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SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY

VISITORS

GUIDE

SPRING 2026



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and winemaker Joel Cox
at Mystic Hills Vineyards**



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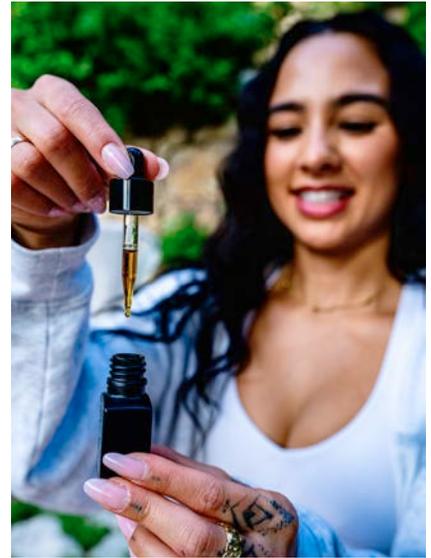
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If a serious emergency were to occur that would require you to take action, the County would sound the Early Warning System sirens. The sirens are an indication to tune to a local radio or television station for emergency information and instructions. When at sea, tune to Marine Channel 16.

The siren system is tested regularly throughout the year and may be used for any local emergency.

Additional emergency planning information regarding DCPP is in the current Emergency Planning calendar, and at www.ReadySLO.org





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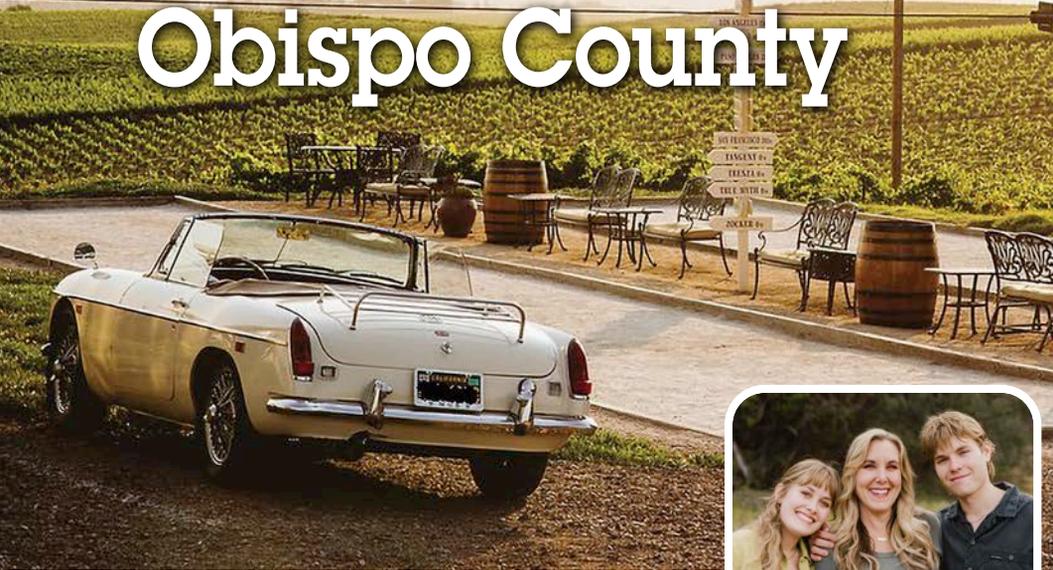
Welcome to San Luis Obispo County

Find a map of things to do and see!

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Welcome to San Luis Obispo County



Spring on the Central Coast is a great time to visit. The foothills are turning green with new growth, and the season is promising warmer weather. The weather is perfect for enjoying local festivals, sightseeing, and outdoor adventures.

Visitors and locals alike are shopping, dining, wine tasting, hiking, cycling, exploring the beaches, tidepools, and marine life, and the many historical landmarks that fill our streets and back roads. There are hotels, motels, vacation rentals, and other lodging for every budget and family. Outdoor activities are plentiful. Be sure to take advantage of the kid-friendly activities, too!

Local festivals are returning for spring and summer, shops are offering new and unique merchandise, and there are plenty of family-friendly activities. Along with your favorite places to visit while here, be among the first to check out the newest things to do.

The next few months, blending into summer, have some of the most beautiful weather on the Central Coast. Crisp sunny mornings drift into warm, energizing afternoons. What better way to spend a spring afternoon than enjoying the epic hospitality of Joel and Judy Cox at Mystic Hills Vineyard?

The Cox's story is filled with tenacity, hard work, and family. Married for 56 years and counting, Mystic Hills Vineyard is a family-run operation with their children and grandchildren pitching in to help with the vineyard, oversee tastings, and manage the wine club.

Joel, an Academy Award-winning film editor who frequently works with

Clint Eastwood, has edited numerous films, including "Gran Torino", "Unforgiven", "Million Dollar Baby", and more. He fell in love with Bordeaux wines while traveling with Eastwood to the Cannes International Film Festival.

The Cox family offers private, complimentary tastings at their San Miguel winery. "We have so much love for people," Judy said. "We offer private tastings by appointment only, which allows us to spend two or three hours with each person or group. This gives us the chance to get to know one another, and just enjoy being together."

