

FARMERS MARKETS

- Arroyo Grande Valley
- Saturdays, 12pm to 2:30pm
- Olohan Alley
- Cambria
- Fridays, 2:30pm to 5pm
- 1000 Main St.
- Avila Beach
- Fridays, 4pm to 8pm (April–Sept. only)
- on the Promenade
- Cayucos
- Fridays, 10am to 12:30pm
- (Memorial Day–Labor Day only)
- 10 Cayucos Drive
- Los Osos
- Mondays, 2pm to 4:30pm
- Santa Maria St. at 2nd St.
- Nipomo
- Sundays, 11:30am to 2:30pm
- 1645 Trilogy Parkway



WINE COUNTRY



FREE ROAD MAP

COASTAL SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY



California

Highway 1

Discovery Route



THE BEST OF

HIGHWAY 1

Discover uncrowded beaches, road trips, bicycle routes, wildlife viewing, hiking trails, wine regions & lodging

Highway1DiscoveryRoute.com

ANNUAL EVENTS

LOCATION KEY

NORTH

(SS) San Simeon

(CM) Cambria

(PR) Paso Robles

(CY) Cayucos

(MB) Morro Bay

(LO) Los Osos & Baywood Park

(SLO CAL) San Luis Obispo County

SOUTH

(SL) San Luis Obispo

(EV) Edna Valley

(AB) Avila Beach & Valley

(PB) Pismo Beach

(AG) Arroyo Grande Valley

(ON) Oceano & Nipomo

JANUARY

Polar Bear Ocean Dip (CY)

Art & Wine Festival Cambria (CM)

Model Railroad Train Show (ON)

Winter Bird Festival (MB)

Elephant Seal Exploratory Tours (SS)

FEBRUARY

Coastal Discovery & Stewardship (SLO CAL)

California Western Monarch Day (PB)

Cambria Film Festival (SS, CM)

Ocean Film Festival (SS)

BlendFest on the Coast (SS)

PCWV Passport Weekend (SS, CM, CY)

MARCH

International Film Festival (SLO CAL)

Sea Glass Festival (CY)

Vintage Paso: Zinfandel & Other Wild Wines (PR)

APRIL

Easter Parade (CY)

Orchid Show and Sale (AG)

Sculptors Symposium (CM)

SLO Marathon (SL)

Chili Cook-off & Car Show (CM)

MAY

Avila Beach Tequila Festival (AB)

Strawberry Festival (AG)

Avila Beach Blues Festival (AB)

Cambria Wildflower Show (CM)

May Madness (CY)

Paso Robles Wine Festival (PR)

Cayucos Antique Faire (CY)

Olallieberry Festival (CM)

JUNE

Roll Out the Barrels (EV, AG)

Baywood Junefest (LO)

Country Coast Classic Bike Ride (CM)

Gem and Mineral Show (CM)

Twilight on the Terrace at Hearst Castle (SS)

Pismo Beach Car Show (PB)

Central Coast Aquarium's Beneath the Surface Dive & Beach Cleanup (AB)

AUGUST

Olive Festival (PR)

Boatzart Festival (LO)

SEPTEMBER

Pinedorado Days (CM)

SLO County Wine Month (SLO CAL)

Avocado & Margarita Festival (MB)

Avila Apple Festival (AB)

Arroyo Grande Valley Harvest Festival (AG)

Bayfest Music Festival (LO)

OCTOBER

Scarecrow Festival (CM, SS)

Central Coast Railroad Festival (SLO CAL)

Open Studios Tour (SLO CAL)

Oktoberfest (LO, CM, ON)

Harvest Celebration (CM)

Antique Street Faire (CY)

Eroica Bike Ride (CM, CY)

SLO Gran Fondo (SLO CAL)

Harbor Festival (MB)

NOVEMBER

Cayucos Car Show (CY)

Holiday Extravaganza Melodrama (ON)

Christmas Concert & Parade in the Village (AG)

Elegant Evening at Hearst Castle (SS)

Harvest on the Coast (AB)

DECEMBER

Christmas at Hearst Castle (SS)

Holiday Extravaganza Melodrama (ON)

Holidays in the Pines (CM)

Festival of the Trees (CM)

Lighted Boat Parade (MB)

Christmas in Cayucos (CY)

Cambria Christmas Market (CM)

10 DESTINATIONS AND 1 FANTASTIC VACATION

500 hotels, motels, vacation rentals and B&Bs to stay and enjoy

RAGGED POINT



Gateway to Big Sur

Ragged Point, with its 'Million Dollar View' is a landmark stop for travelers heading north to Big Sur or south to Hearst Castle along California's iconic Highway 1 Discovery Route. Towering 400 feet above the Pacific Ocean, the view from the point reveals miles of deep blue ocean, waves crashing on remote beaches, and seasonal whale watching.

