

WINECOASTCOUNTRY DISCOVERY ROUTE Sample Three-Day Itinerary

Begin Day One at the northernmost point of the Discovery Route in Ragged Point and enjoy the magnificent scenery.

- 1st Stop: Enjoy sea kayaking in the breathtaking natural harbor of San Simeon Cove at the southern end of the 60 mile stretch of the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary, the nation's largest protected marine area. After a brief instructional lesson on the beach by Kayak Outfitters, a team that grew up on the Central Coast and takes great pride in sharing their love of the ocean, paddle the pristine waters that are home to abundant, enchanting wildlife such as sea otters, harbor seals, sea lions, whales, dolphins and much more. Kayak Outfitters, W. R. Hearst State Memorial Beach, San Simeon, CA 93452; (805) 927-1787; kayakcambria.com.
- **2nd Stop:** Lunch at <u>Sebastian's General Store</u>, a local favorite with some of the best sandwiches and burgers around and a great wine tasting bar for <u>Hearst Ranch Winery</u> -- all with a fabulous view of the surrounding area and very close to Hearst Castle. The store, built in 1852, is a registered historical landmark (No. 726). *Old San Simeon/Sebastian General Store, Hearst Ranch Winery Tasting Room, 442 San Simeon Road, San Simeon, CA 93452, Phone:* (805) 927-3307, <u>hearstranchwinery.com</u>.
- **3rd Stop:** Spend the afternoon touring the historic <u>Hearst Castle</u>, where history meets elegance in this renowned landmark known for its extensive art collection dating all the way back to the third century. *Reservations required. Hearst Castle, 750 Hearst Castle Road, San Simeon, CA 93452; (800) 444-4445, <u>hearstcastle.org</u>.*
- **4**th **Stop:** Check in at one of San Simeon's lovely ocean side lodgings overlooking the beautiful Pacific Ocean by visiting <u>winecoastcountry.com</u>.
- **5th Stop:** Enjoy dinner at <u>El Chorlito Mexican Restaurant</u>, offering California New Mexico Style Cuisine, offering indoor and ocean view patio seating with

house specialties like homemade vegetarian salsa, lamb shanks in a mild tomato sauce and their famous "Margaritas De Vino" made with Los Cabos Agave Especial Wine. El Chorlito Mexican Restaurant, 9155 Hearst Drive, San Simeon, California 93452; (805) 927-3872; elchorlito.com/noflashhomepage.html

Begin Day 2 by waking to the sounds of the surf and the San Simeon sunrise.

- **1**st **Stop:** Head south on the Discovery Route to the quaint town of <u>Cambria</u>. Begin with breakfast at The <u>French Corner Bakery</u> for a perfect cup of coffee, a mocha or cappuccino, fresh pastry, and handcrafted bread. Spend the morning wandering the charming streets, filled with some of the best art galleries and studios on the Central Coast, including the world-renowned <u>Seekers Glass Gallery</u>. Next, take a walk to scenic <u>Moonstone Beach</u>. *The French Corner Bakery*, 2214 Main Street, Cambria, CA, (805) 927-8227; <u>frenchcornerbakery.com</u>. Seekers Glass Gallery, 4090 Burton Dr., Cambria, CA 93428; (800) 841-5250; <u>seekersglass.com</u>. Moonstone Beach, Moonstone Beach Drive Cambria, CA 93428; (805) 927-3859; <u>winecoastcountry.com/play/moonstone-beach</u>.
- Schooner's Wharf. Schooner's Wharf has been offering guests an unforgettable dining experience since it opened in 1993. Embracing a nautical theme reminiscent of the early history of the Central Coast sailors and fishermen, Schooners boasts the best ocean views of any restaurant in the area. Gaze into the deep blue while enjoying one of their signature cocktails and famous calamari strips. Schooner's menu features fresh seafood, steak and their house specialty Bloody Mary. After lunch, stroll the historic pier; browse the many antique shops; and stop by the Brown Butter Cookie Company where visitors are welcomed by the scent of freshly baked cookies to sample. Brown Butter Cookie Company, 98 North Ocean Avenue, Cayucos, California 93430; (805) 995-2076; brownbuttercookies.com. Schooner's Wharf, 171 North Ocean Avenue, Cayucos, California 93430; (805) 995-3883; schoonerswharf.com.
- **3rd Stop:** Time for a hike in Montana de Oro after all that deliciousness! Travel south to Los Osos/Baywood Park for a beautiful invigorating hike in one of the Central Coast's most magical State Parks. Montana de Oro State Park; The park is six miles southwest of Morro bay and seven miles south of Los Osos/Baywood Park on Pecho Road; (805) 528-0513; trails.com
- 4th Stop: Check into one of the delightful lodging options in Los
 Osos/Baywood Park offering beautiful gardens, gorgeous waterfront vistas,
 and views of majestic coastal mountains of Montana de Oro State Park. For
 lodging options visit winecoastcountry.com.
- **5**th **Stop:** After a brief respite from the day's activities, have a relaxing dinner at <u>10th Street Grill</u> with delicious food and cozy atmosphere. *10*th *Street Grill*, *2011 10th Street*, *Los Osos/Baywood Park*, *California 93402; (805) 528-2011;*

