THE BEST TRAILS, BEACHES, ACTIVITIES, AND HISTORIC SITES ON THE COAST.

BEST OCEAN WALKS, HIKES, & WILDLIFE VIEWING TRAILS

- PACIFIC VALLEY BLUFF TRAIL: This San Simeon trail offers great bird watching, plus unparalleled views of the ocean and fields dotted with wildflowers.
- BLACK SWIFT FALLS TRAIL: Steep cliffs, breathtaking panoramas, black sands and a seasonal waterfall mark this Ragged Point hike. Dogs on leash allowed.
- FISCALINI RANCH PRESERVE BLUFF
 TRAIL: Seventeen trails greet pedestrians, horseback riders, and cyclists at this 437-acre oceanfront nature preserve. Dogs on leash allowed.
- HARMONY HEADLANDS STATE PARK
 TRAIL: Find a sweet and easy four-mile
 round-trip trail to the beach through soft
 coastal bluffs covered in grasses and
 seasonal wildflowers.
- AUDUBON SWEET SPRINGS NATURE PRESERVE TRAILS: A favorite spot for birdwatchers, this 24-acre preserve offers gentle walking trails and excellent views of Morro Rock.
- MONTAÑA DE ORO STATE PARK & HAZARD CANYON REEF HIKE: Cross a fragrant eucalyptus forest and enter the mouth of a canyon to discover the rocky beach at Hazard Canyon Reef.
- PECHO COAST TRAIL TO LIGHTHOUSE
 HIKE: Hike 3.75 miles round-trip with the guidance of a local historian and natural history buff, ending at the historic Point San Luis Lighthouse.
- **GUADALUPE-NIPOMO DUNES:** Walk on trails and a boardwalk near a beautiful lake, grasslands, coastal brush, and a wide beach with rolling dunes on this diverse 5.2-mile out-and-back hike.

BEST BEACHES FOR SOLO, FAMILY, & DOG DAYS

- W.R. HEARST MEMORIAL STATE BEACH:
 This protected cove is perfect for playing in the sand, walking the pier, fishing, swimming or kayaking.
- MOONSTONE BEACH: Find smooth "moonstones" on one of the best beaches in California for beachcombing and driftwood.
- ESTERO BLUFFS STATE PARK BEACH & THE CAYUCOS SHIPWRECK: Find bluff trails, pocket beaches, tidepools, and prime birdwatching here, plus a real shipwrecked fishing boat on view. To see the shipwreck, take the rustic southern Estero Bluffs State Park entrance to the parking lot at the corner of North Ocean Ave. and Highway 1.
- expanses of beach are perfect for walking, sunbathing and playing, with waters ideal for swimming, kayaking and surfing. Dogs can run off leash in some areas.

MORRO BAY STRAND STATE BEACH: Let your four-legged friend play while you fish, surf, or look for sea glass, wildflowers

fish, surf, or look for sea glass, wildflowers, tidepools and seabirds.

- SPOONER'S COVE BEACH MONTANA

 DE ORO STATE PARK: Tucked back from shore, with azure waters protected from big swells and wind, this cove is ideal for wading and birdwatching.
- along the expansive six miles of Avila Bay's protected family-friendly beach. (Check signage for dog hours.)
- the only one in California where vehicles are permitted to drive on specified areas of the sand and dunes. Dogs allowed on leash only.

BEST WILDLIFE VIEWING AND INSPIRING VIEWS

- ELEPHANT SEAL ROOKERY: The Piedras
 Blancas Elephant Seal Rookery lets visitors
 see elephant seals up close and in their
 element with trained local docents to
 answer questions.
- PISMO BEACH MONARCH BUTTERFLY
 GROVE: The Pismo Beach Monarch
 Butterfly Grove sees thousands of
 butterflies annually and is one of the
 largest Monarch butterfly colonies in
 North America.
- SEA OTTER SPOTTING AT MORRO ROCK:
 In Morro Bay, watch as sea otters play, hunt, and raise their young in protected waters.
- SIX WHALE TRAIL VIEWING SITES:
 Find six whale watching sites with fun and educational interpretive signs and awesome views.



Want to make a difference while on vacation?

Make your travel experience more meaningful with the <u>Stewardship Travel for Good</u> activities along Highway 1. Get involved, create unique memories, and make your vacation more fun. From beach cleanups, trail restoration, museums, and parks tours, your contributions make a difference.

BEST SITES, DISCOVERY CENTERS & ACTIVITIES FOR STEWARDSHIP TRAVELERS

- piedras Blancas Light Station: Tour this majestic lighthouse, a monument to maritime days gone by which towers above the ocean between San Simeon and Ragged Point.
- POINT SAN LUIS LIGHTHOUSE: Reserve an educational and historic tour of this light station which opened in 1890 and still stands high on a hill today with unparalleled views.
- DISCOVERY CENTER SAN SIMEON BAY:
 Located on the emerald historical San
 Simeon Bay, this educational center offers
 fun, hands-on, and interactive exhibits
 about the land and sea.
- OF NATURAL HISTORY: This museum overlooks the dynamic Morro Bay Estuary, with 26 live and interactive science-based exhibits designed to delight and educate.
- KAYAK BACK IN TIME TO PORT SAN LUIS
 LIGHTHOUSE AVILA BEACH: Paddle back
 in time with professional kayak guides to
 the 125-year-old restored Point San Luis
 Lighthouse in Avila Beach. Great for novice
 paddlers.
- SEAWEED FORAGING TOUR ESTERO
 BLUFFS STATE PARK: Discover secret spots
 for foraging delicious edible seaweed, learn
 sustainable harvesting techniques, and try
 seaweed ramen prepared for you at the
 end of the tour.

