



# WELCOME TO 253 JUNCO

Junco is a bird! And once we moved here, we found that they are everywhere. We've purposely kept this yard chemical-free for our pet tortoise Celester, and because of it we've been able to enjoy the many different types of birds that live in our area. One hummingbird, and now I'm sure her offspring, build nests in our yard every February and March. We have white-tailed kites that roost in the neighbor's tree, and we get to watch as they train their babies to fly and hunt. Cooper's Hawks come uninvited (because they like to eat birds), and the phoebe family is always around catching all the little bugs. A golden eagle was even spotted once!

We've enjoyed this neighborhood so very much. All our neighbors are so kind and helpful and will watch out for you. Not that there's much to watch for! Our tiny little street is very safe and people only drive fast once....we have a delightful bump at our corner that scrapes their car underside if they take it too fast!

We live right around the corner from the elementary school walkway to the back field, and Granada High School is an easy 30-minute walk or 5-minute drive. The neighborhood kids grow up and others take their places. My daughter had friends her age around and also other children to babysit. Now she and her friends have families with children. And there's a daycare right across the street.

Livermore is a great town and there are a lot of things to do. This is horse country, so there are plenty of boarding stables and places to take riding lessons. There are neighborhood parks to play in, and there are large parks to hike or fish in. Of course there is Lake Del Valle which you must visit, and Brushy Peak is an interesting place where Joaquin Murrieta and his bandits would hide out in the caves on the mountain and watch for covered wagons coming over the Altamont. There is a spring named after him at Murieta's Well Winery where he was said to water the horses he had stolen. He's been also dubbed a Robin Hood who sought revenge and order. The character Zorro is based on his legend.

Speaking of wineries, Livermore has over 60 of them! My favorites are Darcie Kent, Occasio, Cuda Ridge, and Retzlaff. Of course we can't forget the patriarchs of the state, Wente and Concannon. Wente is the longest family-owned winery in the country. Most of the wine you enjoy in this state originated from these two. About 70% of all the Chardonnay grapes in California are clones from the Wente grape, and about 80% of all the Cabernet Sauvignon grapes are clones from Concannon. Almost all of the wineries hold concerts and other events throughout the summer, and our Wine Wednesdays run the entire year where one winery a week will stay open until 8pm.

Livermore also has some delicious eateries you must try; Posada is my favorite, featuring southwestern cuisine with creative and flavorful dishes. And it's in walking distance! Only a mile away. First Street Alehouse, El Charro, Sushi Zone, and Zephyr Grill are also tasty. You can find some exceptional food trucks parked at the many breweries and wineries, too. We have a May-October farmer's market on Thursday evenings, and a year-round market on Sundays.

As for the commute, west Livermore is the best, cancelling out the terrible traffic to the east. So close to 84 with an easy drive over the hill to 680, as well as super close to 580, but without the noise! And the airport is nearby, along with a great golf course, but the flight path is a quarter mile to the north. The various blimps park there during sports seasons and we get to enjoy them and the village it takes to land one of those bohemoths!

And if you don't care for a commute, we have Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory here, which is #6 on glassdoor's best places to work in the entire country! Amazing things are happening there every day.

Finally, the only reason we are leaving this paradise is that it's time we have some property of our own so we can enjoy our horses every day. I hope you come to love this home as much as we have.