Thank you for reading this copy of the San Luis Obispo County Visitor's Guide and discovering so many of the unique, interesting, and enjoyable places to see and things to do. On behalf of our entire staff, I would like to extend a warm welcome. We hope you enjoy your stay.

Remember, if you run out of time, you are always welcome back to do and see more!



Beth Brennan and her family welcome you to San Luis Obispo County.

SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY **VISITORS** GUIDE

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Beth



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San Luis Obispo

There are many things to discover around SLO

The city of San Luis Obispo has much to see and do. It is the seat of county government, a popular dining and shopping destination and a traditional college town reflecting eclectic choices in art, entertainment, food and activities.

Attractions

The San Luis Obispo de Tolosa Mission

The San Luis Obispo de Tolosa mission is one of the best known historical sites in town. Founded by Father Junipero Serra in September 1772, the mission was the fifth of the California missions and named after Saint Louis, Bishop of Toulouse, France. For information about tours and the gardens or attending mass visit missionsanluisobispo.org.

Historical buildings

Other historical buildings, many featuring unique architecture, include the Sinsheimer store with an iron front built in 1884 at 849 Monterey St., the Jack House at 536 Marsh Street, which was built in 1875, the State Historical Landmark Dallidet Adobe at 1185 Pacific St and the 1884 Ah Louis Store at 800 Palm St, originally a supply station for the Chinese laborers who built the railroad tunnels through the mountains of the Cuesta Grade.

The historic Carnegie Library on Monterey Street is home to the History Center of San Luis Obispo. Built in 1905, the library is one in a chain of over 1600 libraries funded by the United States by Scottish-American businessman and philanthropist Andrew Carnegie. The SLO Carnegie Museum is one of three still standing and in use on the Central Coast. The other two are located in Lompoc and Paso Robles.

San Luis Obispo Botanical Gardens

Gardeners and outdoor enthusiasts are not left out. The San Luis Obispo Botanical gardens, on Highway 1 near Dairy Creek Road is the only garden in the United States exclusively featuring plants and ecosystems from the five Mediterranean climates in the world. The design includes miles of paved trails and shady resting spots and a variety of other activities.

Hiking and cycling

The city's Parks and Recreation Department operates several parks that span 7000 acres of breathtaking views and hiking trails. Visit the website for the City of San Luis Obispo for park maps details about the ease or difficulty of the trails.

The city has over 75 miles of bike paths and what better way for cycling enthusiasts to enjoy a vacation. San Luis Obispo was designated a Bicycle Friendly Community by the League of American Bicyclists in 2007. Visit bikeslocounty.org for cycling maps for the City of San Luis Obispo, wine trails and other locations in San Luis Obispo County.

Attractions & Tours

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Dining & Drinks

Black Sheep Bar & Grill

Feel instantly at home in Luis Obispo's lively hidden gem. Step inside, order a craft cocktail, and signature crave-worthy mac & cheese. Soak up the laid-back charm, local flavors, and good times. 1117 Chorro St., San Luis Obispo, blacksheepslo.com, (805) 544-7433

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Mama's Meatball

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Mistura Restaurant

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Nicola Restaurant

Chef Nicola Allegretta has now created a new concept restaurant experience that combines both Italian and Peruvian traditional techniques and ingredients. This fusion is called "Bachiche" in Peru. Discover this new trend for yourself and enjoy the beautiful interior ambiance. 11560 Los Osos Valley Road, #190, SLO, nicolaslo.com, (805) 439-0262

