

Explore, Play, Stay, Dine and Travel for Good on the North Central Coast

Welcome to your special [Highway 1 Discovery Route](#) Season of Coastal Discovery personal itinerary.

Highway 1 is the most iconic roadway in California, but not all sections are created equal. [Highway 1 Discovery Route](#), the 100-mile stretch that weaves through San Luis Obispo County along California's Central Coast, connects 10 artisan communities. This region is known for wide open spaces, uncrowded white sand beaches, an abundance of outdoor adventure, wildlife, and award-winning and sustainable wineries. This scenic coastal route includes 13 State Parks, an up-close view of a raucous elephant sea rookery, and one of the largest, most beautiful Monarch Butterfly colonies in North America.

Use this itinerary to guide you in making the most of your weekend travel experience. This is not your typical itinerary. You'll find it more enriching, enjoyable, and meaningful (not to mention delicious)!

You will find bite-sized activities for higher levels of involvement that help make a difference to the places you visit. From beach clean-up opportunities, to trail restoration, to visiting parks and historic sites - you choose from the menu of memory inspiring activities. All activity contributions go to help preserve and conserve the places you'll visit and fall in love with. *Thank you!*

For even more choices, use the NEW [Coastal Discovery Trail](#) to discover and help sustain the best beaches, wildlife, and hikes for solo, family and pet-friendly experiences along the Highway 1 Discovery Route.







Thank you for joining with us to be a traveler that cares!

Now go have some fun!










DAY 1

Saturday

-  Hike at Montaña de Oro
-  Stop at the Whale Trail in Montaña de Oro
-  Lunch at Sea Shanty
-  Hike at Estero Bluffs State Park
-  Marley Family Seaweeds Foraging Tour
-  Celebrate the Good you did Today with Dinner at Robin's Restaurant

DAY 2

Sunday

-  Self-Guided Cambria Historical Tour
-  Grab your FREE Clean Up Kit & Tote Bag and Walk the Moonstone Beach Boardwalk or Hike Fiscalini Ranch Preserve
-  Lunch at Linn's Restaurant and Treat Yourself to their Famous Olallieberry Pie
-  Wine Taste at Hearst Ranch Winery- Cheers to you!
-  Visit the Piedras Blancas Elephant Seal Rookery
-  Drive to Ragged Point and Walk Out to the Point for Spectacular Views of Big Sur
-  Thank you for Traveling for Good Along the Highway 1 Discovery Route!



DAY 1
Saturday



Hike at Montaña de Oro

📍 3550 Pecho Valley Road, United States -

More images:



The trails in [Montaña de Oro State Park](#), near the towns of Los Osos and Baywood, offer bicyclists, hikers, and equestrians varied terrain with beautiful ocean and canyon views. The park features rugged cliffs, secluded sandy beaches, coastal plains, streams, canyons, and hills, including 1,347-foot Valencia Peak. The best-known beach is beautiful Spooner's Cove, across from the main campground. The park's name, Montaña de Oro, means "Mountain of Gold," and comes from the massive amount of golden wildflowers that bloom in spring.

Wildlife in the park features the black tailed deer and the black oystercatcher. Use the Travel for Good [Wildlife Viewing Tips](#) for best practices on observing wildlife.

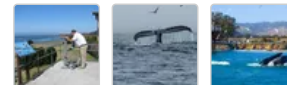
Visit the [Central Coast Concerned Mountain Bikers \(CCCMB\)](#) for [FREE online trail maps](#) and [Travel for Good](#) opportunities like volunteer trail work days and making a donation towards trail maintenance. *Thank you!*



Stop at the Whale Trail in Montaña de Oro

📍 3550 Pecho Valley Road, United States -

More images:



When it comes to whale watching, the Central Coast boasts an embarrassment of riches, especially along the Highway 1 Discovery Route. Here, whales, dolphins, [sea otters](#), seals and seabirds play within full view of the shoreline.

To make the most of wildlife viewing, the [Whale Trail](#) organization has identified the best whale watching spots on the West Coast. Of those 100 Whale Trail sites, San Luis Obispo County contains a whopping ten. (That's the most in one county along the entire California coast!) Six of those whale watching viewpoints stand along the Highway 1 Discovery Route.

Each of the [Whale Trail](#) viewpoints offers interpretive signs containing helpful information about the sealife commonly seen there. Species, seasonal and migration facts augment the whale watching experience. (And one special site in San Simeon even provides telescopes for easy viewing!)

