



# NEWS RELEASE

**For Immediate Release**

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## “Stone Soup”-Columbia’s Lamplight Theme this Year”

Tickets are now on sale for Columbia State Historic Park’s annual holiday Lamplight program. In this 25<sup>th</sup> year of the event, costumed guides lead visitors by lantern light, through the historic streets of Columbia, while a progressive play unfolds at each stop along the route. The tour culminates where visitors are invited to join the live music and revelry and enjoy a warm cup of good cheer.

Get into the Holiday spirit with a magic night in Columbia and a story that warms the heart. The classic fable” Stone Soup” is set against the backdrop of gold rush Columbia. As the story unfolds participants will be guided by lamplight to different venues throughout town and costumed volunteers will tell the tale of “Stone Soup”.

### ***Columbia Lamplight Tickets Now on Sale***

This year, visitors will see the tale of “Stone Soup” Lamplight Tours are held Friday, November 30<sup>th</sup> and Sat, December 1st and are \$29.95 person (with discounts available for seniors and children). The program is a fundraiser for Friends of Columbia State Historic Park. Reservations are required, and it is advised to purchase early, as tickets sell out each year. Ticket information is available at [www.HighSierraTickets.com](http://www.HighSierraTickets.com) or by phone at 866-463-8659.

Friends of Columbia State Historic Park is a non-profit group of volunteers who raise funds to support the educational and interpretive programs at the park. For more information on Friends of Columbia, please see [www.friendsofcolumbiashp.org](http://www.friendsofcolumbiashp.org).

*Columbia State Historic Park, located in Tuolumne County, is designated as a National Historic Landmark District, and has been preserved to tell the story of the towns which arose during the California Gold Rush to serve the needs of miners. California State Parks has restored and continues to preserve over 30 of the original brick buildings along the town’s Main Street.*

*Columbia State Historic Park annually hosts over 600,000 visitors, and is a major tourist destination in Tuolumne County. Its many historic-style stores and restaurants are run by over 20*

*Concessionaires whose businesses, along with park staff and volunteers, help recreate the experience of the California Gold Rush for visitors from around the world.*