Golf

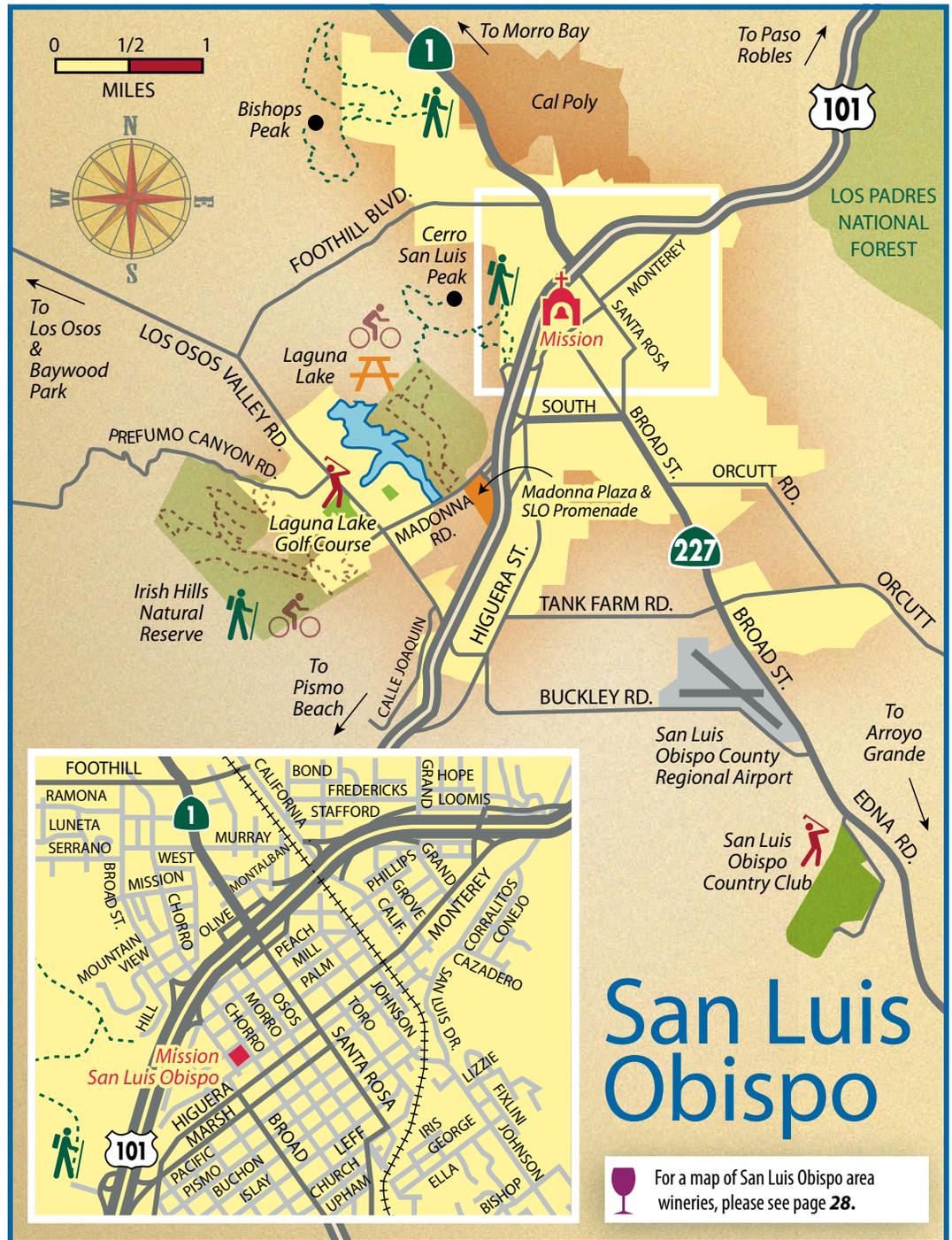
Dairy Creek Golf Course SLO

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San Luis Obispo

For a map of San Luis Obispo area wineries, please see page 28.

Museums

Central Coast Veterans Memorial Museum

A free history museum with permanent exhibits and armory room, displaying historic artifacts, photos, weapons, and recorded stories from veterans who served during WWI to modern day conflicts, honoring the experiences of Central Coast veterans and others who have served our nation. 801 Grand Avenue, Suite 102, vetmuseum.org, (805) 543-1763

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Old World flavor and Central Coast soul at Black Sheep Bar & Grill

Seven varieties of mac & cheese and 2025's 'Best Bloody Mary in SLO'

Stepping into Black Sheep Bar & Grill is like visiting a European pub, except instead of hobbling over cobbled streets, it's in downtown San Luis Obispo. The European vibe is a nod to owner Myriam Olaizola's childhood in Auvergne, France. Her grandmother would make her favorite comfort food, noodles with a local cheese called cantal, and serve it au gratin. That childhood favorite has grown to grace the menu of Black Sheep



Come back often and try all seven varieties of mac & cheese.

Bar & Grill with award-winning mac 'n' cheese, Guinness braised burgers, nachos, fresh salads, and

craft cocktails. The bloody mary was voted Best in San Luis Obispo in 2025.

Myriam says, "I remember that feeling of comfort and togetherness when we would gather around the table to enjoy our 'nouilles au cantal' (noodles with cantal cheese), and I wanted to recreate that same feeling at Black Sheep." The original pub mac 'n' cheese that she brought to SLO now also has seven different versions and a build-your-own option for the adventurous. She even offers gluten-free noodles so everyone can enjoy the famous mac 'n' cheese.

The dreams of a family rebel

Myriam was the black sheep in her family of doctors and bankers. Her best friend's family owned a high-end restaurant at a local hotel, and instead of studying medicine or finance like the rest of her family,

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SWING TIME

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she took a job as a server and bartender. She was only 14 years old, but she realized she wanted something different.

“I loved serving food and drinks to people and making them smile, and dreamed that one day I would have my own place.” It’s not surprising that when she left for university, her apartment became the hangout spot for friends. Even on a tight budget, she would whip up me-ringues, gratins, and, of course, her mac ‘n’ cheese. Friends would bring random ingredients, and she’d create something new and delicious. It was in this tiny apartment that she began to experiment with her own mac ‘n’ cheese recipes.

“It was kind of my first restaurant, where I was the host, bartender, server, cook, and all, except it was at my place. I thought that one of these days I would actually open my own place, and provide a beautiful haven for all to gather and share meals and drinks.” With that dream in mind, she took pictures of beautiful bars and bistros when she traveled in France, England, Spain, and Italy.



Comfortable old-world with an American twist

In 2000, she moved from France to California. She thought she’d end up in San Francisco, but after visiting San Luis Obispo, she fell in love with the Central Coast. In 2003,

the downtown San Luis Obispo location became available, and it felt like a dream come true. She’d been waiting to open a European-style bistro since that first job at 14 years old.

