

You can tell the moment the road starts its gradual rise that something is different here. It's more than merely a feeling, though, as breathing itself is noticeably easier in the purer mountain air. Your lungs drink in the clean scent of pine and cooler breezes. The congestion of the city is but a distant memory as you climb higher and higher above it all. And you feel lighter than you have in a long time.

Two white-tailed deer dart across the road as an owl screeches overhead. Rush hour, you muse. You notice the outdoors and your surroundings in ways you never have before. Your senses are heightened. Greens appear more lush, yellows and golds richer and reds are visibly crisper than they are down below. Your spirits soar in proportion to the elevation. Maybe it's the stunningly beautiful mountain scenery. Or, the serenity itself. Up here, you can actually hear yourself think. In fact, you find yourself thinking about things you haven't thought about in years.

Perhaps, there's something to the fact that the fresh air up here actually does free the mind. Your vision seems clearer; your thoughts are sharper and more focused. Refocused actually, on things that seem to really matter, such as family, friends, a sense of community and personal growth. And ideas come faster, more abundantly. Dreams that no longer seemed possible now seem within reach.

You realize that up here in the mountains, it's not just dreaming that comes easily and naturally, though. Living does, too. Because it's a lifestyle that begs for a change of pace, a change in priorities and the kind of positive personal change that only happens when you are able to get a different perspective. One that only comes from being up high.

Here in Tehachapi, living up means reaching new heights professionally and personally, as well as mentally and physically. It means you're consistently working up, playing up and growing up in every sense of the word.

When you live up, you experience a newfound sense of freedom.

One that only continues to take you higher.



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