

Five Day Itinerary

Millions of tourists travel to Monterey and Pacific Grove each year to take advantage of the bounty of activities and attractions that make the region unique. The area is world-famous for unparalleled scenic beauty, golf, and cuisine. A scenic tour of the dramatic coastline provides views of Lover's Point, Point Pinos, Crespi Pond and the natural dunes land at Asilomar. You will be enchanted by the abundance of natural wonders such as the plentiful Pacific Blacktail Deer, seals, sea lions, sea otters, pelicans and gulls. Known as Butterfly Town U.S.A. Pacific Grove is host to the annual migration of thousands of Monarch Butterflies. Walk along the ocean front trail in front of the Inn to Lover's Point Park or the other direction fourteen miles to Maria; depending on the comfort of your shoes and constant wave action. Where else could you whale watch in the morning and plant your feet in the soil while wine tasting at one of Carmel Valley plentiful winery tasting rooms in the afternoon.



DAY ONE Tour the area by car.

17 Mile Drive

(Time to Plan: Min: 1-2 hours)

This world-renowned ocean drive to Pebble Beach and Carmel begins at our doorstep. Enjoy the many vistas of the ocean, golf courses and incredible homes. Start in Pacific Grove in front of the inn and end in Carmel. Enter at the Pacific Grove gate at the intersection of 17-Mile and Sunset drives.

Inside Scoop: Follow the 17 Mile Drive into Carmel. Once on the Drive, just keep turning right at every major intersection. Drop down to the end of Ocean Avenue (Main Street) and follow Scenic Drive along Carmel Beach. Carmel beach is a great beach to stroll on. Continue on to tour downtown Carmel.

Tour Down Town Carmel Shops and Galleries

(Time to Plan: Min: 1-2 hours)

Carmel is a community rich in the history and traditions of early California. Carmel's Bohemian founders fought to maintain the outdoor mystique and small town appeal and their efforts are still in effect today. The residential district has no sidewalks or street lights, and the beach is unadulterated by commercial developments. Homes are known only by name and have no street addresses. Enjoy the European ambiance where they are free to stroll the winding streets. Highlighted by over 90 art studios and galleries, numerous antique shops, hundreds of boutiques and small intimate cafes and restaurants, Carmel promises hours of discovery.

Check out the Carmel Art Association, established in 1927, Carmel's oldest gallery is owned and operated as a collective by leading local artists who show diverse works in their historic tree shaded building. Dolores between 5th & 6th.

Inside Scoop: Don't Miss the shop with the most stunning profit margin, "Cottage of Sweets" on lower Ocean Avenue. If you follow the road along the edge of the water called [Scenic Avenue](#) will wind around to 15th Street which leads out to Rio Road and the Carmel Mission.

Visit Carmel Mission

(Time to Plan: Min: 1-2 hours)

Was mission founder, Father Junipero Serra's favorite [mission](#) and is where he is buried. Built in 1771 the Basilica reflects the beautiful architecture of early California. Take the walking tour and visit the museum, part of the mission complex.

DAY TWO What's under the bay, Famous authors' inspiration & explore lighthouse

Visit Aquarium, Lunch and Shopping on Cannery Row

(Time to Plan: Min: 3-4 hours)

Ditch the car and walk to the [aquarium](#). Explore three ocean habitats: the Enchanted Kelp Forest, Coral Reef Kingdom and Rugged Rocky Shore. The aquarium has combined new live animal exhibits new interactive experiences and games with visitor favorites from the original galleries. Open daily from 10 am - 6 pm. General admission is \$49.95 for adults and \$39.95 for Seniors.

Inside Scoop: Pick up your tickets from at the Inn and get two consecutive day admission for the same price as picking up the tickets at the aquarium and avoid any lines as you walk in the members entrance.

Cannery Row Made famous by John Steinbeck's novels, Cannery Row is only a 5-minute drive or a 15-20 min. stroll along our waterfront hike-and-bike path. (entrance is just across the street from the inn.) Cannery Row boasts the world acclaimed Monterey Bay Aquarium, famous restaurants and shops.

[Cannery Row](#) locations are just a 20-minute walk from Seven Gables Inn. The proximity to one another and the many delectable-dining options creates a wine and food experience that is sure to please.