She exclusively hired local artisans to create the bar and give it

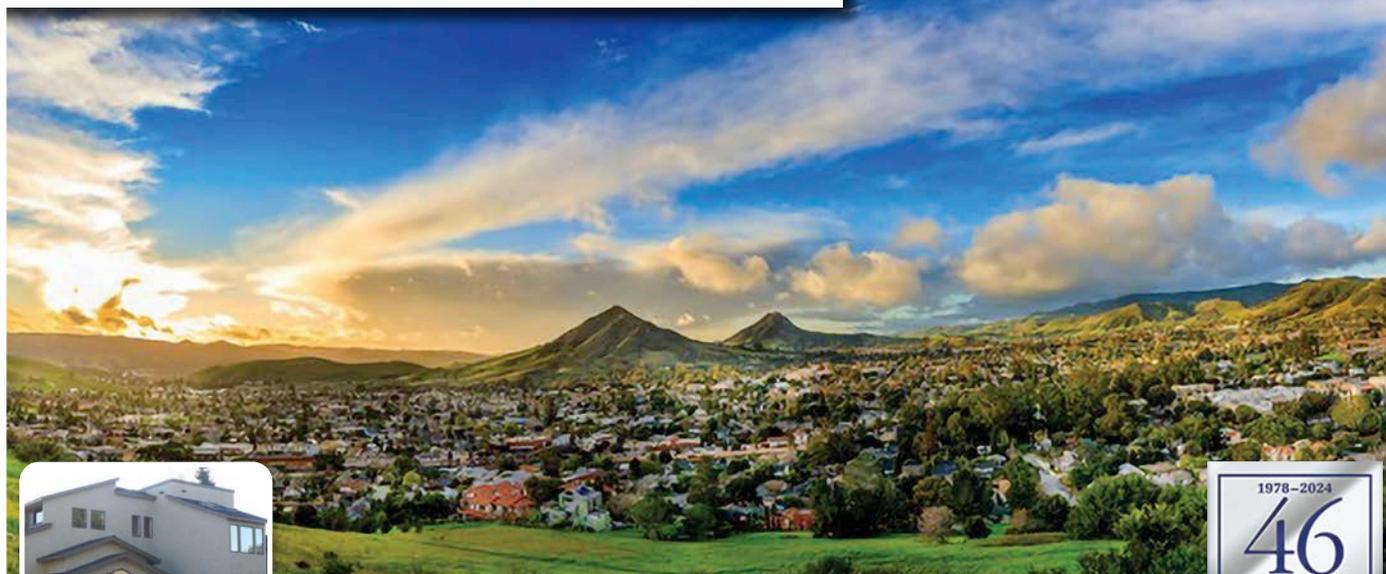
“a comfortable European old-world feel with a little American twist.” She wanted people to feel like it was a cozy home away from home. Her childhood dream was realized when Black Sheep Bar & Grill opened in 2005.

She’s grown close to her staff over the years. They affectionately call her mama sheep, and she calls them her baby sheepies. They even crafted a signature Mama Sheep cocktail on the menu as a sweet, floral tribute to her with St Germain elderflower liqueur, botanical rose Kettle One Vodka, champagne, and fresh-squeezed juices. Myriam says, “We are known as the house of heavy pours. We’re generous with our portions, both food and alcohol. But our key ingredients are love, care, and daily consistency.”

Black Sheep Bar & Grill is located at 1117 Chorro St. in San Luis Obispo. Open daily at 11 a.m. For more information and online orders, visit blacksheepslo.com, or call (805) 544-7433.

—Karen Lycan

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Whether it's the multicultural flavors of modern Peruvian cuisine or authentic Italian dishes you're craving, there's something to satisfy every appetite at Mistura Restaurant and Mama's Meatball. Located just a few steps away from each other in downtown San Luis Obispo, these long-time local favorite eateries are owned and managed by the husband and wife team of



Nicola and Jackeline Allegretta. "If you want to have the feel-

ing of dining in that particular country – a little piece of Peru, or a little piece of Italy – you will actually feel that right here in San Luis Obispo because we take pride in making sure our restaurants have a really authentic flair," says Chef Nicola.

Flavorful Peruvian cuisine

Loosely translated, Mistura means mix or blend and is a nod to Allegretta's upbringing. Born in Germany, he was raised in Italy and was inspired by his mother's cooking to obtain a degree from the Italian Culinary Institute of Bari in Puglia. Allegretta traveled the world and sharpened his skills in eateries from Italy, France, and England to Germany and the Dominican Republic.

The Mistura menus showcase this blend of cultural influences, most notably his wife's family recipes from Peru, with its flavorful cuisine. One of the more popular dishes, the Seco de Cordero, features New Zealand free-range lamb shank marinated for 24 hours with ají panca, a mild, smoky, and fruity Peruvian chili pepper, before being cooked in a mild cilantro and chicha de jora reduction.