CAYUCOS



Historic Beach Town


Explore this iconic seaside town where the old west meets the Pacific Ocean. Head to the shore to watch surfers, go kayaking, explore tide pools, fish off the 950-foot historic pier, or view sea life just off shore. Stretch your legs by promenading down the small-town streets, discovering historic buildings with local antique stores, sea-side restaurants and mom and pop shops that have been around for decades.

MUST-SEE SPOTS:

Ragged Point Cliffside Trail

Salmon Creek Falls

SAN SIMEON



The Majestic Coast

Your experience begins at the edge of NOAA's Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary, and is sandwiched between Highway 1, a National Scenic Byway, and the Pacific Whale Trail, the gray whale migration route from the feeding grounds of Alaska to the breeding grounds of Baja, California. World famous Hearst San Simeon State Historical Monument sits atop "The Enchanted Hill" with a magnificent 115-room main house, guesthouses, pools, 8 acres of cultivated gardens and a world class art collection.

MUST-SEE SPOTS:

Cayucos Pier


Tide Pools

Estero Bluffs

Historic Cass House

History Museum

LOS OSOS & BAYWOOD PARK



Off The Beaten Path

Nestled around the south shore of Morro Bay, nature lovers are drawn to Los Osos and Baywood Park. These little-known gems are surrounded by gorgeous parks, bay and estuary. Morro Bay National Estuary, near the Morro Dunes Natural Preserve, is one of the best-preserved estuaries in central and southern CA, and home to more than 250 species of birds and an historic oyster farm. Montaña de Oro State Park offers more than 50 miles of hiking and mountain biking trails with spectacular ocean, mountain and valley vistas.

MUST-SEE SPOTS:

Guadalupe-Nipomo Dunes Center

Oceano Train Depot


Oso Flaco Lake Natural Area

Monarch Butterfly Grove

Dana Adobe

CowParade Moonarch Dude

CAMBRIA



Pines Meet the Sea

Just 6 miles south of Hearst Castle, Cambria is where the pines meet the sea. Antique and art shops, boutique restaurants and a weekly farmers market offer plenty to do, as well as the town's rich history, beautiful vistas and miles of beach-front boardwalks. Cambria invites you to lace up your hiking boots, clip into your road bike, cozy up by a fire, enjoy walks along the beach, engage in a Stewardship Travel Activity or simply eat, drink and repeat.

MUST-SEE SPOTS:

Montaña de Oro State Park


Morro Bay National Estuary

El Moro Elfin Forest

The Back Bay Marina

Udderly Osos CowBear

AVILA BEACH



Pick Your Perfect Paradise

What's your idea of paradise? Is it a spa retreat that combines natural, mineral hot springs? Are you searching for a beach getaway in a warm, sunny place? Perhaps you yearn to explore the Central Coast's finest vintners on a wine tasting adventure? Or is it discovering the source of farm-to-table in an amazing agritourism experience? There is also biking, hiking, kayaking and oceanfront golf. Whatever paradise means to you, it's easy to take your pick in Avila Beach.

MUST-SEE SPOTS:

Port San Luis Harbor

Historic Lighthouse

Pecho Coast Trail

Bob Jones Trail

Avila Valley Barn

Central Coast Aquarium

OCEANO & NIPOMO



Explore Our Historic Roots

Oceano is an authentic California beach town at the edge of the largest dunes complex in the state. The Oceano Dunes State Vehicular Recreation Area is the only place in California where visitors may drive on the beach and enjoy the area's diverse recreation opportunities, from ATV cruising to horseback riding to surf fishing. The historic Oceano Train Depot served as a classic Type 22 train depot until 1973, and is now a museum filled with railroad artifacts. Nipomo is home to three world-class golf courses, and the historic Dana Adobe home and gardens. Nipomo's flower-filled greenhouses, orchards laden with citrus and avocados, and fields of strawberries reflect the community's agricultural roots.