Point Pinos Lighthouse

(Time to Plan: Min: 1 hours)

Celebrating the 152 year of operation. Take a tour of the West Coast's oldest working [lighthouse](#). Located in Pacific Grove, near the intersection of Lighthouse and Asilomar Avenues. Self guided tours a \$2.00 donation is suggested. Normal hours 1:00 - 4:00 Thursday - Monday. Ph. 831-648-5716

DAY THREE

Hike to see sights, Drive to Big Sur, possible lighthouse tour.

Point Lobos, State Park

(Time to Plan: Min: 2 hours)

At the northern edge of Big Sure, located slightly south of Carmel is [Point Lobos State Natural Reserve](#) is outstanding for pleasant hiking trails, sightseeing, painting, photography, nature study, picnicking, SCUBA diving and jogging. Considered "the crown jewel of the State Park System". Often overlooked by road trippers heading to the heard of Big Sur, Point Lobos offers some of the up-close-and-personal marine life viewing in the area: abundant wildlife, headlands, scenic coves and meadows. Thousands of seabirds also make the Reserve their home. Hiking trails follow the shoreline and lead to hidden coves.

The area contains one of the richest underwater habitats in the world that is popular with divers. Wildlife often spotted include: seals, sea lions, sea otters and migrating gray whales from December to May. The area was once home to the turn-of-the-century whaling and abalone industry.

Big Sur

(Time to Plan: Min: 2-3 hours)

This fantastic drive south on famous Highway 1 features some of the most spectacular and famous scenery on the West Coast of California. Remember to bring your camera and allow time to stop and take in the scenic vistas at the numerous pull-outs. You can drive down the coast 26 miles from south of Rio Road at the mouth of Carmel Valley. This drive takes you to the center of [Big Sur](#). Presently the Highway turns around just past Big Sur Lodge, due to road a bridge that washed out. Take a look at our [Big Sur Driving Guide](#).

Point Sur Lighthouse

(Time to Plan: Min: 1 hours)

Located 19 miles south of Carmel along Hwy 1 [Point Sure Lighthouse](#) guards the spectacular Big Sur coast from a remote highland. Unique panoramic views, super whale watching, and lighthouse history. Access by 3 hour volunteer-led walking tours: Sat. & Sun at 10 am. year-round and Weds 1 pm. April through October. Admission \$10 adults, \$6 children Arrive Early! Phone 831-625-4419

DAY FOUR Get Outside

Whale Watching

(Time to Plan: Min: 3-4 hours)

In the morning enjoy year round whale watching excursions in the Monterey Bay Sanctuary with great captains, naturalist and crews. Passengers aboard whale-watching vessels are treated year-round to glimpses of gray, blue and humpback whales, and huge pods of dolphins. Most depart from Fisherman's Wharf, Monterey. Contact one of the following to plan your trip: *Princess Monterey Whale Watching 831-372-2203, Randy's Whale Watching 831-373-7440, or Chris Whale Watching 831-375-5951.*

Kayaking or Bicycling

(Time to Plan: Min: 1 hours)

A very relaxing way to see Monterey and Historic Cannery Row is by sea kayak. Views of spectacular rocky coves and sandy beaches and sandy beaches will captivate you, while playful seals and sea otters entertain you. For the sporting enthusiast or weekend voyager, sea kayaking is easy and fun. During the summer high season rent kayaks at Adventure-by-the-Sea just two block away at Lovers Point. Join a Kayaking tour in nearby Monterey during the summer they head out twice a day from Cannery Row or Beach at wharf number two.

Enjoy miles of beautiful shorelines bicycle paths, tour Monterey. Pacific Grove, Pebble Beach, Carmel, or Point Lobos. All Gates for 17 Mile Drive (Pebble Beach) are now open daily (except for special events). There is no entry fee charged for cyclist. [Adventures by the Sea](#), located at Lover's Point Beach. (2nd location at 299 Cannery Row, rent mountain bikes and other transportation. With free delivery to your hotel - includes locks, helmets and backpack upon request. (831) 372-1807

Segway

(Time to Plan: Min: 1-3 hours)

A tranquil way to see Monterey and enjoy the outdoors is to ride a Segway. [Segway Tours Monterey](#) operates three scenic tours: a Historic Monterey, 17 Mile Drive and Recreation Trail. Learn how to operate and enjoy some of the most scenic areas reachable by this all electric single rider mode of transportation.