Be sure to try El Misti, a hot stone ceviche with shrimp, salmon, avocado, aji amarillo, cancha, sweet potato, and crispy quinoa. The Arroz con Mariscos is similar to what you'd expect in a paella, with fresh, locally sourced seafood, yet somehow the Peruvian style is a step above. A variety of quality options are featured, including Nikkei-style (Japanese-Peruvian fusion) at Mistura's raw bar.

"We have a vast menu, and our indoor décor and design reflect our various offerings," Allegretta said. "Mistura is a cozy place where people can find comfort and calm, but it can also be vibrant and energetic. There are so many different vibes here, from the Andes to the coast to the old jungle, and the entire interior was designed by Jackeline."

Intimate dinner or family feast

Two separate, divided areas bring a different flair. Whether holding a business meeting, meeting friends and family for dinner, or sharing an intimate meal for two, the Mistura team strives to accommodate your needs.

"The entire atmosphere at Mistura is very unique, very nice," Allegretta said. "There's almost



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Be sure to save room for the Suspiro Limeño at Mistura. This classic Peruvian dessert has a delightful buttery, crumbly crust filled with sweet and tangy lime filling and a fluffy meringue topping finished with cinnamon.

One of the most popular desserts at Mama's Meatballs is the Tiramisu, uniquely made table-side and featuring Lady Fingers, espresso coffee, mascarpone cheese, and topped with cocoa. The Classic Crème Brûlée is a customer favorite with its thin, caramelized sugar crust.

Mistura Restaurant and Mama's Meatball are located at 570 Higuera Street in San Luis Obispo. Mistura opens at 11 a.m. until 9 p.m. Sunday and Tuesday to Thursday, and until 10 p.m. Friday and Saturday. Closed Monday. Mama's Meatball is open Tuesday to Sunday, 11 a.m.-9 p.m. For reservations and more information, visit misturarestaruants.com, call (805) 600-9029, or visit mamasmeatball.com, (805) 600-3809.

—Meagan Eriberg

this feeling of being in a big city restaurant, but it's right here locally. The food, the attention to detail, and the creativity, it all works together."

Those wanting a private dining experience with Chef Nicola will be seated at the chef's table. Aptly named The Experience, this dining option is available on a limited basis by reservation only. The decor for the chef's table is like an oasis in Peru called the Huacacina.

"The actual chef's table is beautiful, and we can seat between two to ten people," he said. "So, you can reserve it as a couple or with friends and family, and enjoy a five-course or seven-course experience that I put together just for you."

Mama's Meatball

Find authentic, home-style Italian dishes made with slow-simmered sauces and fresh, locally sourced ingredients at Mama's Meatball, located just steps away from Mistura. The décor reflects an Old-World style reminiscent of an outdoor plaza in Italy. Everything on the menu is available for dine-in, takeout, or delivery,

with many of the eatery's signature dishes, including its famous Fettuccine Alfredo.

"Because the name is Mama's Meatball, people tend to think it's all about spaghetti, but there's so much more," Allegretta said. "I thought the name would be nice because everybody remembers their mama's cooking, and nobody can cook as well as their mama! So, it's an homage to all of the mamas around the world."

One of the most requested menu items is Mama's Famous Mac & Cheese, a four-cheese rigatoni topped with braised short ribs. The Orecchiette e Braciolo is another customer favorite. This ear-shaped pasta, filled with spices, Parmesan cheese, Italian pancetta, fresh garlic, and cooked in marinara sauce, is served with top sirloin steak.

Fresh pastries, bread, and desserts

From the freshly-baked garlic bread knots, cookies, and pastries to the pizza dough, all are made daily from scratch for both restaurants without preservatives. Allegretta's mother, Maria Deceglia, helps with the desserts.

VISITOR SHUTTLE



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Dairy Creek Golf Course, leading the way in golf, family fun, and stay and play

You don't even have to like golf to have a great time

Dairy Creek Golf Course and Event Center, just a few minutes north of San Luis Obispo along the iconic Highway 1, is a unique family-friendly escape for a day or a few days. Along with a par 36, 9-hole championship golf course, this former dairy farm features a variety of golf-themed activities, plus an 18-hole disc golf course, camping, exceptional food and beverages, and a calendar full of events from music festivals to weddings. Dairy Creek is the Central Coast's



ultimate venue for recreation, relaxation, and celebration

Your experience starts by pulling off Highway 1, into a property that was once a Swiss-Italian dairy farm, hence the name Dairy Creek. The friendly staff makes you feel like family as you enter the clubhouse and Dairy Creek's well-stocked pro shop. If you're interested in hitting the links, tee it up on the par-36, 9-hole championship golf course that features five tee box options from which to play the three par 3, three par 4, and three par 5 holes.

Want to up your game? Improve your skills by booking a lesson with one of the accomplished instructors. Sign the kids up for the First Tee program, where

they learn life skills through the game of golf. Youngsters learn core values and healthy lifestyle habits from a seamless lesson plan that is centered around personal development.

Get in the game with Swing Time! This modern entertainment venue is San Luis Obispo's version of Topgolf. The same Toptracer cameras used to track the ball flight during PGA Tour broadcasts will track your shots at Swing Time. Golfers and non-golfers alike have a blast playing a variety of games, like Angry Birds, or testing their skills at world-famous golf courses like Pebble Beach, Pinehurst, or St. Andrews.

