

## **8 GREAT 'CATCHES' FOR ANGLERS**

**With trout, bass, snook and salmon, these hot spots are reeling in retirees**

by Janet Fullwood

### **RIO VISTA, CALIFORNIA**

Anglers know it for salmon and stripers, while the occasional news making whale – Humphrey in 1985, Delta and Dawn in the summer of 2007 – know Rio Vista as a milepost on their errant upstream swims from San Francisco.

Now an increasing number of retirees are getting to know this water-front community on the Sacramento River as a place to start a new life chapter in an environment that is at once refreshingly rural yet still accessible to big-city attractions.



With Sacramento and San Francisco just 51 and 62 miles away, respectively, Rio Vista isn't exactly in the middle of nowhere. Yet the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta, of which it is a part, is a world unto itself. A vast estuary of natural and man-made channels surrounding a maze of levee-bolstered islands and wetlands, the delta is a major recreational destination for water-sports enthusiasts.

“We’re surrounded by marinas here,” notes Linda Lannon with the Rio Vista Chamber of Commerce, elaborating on the many boat-in restaurants and other business catering to fisherman.

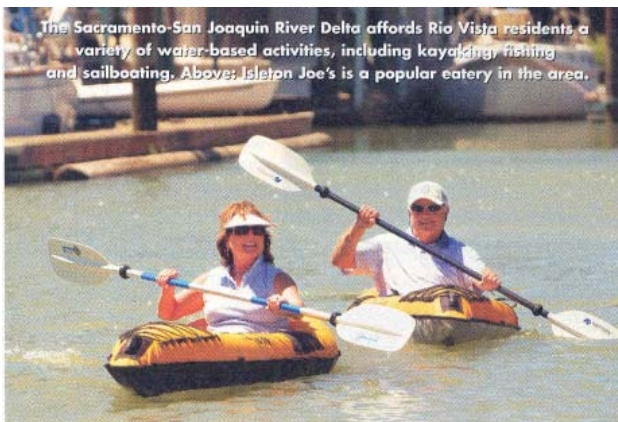
With a cost of living well below stratospheric levels in the San Francisco Bay area, Rio Vista is a

magnet for area retirees. Spearheading the migration is Trilogy at Rio Vista, a master-planned active-adult community of 1,800 homes and a population of 2,500 that is expected to double at build-out.

“There’s a lot of incentive for people 55 and over to move here because not only do they get a brand-new home, they get full use of the facilities including a pool, indoor walking track, a golf course and amazing programming, much of it free,” says Mary Peinado, director of communications for an array of activity clubs that encompass “everything from inline skating to art, billiards, bocce ball, canasta and tennis.”

Trilogy’s fishing club sponsors monthly outings, and some members also participate in highly competitive regional tournaments such as the Rio Vista Bass Derby, which just marked its 60th year.

“The outstanding fishing is what drew us here,” says club president Al Silva, who loves getting rookies started in the sport. “We get a lot of people who don’t know one end of the rod from the other, and we help get them rigged and started. We really enjoy that.”



The Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta affords Rio Vista residents a variety of water-based activities, including kayaking, fishing and sailboating. Above; Isleton Joe's is a popular eatery in the area.

**Population:** 7,786

**Climate:** High Low

January 53 39

July 91 57

**Cost of living:** Above average

**Housing cost:** According to the California Association of Realtors, the median price of a single family home was \$370,000 in June 2007

**Information:** Rio Vista Chamber of Commerce, (707) 364-2700 or [www.riovista.org](http://www.riovista.org)