MUST-SEE SPOTS:

Guadalupe-Nipomo Dunes Center

Oceano Train Depot

Oso Flaco Lake Natural Area

Monarch Butterfly Grove

Dana Adobe

CowParade Moonarch Dude

EDNA VALLEY



SLO Wine Country

Cool ocean breezes and rich soil create ideal conditions for growing world-class grapes. Edna Valley—an American Viticultural Area (AVA)—covers a dozen miles from Arroyo Grande Valley to San Luis Obispo through Tuscan-style countryside. Sample cool climate, award-winning wines such as Chardonnay, Pinot Noir and Albariño in more than 27 tasting rooms. Enjoy a visit to the Old Edna Townsite: Founded in the 1840s, Old Edna was once a bustling center for farming and ranching families and today is host to a wine tasting room and gourmet deli nestled within the historic buildings.

MUST-SEE SPOTS:

Montaña de Oro State Park

Morro Bay National Estuary

El Moro Elfin Forest

The Back Bay Marina

Udderly Osos CowBear

ARROYO GRANDE VALLEY



Wine and Water Sports

The valley is the perfect climate for long bike rides and wine tasting among rolling hills. Just a short distance away is the historic Village of Arroyo Grande, full of shopping, great places to eat, and California's only swinging bridge. The Lopez Lake Recreation Area offers a water playground with 22 miles of shoreline ideal for boating, fishing, sailing, hiking and mountain biking. Families can enjoy the Mustang Waterpark and Vista Lago Zipline Adventure Park.

MUST-SEE SPOTS:

Old Edna Townsite

SLO Wine Country wineries


MUST-SEE SPOTS:

Lopez Lake Recreational Area

Historic Huasna Townsite Drive

Swinging Bridge

SLO Wine Country wineries



WILDLIFE VIEWING AND STEWARDSHIP TIPS

Great wildlife viewing encounters involve good timing, observation skills, and a little luck! California's Highway 1 Discovery Route offers some of the best wildlife viewing opportunities anywhere. Use these tips to improve your chances for a memorable wildlife experience!

Be outside during dawn, dusk, and incoming tides.

Birds, fish, and mammals are active during these times. Look for churning water surfaces, diving birds, shiny dolphin backs, seals and otters in bays and on open water. Listen for songbirds singing in bushes and trees, especially during spring and early summer.

Look and listen for signs of wildlife.

Look for animal tracks and droppings (called scat). Large birds like ospreys, hawks, vultures, and cormorants leave noticeable white droppings (whitewash) on bushes, trees, sea cliffs and rocks. When you see this, look up to find where birds roost or nest.

Low tide exposes fascinating and fragile life on the rocks.

Venture carefully on rocks for a close-up peek into the exciting tidal world of animals feeding, interacting or waiting for the incoming tide.

Look for whales when seas are calm.

Look for whale spouts or blows, tail flukes, and dorsal fins. Big splashes may indicate a whale has just breached. Look for The Whale Trail viewing sites along the Highway 1 Discovery Route at: TheWhaleTrail.org


Stay at a distance, including drones.

If birds and animals get nervous, they show it by looking at you, raising their heads and stopping what they were doing. Any change of an animal's natural behavior is a disturbance.

Stay away from animals that appear sick or abandoned.

If you find an injured bird or land animal, you can help by calling Pacific Wildlife Care; 805-543-9453. If you suspect a marine animal is injured or in danger, call the Marine Mammal Center; 415-289-7325.

Highway1DiscoveryRoute.com/stewardship-travel



CALIFORNIA WHALE TRAIL

The Whale Trail is a nonprofit organization in partnership with NOAA Fisheries, National Marine Sanctuaries and other national marine conservation organizations with a mission to inspire appreciation and stewardship for the marine environment. Our locations are the biggest cluster of sites on the Pacific Coast. The viewing sites are ADA accessible and provide details about the whales, dolphins, seals and otters that can be viewed from shore.

See Whales From The Shore



SLO County is known for its abundant wildlife seasons

Significant natural occurrences can be observed annually. Plan your next trip around your favorite species or group of animals.

ELEPHANT SEALS:

December, January, February, May

BIRDS:

December, January, February

GRAY WHALES:

March, April, May

OCEAN ABUNDANCE:

August, September, October

MONARCH BUTTERFLIES:

November, December, January

February

SEA OTTERS:

Look for them ALL year