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In the 'forefront' of fun

The course has been wildly successful and added a new dimension to SLO County's demand for outdoor recreation. Golf, an 18-hole disc golf course, games, great food and drink, camping, and events are just the beginning. Dairy Creek has been a great course to play since 1997 and has been celebrated as a pioneer in environmental management, inspiring conservational efforts and zero-waste innovations in the county.

Return often to play and stay, and watch the grounds grow as more camping structures and amenities are being added to the property, with 22 cabins already erected. The location is jaw-droppingly beautiful, the food is exceptional, and the opportunity to unwind while playing a round or two is practically guaranteed.

Dairy Creek Golf Course is located at 2990 Dairy Creek Rd in San Luis Obispo. For more information or to book a bay or golf reservation, visit dairycreekslo.com or call (805) 782-8060.

As day turns to night, the fun intensifies as the sun sets behind Hollister Peak and the glowing sky takes second stage to nine thirty-foot LED interactive targets which flash and pulsate when hit by a golf shot. Swing Time has ten bays on a single level with comfortable, climate-controlled outdoor seating and over 30 TV screens.

SLO County Golf Course Superintendent, Josh Heptig, says, "Swing Time is best described as a combination of a driving range, sports bar, pinball machine, and bowling alley all wrapped into one place to play, eat, drink, and be merry. Rent one of our comfortable bays to hang with friends, enjoying a delicious meal while hitting shots with a glass of local wine, beer, or cocktails. Swing Time brings a unique experience to the community."

Need a break between rounds, or just want to hang out? Relax and enjoy delicious treats and drinks served onsite.

Stay and play

Dairy Creek is located within El Chorro Regional Park, with

cabins and a campground a short walk or golf cart ride from the course. The park features 61 campsites (43 full hook-up sites with electricity, sewer, and water, and 18 primitive sites with water nearby). Each campsite accommodates six to eight people, and either a couple of tents or a full-sized R.V. The maximum trailer length at some of the sites is 40 feet, and there are a couple of pull-through sites. Restrooms and coin-operated showers are available. Cabins are also in the plans. Make reservations up to six months in advance through slocountyparks.com.

Dairy Creek is the perfect venue for events from birthday parties to music festivals. Car shows, art and wine events, reunions, weddings, company retreats, and the renowned Shabang and Live Oak Music Festivals all have a home at Dairy Creek. "If you can dream it, we can do it" is the philosophy at these stunningly beautiful grounds. Make reservations and discover new events at dairycreekslo.com.



Central Coast Veterans Memorial Museum



San Luis Obispo, California

Hours: WED - SAT 10 AM - 3 PM



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Discovering the diverse wines of the San Luis Obispo area

Unwind on a unique wine-tasting adventure

The San Luis Obispo region includes the Edna Valley and Arroyo Grande AVAs, two of California's leading AVAs. Edna Valley was the first AVA granted in San Luis Obispo County in 1982 and has been producing wine since 1968. The two AVAs first attracted attention in the early 1980s when the California branch of the Champagne house Deutz acquired land. Sparkling wine is still made in the area.



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Visit the tasting room at 2649 Carpenter Canyon Rd, in San Luis Obispo's Edna Valley; open every day from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. (except major holidays), claibornechurchill.com, (805) 544-4066.

Baileyana Tasting Room, get a history lesson in a glass

The Baileyana Tasting Room is the first you encounter upon entering the Edna Valley from Orcutt Road and San Luis Obispo. Housed in the historic 1909 Independence Schoolhouse, the tasting room is the home of Baileyana, Tangent, True Myth, and Zocker brands.

This charming schoolhouse offers wine-tasting experiences to accommodate all visitors. With around 35 different white, red, and rosé wines to choose from, there are wines for every guest from the first-time wine taster to the expert. With extensive picnic grounds and views, the family-friendly tasting room provides a memorable and fun experience.

The gentle sunshine and moderate Pacific Ocean maritime climate combine with the fertile soil to produce incredible wines. Bring a camera and plan on a day of adventure sipping great wine, sampling some apple brandy, having lunch, and playing some bocce ball.

Sip wine among the barrels at Claiborne and Churchill Winery

Claiborne & Churchill Winery, still run by original owners Claiborne and Fredericka Churchill Thompson, has been producing Alsatian-style whites since 1983. In 1995, the couple built their pioneering, eco-friendly straw bale-constructed winery and opened their tasting room in the Edna Valley. Over the years, they have

expanded their picturesque garden area to accommodate more guests and larger parties for tastings and seasonal events.

The upscale, welcoming tasting room is located in the barrel room, allowing the popular producer to accommodate more visitors comfortably. Reservations are available for small private events such as birthdays, anniversaries, and graduation parties.

Centrally located in SLO Wine Country, Claiborne & Churchill's vacation property is only a ten-minute drive from Pismo Beach, San Luis Obispo, or Arroyo Grande, and a fifteen-minute drive to Cal Poly. Their guest cottage is perfect for a weekend, for visiting students at Cal Poly, or for anyone just

looking for a relaxing getaway. The rental is available through VRBO/Homeaway, or by emailing elizabeth@claibornechurchill.com.