The Whale Trail sign in Montaña de Oro is located at the very south end of the park on the Bluff Trail, just north of Corralina Cove. Trek 1.65 miles down the Bluff Trail (if you park at the trailhead by Spooner's Cove) or 0.55 miles from the Coon Creek parking lot (farthest lot in the park).

Have fun using the [Stewardship Travel for Good Wildlife Tips](#) for helpful hints on how to best see wildlife.



Lunch at Sea Shanty

📍 296 South Ocean Avenue, Cayucos, United States -

More images:



The [Sea Shanty](#) has been family owned and operated since 1983. It's a local favorite open seven days a week.

Enjoy the ambience of the quaint Cayucos beach-town or come later in the day and delight in watching the sunsets along the spectacular beaches. Sea Shanty provides the very best in service and quality, and of course outstanding, freshly caught local seafood. Don't forget to save room for their famous desserts!



Hike at Estero Bluffs State Park

📍 Cayucos, United States -

More images:



Gentle bluff trails lead down to secret little pocket beaches nestled in the rocks at [Estero Bluffs](#). One of the best locations for fun and careful tidepool viewing. Good whale watching possibilities are offshore along with birdwatching. For best Wildlife viewing practices feel great using the [Wildlife Viewing Tips](#).

The [Cayucos Land Conservancy](#) and enthusiastic residents banded together to protect the area from development to ensure public access. [Travel for Good](#) by learning more about the history and mission of the Cayucos Land Conservancy or make a [donation](#) to help protect this beautiful coastline. *Thank you!*

And while you're here, don't miss the short 500-foot walk to the shipwreck viewing site. The commercial fishing boat, The Point Estero, crashed into the rocks on its way back to Morro Bay Harbor after a fishing trip on July 28, 2017.

To see the shipwreck, take the rustic southern Estero Bluffs State Park entrance to the parking at the corner of North Ocean Avenue and Highway 1.

"My husband and I have been to Cayucos many times and have never seen the shipwreck. What a stunning view and a hiddle gem!" Katherin Write, Artist



Marley Family Seaweeds Foraging Tour

San Geronimo Road, Cayucos, United States -

More images:



Named one of the best foraging destinations in the United States, our stretch of Highway 1 offers small group [seaweed foraging](#) outings. [Marley Family Seaweeds](#) specializes in foraging for wild Pacific seaweeds including Big Sur wakame, kombu and nori. Join Spencer Marley in Cayucos to forage for edible seaweed along Highway 1.

All along the pristine coast of Central California, many species of delicious edible seaweeds exist. Kelp is one of the most tasty and nutritious wild superfoods! On the tour you will visit local spots and learn basic phycology (marine algae science) and sustainable harvesting techniques.

Not only will you partake in a unique experience surrounded by breathtaking scenery, but you will leave with the knowledge of how to sustainably harvest nutritious seaweed for themselves for years to come. Enjoy amazing seaweed Ramen in the traditional Japanese form at the end.

To book a tour click [here](#).



Celebrate the Good you did Today with Dinner at Robin's Restaurant

4095 Burton Drive, Cambria, United States -

More images:



[Robin's](#) features handcrafted comfort cuisine with an array of international flavors made from farmers' market fresh ingredients. Housed in a restored adobe home in the historic East Village of Cambria, Robin's is a favorite with locals and visitors for its warm hospitality, cozy atmosphere and charming gardens.

Note: Reservations are required.

Contact: 805.927.5007

DAY 2
Sunday



Self-Guided Cambria Historical Tour

More images:



The [Cambria Historical Museum](#) invites you to travel back in time with a self-guided walking tour of Cambria's historic buildings. Begin your journey at the Cambria Historical Museum, also known as the Guthrie-Bianchini House. Get your map [here](#) and then take a stroll down memory lane by visiting 28 historic sites that tell this town's remarkable backstory. Stops include a tiny Catholic chapel tucked up on a hill, a Prohibition-era hotel and card hall, and one of the oldest remaining Chinese temples in all of Southern California. Some historic sites welcome the public, such as restaurants, shops and inns. Others are residences or otherwise private. In either case, the journey will stoke your curiosity and offer a glimpse into the heritage of our special stretch of Highway 1.

