

# Top Things to do in Monterey County, California

*Please consult the "concierge team" for additional information*

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There are so many unique attractions in Monterey that it can be hard to pick just one! Here's a quick overview of Monterey County's top attractions, with links to more in-depth information.

## Monterey Bay Aquarium

Discover life in Monterey's bay without leaving dry land at the Monterey Bay Aquarium. Dedicated to marine research and conservation, the Monterey Bay Aquarium is known throughout the world for its interactive exhibits and ability to present marine life on a truly grand scale. It's been called "one of America's most captivating aquariums"



## Cannery Row

In January 1958, the City of Monterey officially re-named Ocean View Avenue "Cannery Row" in honor of John Steinbeck. Today's Cannery Row is anchored by the Monterey Bay Aquarium and features restaurants, hotels, specialty shops, local artists' galleries and wine tasting rooms, all stretching along the historic streets and waterfront. Visitors can take in the wonders of the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary by scuba diving, kayaking, or bike riding along The Monterey Bay Recreational Trail.



## Old Fisherman's Wharf

Fisherman's Wharf in downtown Monterey should be on the "must-do" list of every visitor to the area. This is a great place to take in the sights and sounds and smells of Monterey. Because neighboring Wharf 2 is the heart of the area's thriving fishing industry, you can usually watch the working trawlers unloading the catch of the day — just look for all of the seagulls hoping for a handout to know who's had a successful day on the Bay! Stroll down the wharf with a cup of hot clam chowder, or stop by one of several restaurants featuring fresh Monterey Bay seafood. You can photograph sea lions and otters frolicking in the calm inner harbor waters, or, if you're feeling more adventurous, take to the waters with a glass bottom boat tour, deep-sea fishing trip or whale watching tour in season.



## Scenic Drives

17-Mile Drive in Pebble Beach is one of the best-known scenic drives in the world. It takes visitors past dream homes and the world's greatest golf courses, as well as miles of scenic coastline and the serene majesty of Del Monte Forest. Highway One from Monterey through Big Sur is "the road trip of a lifetime." It's a State Scenic Highway and has been declared an All-American Road by the U.S. Department of Transportation's National Scenic Byways Program.



## Historic Sites

Monterey County, once the capital of Alta California, is the epicenter of California history. Explore the heritage of the California mission era at our three historic missions. Walk the Path of History to learn about the Mexican era, as well as the area's early literary history. Immerse yourself in the artistic legacy of Central California at the Monterey Museum of Art. Experience the works of Nobel Prize-winning author John Steinbeck and the agricultural history of Monterey County at the National Steinbeck Center in Salinas. Learn about the region's flora and fauna at the Pacific Grove Museum of Natural History.



## Regional, State and Federal Parks

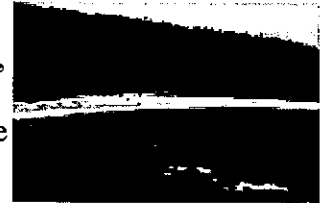
Monterey County's hundreds of thousands of acres of parks range from the "mini-Yosemite" of Pfeiffer Big Sur State Park to the austere beauty of Pinnacles National Monument, the coastal beauty of Point Lobos State Reserve and everything in between.



Walk or ride your bike on the Monterey Bay Coastal Recreation Trail, which stretches 18 miles along the coast and connects many of the coastal parks. Go hang gliding, mountain biking, camping, horseback riding, surfing, birding, diving and more at the more than 30 parks in Monterey County.

## Beaches

Whether you're looking for the quintessential sandy California surfing beach, stunning cliffs with spectacular views of the ocean, or a picture-perfect rocky shoreline, you'll find it all along Monterey County's coast. Dive, surf, sail, kayak or watch wildlife at any of our 13 beaches – or just enjoy the scenery..



## Bagpiper Entertainment at the Inn at Spanish Bay

You don't need to pony up the dough for a room at the expensive Inn at Spanish Bay in Pebble Beach, Calif. to enjoy the beautiful coastal view and a sunset serenade from a Scottish bag piper at dusk.

The hotel's Lobby Lounge on Saturday night where vacationing golfers and their families gathered around one of the four fire pits on the back terrace. Here you can take in the killer views of the Pacific Ocean and the second hole of the Links at Spanish Bay.



The Lobby Lounge serves cocktails and appetizers and has an extensive wine list (which is to be expected in this ritzy enclave of the Monterey Peninsula.)

## Monterey County Golf: Pebble Beach and Beyond

From the world-famous Pebble Beach Golf Links to the oldest golf course in continuous operation west of the Mississippi, Monterey County offers some of the finest fairways in the world. It is no wonder that visitors plan their entire vacation schedule around a single round of golf.

## **Play Where the Pros Play**

The legendary Pebble Beach Golf Links is on every golfer's to-do list. But it's not the only place in Monterey County where you can play next to the pros — and a world-class round may cost less than you'd expect.

Pebble Beach also contains Poppy Hills and Spyglass Hill, two courses that have likewise co-hosted the AT&T National Pro-Am. Nearby is the inland Del Monte Golf Course, the site of the Callaway Golf Pebble Beach Invitational and First Tee Open.

And don't miss Bayonet and Black Horse! Once open only to members of the military, these 36 holes are recently renovated and frequently host PGA Tour greats. The courses, perched just above the coast, have sweeping views of Monterey Bay.

## **Play Three Days — Or More**

You don't have to limit yourself to just one round. In Monterey County, golfers have their choice of over 20 public and private courses (468 holes in all) set in one of the country's most breathtaking locations. The differences in scenery, geography and style ensure that you can play for days without being bored. The wide range of price points ensure that you can play several championship-level courses without breaking the bank. For a full rundown of Monterey County's public courses.