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Veteran winemaker Rob Takigawa focuses on bringing elegant chardonnays, aromatic whites, and pinot noir wines from the cool Edna Valley and powerful reds from the warmer Paso Robles to Baileyana visitors. These wines are rich in stories, well told by the engaging tasting room team.

The Baileyana Tasting Room is located at 5828 Orcutt Road, San Luis Obispo. It is open from 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. daily, excluding major holidays. Reservations are required. Please book on Tock or call (805) 269-8200. For more information visit baileyana.com.

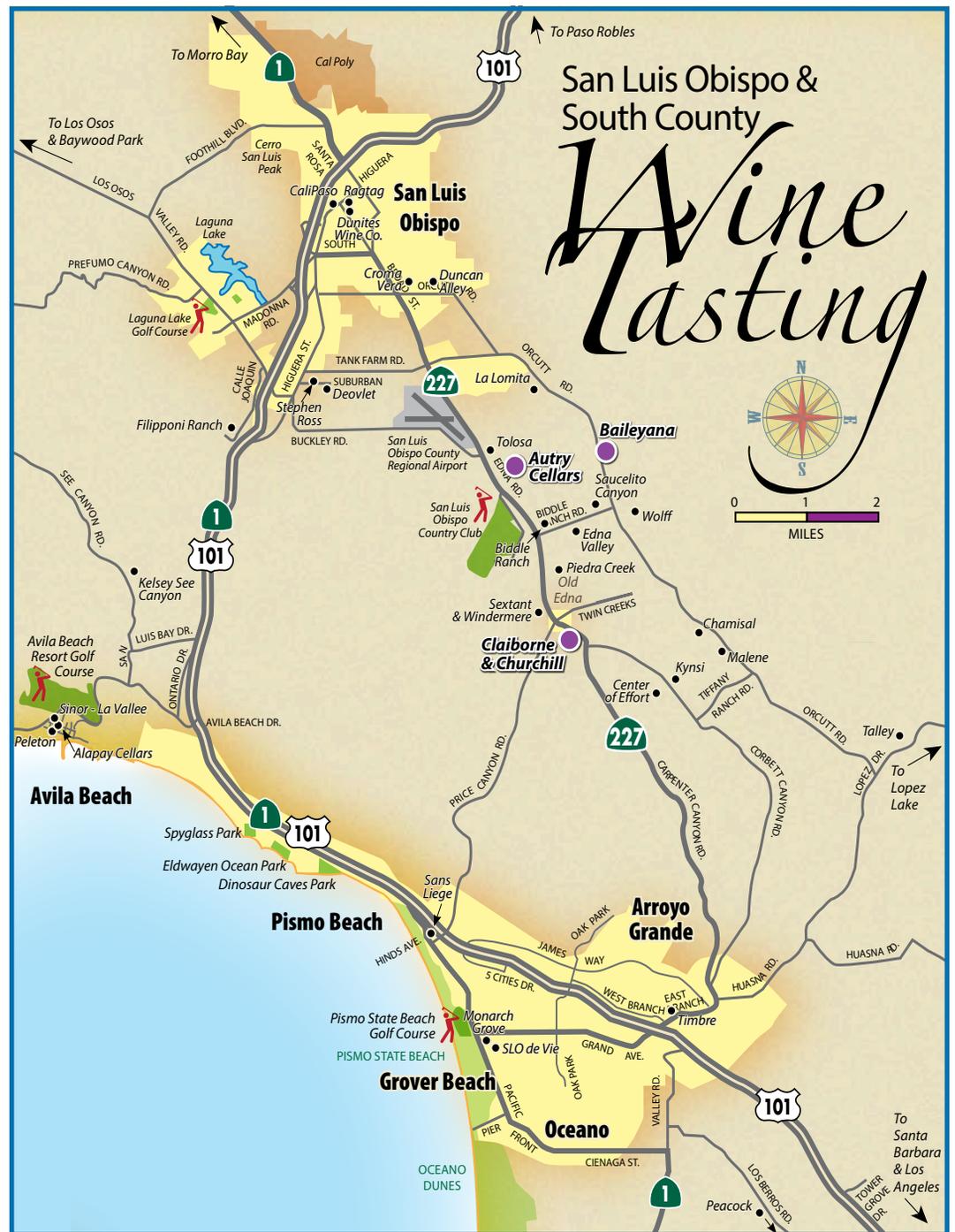
Award-winning wine, grappa, and brandy at Autry Cellars

Autry Cellars overlooks vineyards and a 40-mile view of the Santa Lucia mountain range. Owner and artisan winemaker Steve Autry and his tasting room staff pour wine varietals, grappa, and his signature apple brandy from some of the best grapes selected from across the region.

Autry Cellars' unpretentious tasting room is "styled in early American warehouse," jokes Autry. But don't be deceived by the modest décor. Here is where visitors experience superb wine varietals along with gold medal best-in-class grappa and silver medal American oak and Hungarian oak brandies.