[Travel for Good](#) by visiting their website to [make a donation](#) to help preserve and protect historic Cambria. *Thank you!*

"What a great way to experience downtown Cambria. We were able to shop and explore the rich history of the town." Maegan Stiles, Office Manger & Mom



Grab your FREE Clean Up Kit & Tote Bag and Walk the Moonstone Beach Boardwalk or Hike Fiscalini Ranch Preserve

More images:



Grab your FREE clean up kit & tote bag ([check here for pick up locations](#)) and [Travel for Good](#) while walking the [Moonstone Beach Boardwalk](#) or hiking the [Fiscalini Ranch Preserve](#) by picking up trash you see along the way. *Thank you!*

Wildlife abounds on this one-mile path with gray whales, humpback whales, dolphins, seabirds and [otters at play](#). For best viewing have fun using the [Wildlife Viewing Tips](#).

Thank you for Traveling with care!



Lunch at Linn's Restaurant and Treat Yourself to their Famous Olallieberry Pie

📍 2277 Main Street, Cambria, United States -

More images:



[Linn's](#) began as one family's American Dream. The year was 1977, and John and Renee Linn left the big city behind to farm fertile but rugged land on the Central Coast.

Less than a decade later, the couple had a bustling fruit and produce stand, where the olallieberry – a then almost-unheard-of fruit that crossed a blackberry with a raspberry – reigned supreme... especially in Renee's pies. In fact, the Food Network's Mark Summers featured the now-famous olallieberry pie on his "The Best Thing I Ever Ate" TV show. But customers kept asking for more, and in 1989, a little red brick restaurant named Linn's opened in Cambria's historic East Village. Serving hearty breakfasts, lunches and dinners, Linn's also has small plate choices, offers Hearst Ranch beef and naturally, bakes lots of olallieberry treats. As for that original stand? Linn's Fruit Bin Farmstand is still around and opens seasonally.

Contact: 805.927.0371



Wine Taste at Hearst Ranch Winery- Cheers to you!

📍 433 Slo San Simeon Road, Ragged Point, United States -

More images:



Overlooking San Simeon Bay, [Hearst Ranch Winery's](#) San Simeon seaside tasting room offers a scenic outdoor tasting area to sample their wines, made from sustainably grown grapes from their vineyards in Paso Robles. The San Simeon tasting room is the Central Coast's only seaside tasting room.

Note: Reservations are required.

Contact: 805.927.4100



Visit the Piedras Blancas Elephant Seal Rookery

📍 San Simeon, United States -

More images:



The Piedras Blancas Rookery, located off of scenic Highway 1, is the only [elephant seal](#) rookery in the world that is easily accessible, free and open to the public every day of the year. The elephant seals haul out on beaches near San Simeon year-round, as they go through different phases in their life cycle. In peak times, there are up to 17,000 animals on the San Simeon shores.

[Travel for Good](#) by visiting the [Friends of the Elephant Seal](#) to learn more about them or to [make a donation](#) to ensure conservation of this precious natural attraction. *Thank you!*

"Visiting the Elephant Seals was like being dropped on the Galapagos Islands. It was unbelievable and the kids are still talking about it!" Mary Howto, Computer Programmer and Mom

Contact: 805.924.1628



Drive to Ragged Point and Walk Out to the Point for Spectacular Views of Big Sur

📍 19019 California 1, Ragged Point, United States -

More images:



The stretch of highway between San Simeon and Ragged Point offer some of the most picturesque vistas in the world. The roadway follows where the majestic Santa Lucia Mountains meet the Pacific Ocean, with jaw-dropping views around every twist and turn. As you drive, plenty of turnoffs offer moments for taking in the region's grandeur.

Once you arrive at [Ragged Point](#) be sure to walk out to the point to view the [gateway to Big Sur](#).



Thank you for Traveling for Good
Along the Highway 1 Discovery
Route!

Safe travels home and we hope to see you again along the [Highway 1 Discovery Route!](#)

For your next visit, check-out the [History & Heritage Trail](#), a collection of landmarks and significant points along Highway 1 designed to bring visitors closer to the roots of coastal San Luis Obispo County. Step back in time and step up to help preserve the places, cultures, and stories of this rich, varied region.

Thank you for joining us to be a traveler that cares!
Joining us hits the 75-85% that want to visit a destination that preserves itself!

[We run on Tripcreator](#)