
\$249

Payment  
Due Within 10 Days of Signup

### Cancellation Policy

31 or more days prior to departure - Full refund minus administrative fee  
30 days or less prior to departure- no refund unless someone is found to take your place  
\$20 administrative fee on all refunds.