Begin Day 3 rising in the morning to the songs of migrating birds on the Back Bay.

- **1**st **Stop:** take your coffee and meal at <u>Good Tides Coffee Organic Bistro.</u> *Good Tides Coffee Organic Bistro, 1326 2*nd *Street, Los Osos/Baywood Park; (805) 528-6000; <u>goodtides.com</u>*
- 2nd Stop: After breakfast, follow the Discovery Route from the coast to the country on the Edna Valley Wine Trail, stopping to taste at the sustainably-operated Tolosa Winery, the charming and superb tasting room of Claiborne & Churchill, and onto Baileyana for great wine and a game of bocce ball. Edna Valley Wine Trail Map, classiccalifornia.com/edna-wine-map.htm. Tolosa Winery, 4910 Edna Rd, San Luis Obispo, CA 93401; (805) 782-0500; tolosawinery.com. Claiborne and Churchill Vintners, 2649 Carpenter Canyon Rd., San Luis Obispo, CA 93401; (805) 544-4066; claibornechurchill.com. Baileyana, 4915 Orcutt Road, San Luis Obispo, CA 93401; (805) 597-8200; baileyana.com.
- **3rd Stop:** Visit the historic <u>Old Edna Townsite</u> where <u>Sextant Winery</u> Tasting Room is located, and enjoy a relaxing afternoon with a casual lunch in a serene country setting with exquisite local wines and cheeses and farm fresh fare from the Old Edna Gourmet Deli. *Old Edna Townsite, 1653 Old Price Canyon Road, San Luis Obispo, CA 93401; (805) 544-8062; <u>oldedna.com.</u> Sextant Winery, 1653 Old Price Canyon, San Luis Obispo, CA 93401; (805) 542-0133; sextantwines.com*
- **4**th **Stop:** After lunch, head to the <u>Arroyo Grande Valley</u> to <u>Windmill Farms</u> and walk through their grounds featuring succulents and roses, and an extensive assortment of pottery, fountains, garden art, a barn filled with fruits, vegetables, gourmet delights and then visit the animals at the Critter Corral. *Arroyo Grande Valley*, <u>winecoastcountry.com/slo/arroyo-grande-visitor-guide</u>. Windmill Farms, 1275 N. Thompson Avenue, Arroyo Grande, CA 93420, (805) 489-1000; windmillfarms.org.
- **5**th **Stop:** Last, take a lovely drive to <u>Laetitia Vineyard & Winery</u> to enjoy the picture-perfect view from the hilltop setting, gourmet food shopping, and award-winning sparkling wines. *Laetitia Vineyard & Winery, 453 Laetitia Vineyard Dr, Arroyo Grande, CA 93420; (805) 481-1772; <u>laetitiawine.com</u>*
- **6**th **Stop:** Finish the day with a classic Central Coast style barbeque dinner at the famous <u>Jocko's Steak House</u> in the charming country town of <u>Nipomo</u>. *Jocko's Steak House, 125 N Thompson Ave., Nipomo, CA 93444; (805) 929-3565;* <u>winecoastcountry.com/eat/jockos-steakhouse</u>