Guided Tours

(Time to Plan: Min: 4 hours)

Sharing experiences with local guides that will share local history and knowledge about the diversity of our beautiful coastline and inland valleys. [DreamCasters Voyage](#) Have four packaged tours and you could create a custom tour as well to include Hikes, Historical Journeys or custom outings. Available Tours Include: Freewheeling the Coast; Days End Journey; Carmel Valley Winemakers Experience & you could customize a tour to suite your interests. [Cane & Spur](#) offers private & group wine tours. Tours Include: River Road Adventure and Carmel Valley Excursion. They are also up to creating a custom tour if you prefer. [Big Sur Tours](#) first time travelers on a tight schedule might want to travel with Dave, a people pleaser who knows the terrain and can keep the tour focused on your interest in an unscripted fun spirited way while enjoying the various sites and ever varying landscape.

DAY FIVE Experience wine country

Coastal Wine Country This destination offers a wine and food experience that is sure to please any coastal connoisseur. Monterey Wine tasting maps: [Monterey Wines](#)

Carmel Valley Wine Tasting

(Time to Plan: Min: 3-4 hours)

In the afternoon explore wine country. Monterey is the State's greatest grape-producing county. The grapes grow in just the right conditions. Superb soils, plenty of warm sunshine, cool ocean breezes, a short frost season and almost no off-season rain. Slow and leisurely ripening - up to 60 days longer than other wine growing regions. Offering complex, balanced wines that express their full potential. The taste of Monterey at the Wine Visitor Center, or at one of the many Wineries tasting rooms located a short drive in Carmel Valley. Taste wines in addition to the featured Monterey County wineries of Chateau Sinnet, San Saba and Ventana Vineyards served at the Seven Gables Inn Wine and Cheese hours.

Carmel-by-the-Sea

You can explore these downtown atmosphere, the various tasting rooms will tempt and tantalize your palate. Carmel-by-the-Sea locations are all situated within a walkable square mile.

ADDITIONAL IDEAS: Golf, Sailing, Scuba, Horseback & History tours

Golf

The word is synonymous with the Monterey Peninsula area which boasts 14 courses including the world-famous greens of Pebble Beach, Spyglass Hill, the exclusive Cypress Point Golf Club, and the revamped Poppy Hills. Beginners may want to try the gentle greens of the Old Del Monte, the Peninsula's first golf course.

Inside scoop: Pacific Grove Golf Links, located just outside famous Pebble Beach area at Point Pinos, is both a picturesque and challenging course. Holes among the dunes land that approaches the sea are rugged and simple, and full of interest. There is just enough peril to whet the appetite. A fantastic value for the Green Fee's. [77 Asilomar Ave. Pacific Grove, CA 93950](#) Ph: 831-648-5775

Horseback Riding in Pebble Beach or Big Sur

A guided 80-minute trail ride leads through the stunning Del Monte Forest, past, Cypress Point and onto the beach near Seal Rock. Don't forget the camera. 17-Mile Drive, Pebble Beach. Pebble Beach Equestrian Center call 831-624-2756 to reserve your ride. You can make a reservation seven days a week between the hours of 8:30 am to 5:00 pm PST. Rides are available year-round. Private rides can be arranged.

Or choose from five horseback tours leading through almost every terrain found in Central California, from giant redwood to the pounding Big Sur coast. Ride time start in the morning or at sunset. Call for details on private rides. Andrew Molera State Park, Hwy 1 Big Sur 831-625-5486.

Walking Trails

Home to explorers, traders, military and religious leaders and fishermen of all

nationalities, Monterey boast a rich and divers history. You can learn much about Monterey's colorful past by visiting the historic museums in Colton Hall, the Pacific House. Journey back in time to 19th century Monterey by taking a walking tour of the many historic adobes and buildings. Guided tours are available in Larkin House, Stevenson House, Casa Soberanes and Cooper-Molera. Self-guided tours are available in the Pacific House the Custom House, Colton Hall and many of Monterey's other historic sites.

Scuba Diving

The cold, nutrient-rich water of Monterey Bay make for some of the best diving in the world. On a good day the water is clear and the undulating kelp forest teems with sea life. Otters and seals are occasional company in the enchanting world below the surface. Learn and dive with an instructor in the Monterey Bay. Many places to take in the sites: *Bluefish Cove and Whaler's Cove, Carmel River State Beach, Lovers Point, Monastery Beach, Otter Cove, San Carlos Beach*. Resources: Aquarius Dive Shop 831-375-1933; Glenn's Aquarius II Dive Shop 375-6605; Bamboo Reef 831-372-1685; Monterey Bay Dive Company 831-656-0454.

Monterey Bay Harbor

More things to see and do: Deep Sea Fishing and Sailing available.