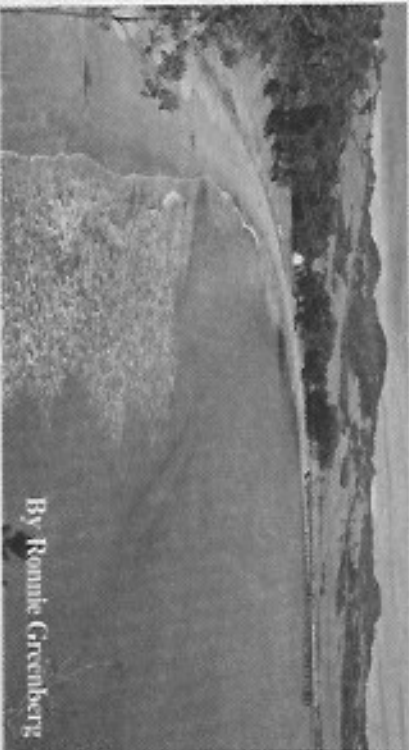


## GREAT ESCAPES



# San Simeon

## The Majestic Coast



By Rommie Greenberg

**D**azzling gold and orange hues on vines that were once green, spread across the delicious Highway 1 Discovery Route along the California Coast on the way to San Simeon.

Make a turnoff to the beach town of Cayucos, for a step back in time. Visit Brown Butter Cookie Company owned by the Horze sisters, where you are welcomed with the aroma of freshly baked cookies and given

samples off the baking tray. Watch the bakers and dough makers hand roll each Brown Butter Sea Salt cookie. [www.brownbuttercookies.com](http://www.brownbuttercookies.com)

Once you get to San Simeon check into the Cavalier Oceanfront Resort, set on a scenic seaside bluff overlooking the Pacific Ocean.

The Cavalier has 90 spacious rooms, many with wood burning fireplaces, patios, pet friendly grounds and accommodations. Outdoor amenities include three oceanfront fire pits, two heated pools and hot tubs, beach access, outdoor games that include giant chess and checker sets, a deck with telescopes for whale watching, and beach volleyball.

On site is the Cavalier Coastal Kitchen. Lunch and dinner highlights include: cream of cauliflower soup; tartare of Angus ribeye; roasted heirloom beet salad; smoked Dungeness crab and shrimp; Swiss chard ravioli; baked Oyster; and top it off with breadcrumb ice cream sundae or coffee creme brulee. [www.cavalierresort.com](http://www.cavalierresort.com)

### Sites to see:

**Piedras Blancas Lighthouse**

Piedras Blancas was first illuminated in 1875, at which point the tower stood 100 feet tall. Its unique appearance, flash pattern, and fog signal made it easily identifiable to mariners. The light station is still in use as a navigational aid and for scientific research. Tours are offered year round. [www.piedrasblancas.org](http://www.piedrasblancas.org)

**Piedras Blancas Elephant Seals Rookery**

Witness the power of the ocean as waves crash the surf and sea otters frolic in crystal blue waters while the fascinating elephant seals bask on the sand. From December to March they can easily be seen nesting, having pups, basking, and mating on the beach up the road from San Simeon Bay at scenic vista points on the coast side of Highway 1. Friends of the Elephant Seals Blue Jacketed docents are delighted to interpret, answer questions and relate the fascinating story of the seals. [www.elephantseals.org](http://www.elephantseals.org)

[www.valleyscenemagazine.com](http://www.valleyscenemagazine.com)  
Hearst San Simeon State Park and Castle

Hearst Castle that sits on top of "Enchanted Hill," is the 60,645 square foot, 115 room luxury estate that looks like a castle, and now a museum that lures visitors from all over. The Castle is the end result of William Randolph Hearst, along with world-renowned architecture Julia Morgan. There are guesthouses, pools, 8 acres of cultivated gardens and a private zoo. [www.hearstsranch.com](http://www.hearstsranch.com)

Additional recreational activities are available including a trip to the Hearst Castle Visitor Center viewing a movie at the Hearst Castle Theater, or taking one of the multiple guided tours. Other activities are camping, hiking, picnicking, walking the beach, windsurfing, kayaking, fishing, surfing and tide pooling. For camping, reservations phone (800) 444-7275. [www.hearstcastle.org](http://www.hearstcastle.org)

**Wine and dine in nearby Cambria**

Stop at the Stolo Family Winery for a tasting and tour. The winery has 22 acres of vineyards, a tasting room



*Rent Some*

**FALL FUN!**

Surreys, Specialty Bikes,  
Swan Boats, Cruiser Bikes,  
Kids Bikes & More!



and a patio. Get to meet General Manager, Diego Aguirre who along with Winemaker Nicole Benotti Pope can walk you through their sustainable growing practices and how they craft their Garagiste wines. [www.stolofamilywinery.com](http://www.stolofamilywinery.com)

Dinner is a special treat at Robbin's Restaurant owned by Shanny Covey, and was originally built in 1935 by Frank Souza, the construction foreman at Hearst Castle. This best-of-all-world eatery has been a favorite. With its trumpeted vine covered patio and cozy interior, Robbin's is one of those rare kitchens that can combine many different cuisines and do them all well. [www.robinsrestaurant.com](http://www.robinsrestaurant.com)

Linn's Restaurant owned by John and Renee Linn is a mainstay. What once started as simple fare based on fresh fruits and vegetables from Linn's Santa Rosa Creek has grown over the years, but Linn's Restaurant in Canby still retains its country roots. Open daily for breakfast, lunch and dinner from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. [www.linsfruibn.com](http://www.linsfruibn.com)

For additional information:  
[www.higway1discoveryroute.com](http://www.higway1discoveryroute.com)

**2 LOCATIONS AT LAKE BALBOA: 6300 BALBOA BLVD, VAN NUYS, CALIFORNIA 91316**

**BOAT RENTALS: (818) 437-7559 • <http://wfr.rent/balboa-boats> BIKE RENTALS: (818) 212-4263 • <http://wfr.rent/balboa-bikes>**