



Confirmation Information

We are very excited to welcome your group to Hilmar Cheese Company Visitor Center!

- Please contact us immediately if there is a **change of more than 5 students**.
- **There is no tour charge for chaperones or teachers.**
- **Checks, cash, credit cards and purchase orders are accepted the day of your visit.**
- **Please have one person in charge of paying for your entire group.**

All paid visits include a "Daisy's Dairy ABC's" booklet, a pencil, hair net, a graduation sticker, cheese samples and an ice cream cup (or self made ice cream) for each student the day of your visit. Adults may purchase an ice cream cup for 50 cents.

Plan your visit : Allow 1 hour for the basic tour OR 1.5 hours for tour and ice cream or cheese making. **If you arrive late, your tour may be adjusted for the time allotted.**

Name Tags: Please have each participant wear a nametag so that we may interact with each by name.

Restrooms: March – June we have a restroom trailer just west of the park waterfall. Fully Accessible restrooms are on both levels of the visitor center building.

Chaperone Ratio: We appreciate one chaperone for every five students, no limit on chaperones.

Bus Parking: *Bus arrival area is in front of the Visitor Center.* Send an adult inside to announce your arrival. **Your host will provide an orientation before any student enters the Visitor Center.** If it is raining, the host will talk on the bus. After unloading, bus parking is behind our park.

Where to Eat: Our adjacent park (picnic tables), Merced County's Hagaman Park (covered eating). Pre-ordered Student Pizza and Sack Lunches available. Deli-Café for teachers and chaperones.

How to Divide Your Group: We feature six hands-on exhibit areas. Divide your entire group (under 70 students) into 6 learning teams for exhibits with assigned adults. For groups 70-120 students, please divide into two tour groups. Then, each tour group needs to divide into 6 learning teams. Cheesemaker teams are 8-10 students per team depending on group size.

No backpacks or lunches on the tour: *No student backpacks in the Visitor Center.* Please leave lunches on the bus. **We are not responsible for lost items.**

Shopping: By request, we now offer specific student souvenir items priced \$1 - \$5 including tax for students to practice their money skills. Please let your tour guide know if you want to shop. Only 5 students accompanied by adult to shop at one time; remember you are not our only guests this day.

Please share this information with all participating teachers. Thank you for being prepared. Enclosed are directions and a Pizza Party & Sack Lunch order form.

Visit: www.hilmarcheese.com "Tours" for more information

For the ice cream activity, study how matter changes forms (solid, liquid and gas).

For the cheesemaking activity, please review the scientific method and measuring time, temperature in Fahrenheit and volume in ounces.

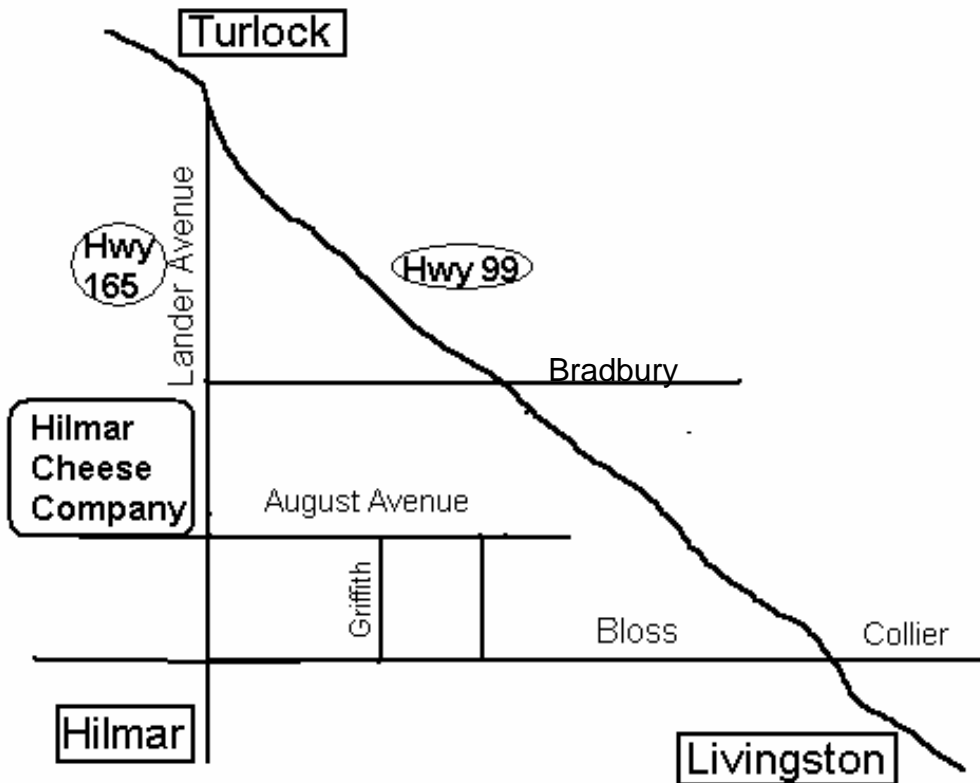
For schedule changes or if there is an emergency or problem tour day call (209) 656-1196.



Directions

North of Turlock

Highway 99 south
Exit Lander Avenue/Highway 165
Turn right onto Lander Avenue/Highway 165
4 miles and Hilmar Cheese Company is on the right side



South of Livingston (Atwater, Merced, Madera, Fresno)

Highway 99 north
Exit Collier, Left under the freeway onto Bloss
Right onto Griffith
Left onto August
Right onto Lander Avenue/Highway 165
Hilmar Cheese Company is on your left side
Bus drop off is in front of the Visitor Center. Bus parking is behind the park.

Phone 209-656-1196



Lunch Locations & Options

What to Eat

Teachers, Parents and Chaperones:

- Hilmar Cheese Visitor Center Starbucks Espresso Bar
- **Hilmar Cheese Visitor Center Deli-Café with delicious soups, salads, sandwiches and desserts**

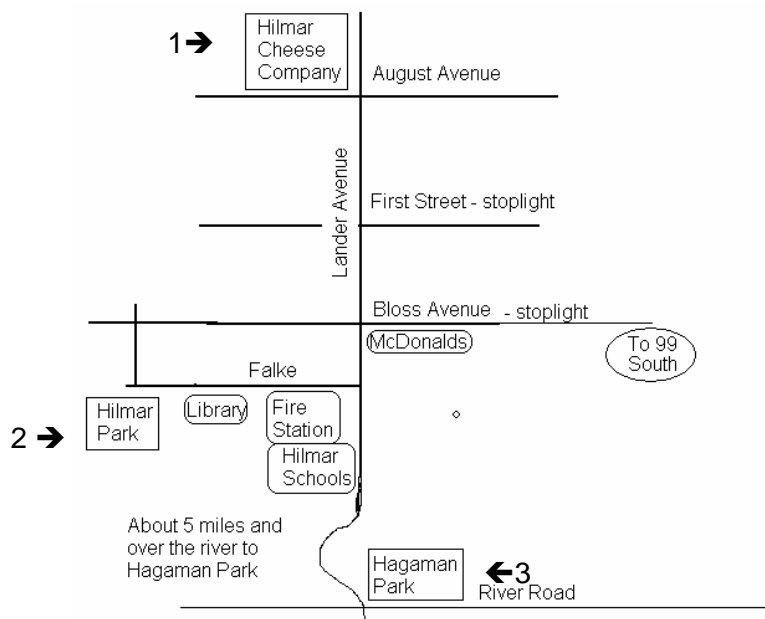
Students:

- Pizzas – Hilmar Cheese Squeaker and Pepperoni Pizzas , Carrots, Freshly Baked Cookies
- **Student Sack Lunches: \$4.00 (including tax) with a ½ turkey sandwich, bag of chips, milk and cookie.**

Student lunches must be pre-ordered 7 days prior to your visit. Order Form available online:
www.hilmarcheese.com: Tour, School Tour, left side.

Where to Eat

1. **Hilmar Cheese Company Park onsite with picnic tables (no covered eating area or playground).**
2. Hilmar Town park with a *covered picnic area* and playground equipment, but limited restrooms. The park is 5 minutes from Hilmar Cheese
You must call: Debbie Luiz to notify her of your plans to use the Hilmar Park
Leave the date and a call back number: 668-1132 or 380-1777
3. Hagaman Park – Merced County Park with *covered picnic area*, playground equipment and restrooms. About 10 minutes from Hilmar Cheese.





Chaperone Information

Welcome!

Thank you for choosing to spend time with your child's group at Hilmar Cheese Company. Being a chaperone is fun and an important responsibility. The chaperone helps create a positive learning experience for all and acts as a role model for students.

What will I be doing as a chaperone?

You will help students participate and explore the learning areas. You may need to help students read to find answers to questions, organize your group to take turns at an activity and guide students to different areas.

You may be asked to help distribute materials for ice cream or cheese making.

You will stay with the students at all times. Hilmar Cheese Company requires that students are with an adult chaperone at all times, regardless of the age of the students.

You will need to escort students to the restrooms located at the south end of the building both downstairs and upstairs. March through June we have a executive restroom trailer in the park area near the waterfall.

What are the behavior guidelines?

Students and visitors are expected to:

- use inside voices.
- walk.
- respect the displays and learning areas by leaving things as you found them.
- respect our park by staying on the walkways and grass.
- help keep our park beautiful by cleaning up after yourself.

What else do I need to know?

If the teacher decides the students will shop, you may visit the gift area after the tour. No more than 5 students may be in the gift area at once. You must accompany your students while they shop.

Your teacher may organize time during the student's lunch for you to enjoy the deli and retail area.

Thank you for your help in making this a fun, educational experience for all.