Inspired by a spectacular zinfandel tasting experience, Autry became a full-time artisan winemaker in 2001 and a fully licensed brandy distiller in 2012. He says people who visit his tasting room, "come for the wine and discover the brandy," and gain access to impressive small lot wines and brandies that are available exclusively in the tasting room.

Visit Autry Cellars tasting room at 5450-B Edna Road in San Luis Obispo; open 11 a.m. - 5 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday (last reservation at 4 p.m.) and 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. Sunday (last reservation at 3 p.m.), autrycellars.com. For reservations, call (805) 546-8669.





Avila Beach

Take a drive away from the beaten paths of Hwy. 101 and Hwy. 1 and discover the quiet paradise of Avila Beach. The oceanside community offers something for every interest and all ages from quiet romantic weekends to beaches, hiking trails, kid and pet friendly parks, shopping, great food, golfing and hot springs. Choose from the many hotels and enjoy family meals or a sunset dinner at an oceanfront restaurant. This delightful small town rests at the edge of San Luis Obispo Bay. The San Luis Obispo Creek empties into the bay at Avila Beach providing views of native wildlife along with the region's unique marine life. The nearby Avila Beach Bird Sanctuary is great for bird watching any time of year and especially during bird migrations.

Attractions

Piers in Avila Beach

Avila Beach boasts three piers, two historic piers and a private pier that houses the California Polytechnic State University's Center for Marine Sciences. The Harford Pier, built in 1873, was used for shipping before the railroad arrived. The pier also has a romantic history as a liquor smuggling hotspot during the 1920s. Today, the pier is occupied by commercial fishing and restaurants and is open to pier-fishing. Avila Beach Pier was built in 1908 and was important for fishing and ocean-bound passenger transportation. It

has been partially closed to foot traffic since 2015 due to storm damage. For information about the piers, call (805) 595-5400.

Fishing

Personal boats and kayaks can be launched from Olde Port Beach, a public hoist at Harford Pier and two additional hoists are made accessible to the public by the Port San Luis Harbor District. To arrange use of either the trailer boat launch for boats up to 28' feet, or the mobile hoist for larger boats call the harbor district at (805) 595-7895.

Hiking

The Bob Jones Trail starts at the trailhead on Ontario Road and wanders along the San Luis Obispo Creek. The paved trail, about three miles from trailhead to downtown Avila Beach, is a mostly smooth hike or bike ride with benches along the way.

Hotels & Lodging

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Pismo Beach, Shell Beach & Oceano

The beach cities of Pismo Beach, Shell Beach and Oceano join Grover Beach to offer a 15-mile stretch of beach for long walks, watching shore birds and marine life, enjoying tide pools or just sitting on the sand and feeling the breeze and sun. Enjoy views of the historic Pismo Beach Pier and take advantage of a variety of water sports like kayaking and surfing. Green spaces with trails and panoramic ocean views include Dinosaur Caves Park, Chumash Park featuring coastal wetlands, Margo Dodd Park, and the Pismo Preserve. Millions of Monarch butterflies migrate to the Monarch Butterfly Grove in the cool months.

Pismo Beach and its companion communities provide lodging for every budget. Enjoy the iconic wholesome food and fine wines that are hallmarks for San Luis Obispo County. Gifts, original art, clothes, jewelry and décor can all be found tucked away in the many galleries and shops. A day or more exploring Pismo Beach gives a lifetime of memories.

Attractions

Dinosaur Caves Park

Located at the corner of Cliff Street and Shell Beach Road, this 11-acre park is popular with walkers,

photographers, dog lovers, joggers and fishing enthusiasts. Observe dolphins, whales, sea otters and other sea life as well as sea and shore birds such as gulls, cormorants, and Peregrine falcons. Reservations may be required for group events. Visit pismo-beach.org/288/Dinosaur-Caves-Park for more information.

Oceano Dunes

Thousands flock to the Oceano Dunes State Recreational Park to camp along the ocean in tents and RVs every week. You can rent and ride dune buggies and ATVs on the beach and enjoy riding for the entire afternoon. There is a small cost per vehicle to drive on the beach and it is recommended you have a larger vehicle before attempting to drive on the dry sand; you don't want to get stuck in the dunes.

Ocean views

Pismo Beach is home to several parks with beautiful, panoramic views of the Pacific Ocean and birds and marine life that live and migrate through the Central Coast. A few of the most popular parks with exquisite views, trails, places to rest, picnic and enjoy the scenery include:

- Chumash Park covers 38-acres of wetlands, willows, oaks and is home

to a rich variety of birds and wildlife. Bring a camera. Leashed dogs are welcome.

- Eldwayen Ocean Park meanders over a mile along the bluffs and has stairs down to the beach and the tidepools. Check a tide chart to visit during low tide to explore the tidepools.

- Margo Dodd Park, located on a bluff above the ocean includes breathtaking panoramas of the ocean, beaches and surrounding areas. Bring binoculars and a camera. Walk the sandy beach to a tidepool at the end of Pier Street.

Hiking and scenic walks at the Pismo Preserve

The preserve provides over 11 miles of trails wandering through 880-acres of oak woodlands and coastal ridges and some of the most stunning panoramic views of the Pacific Ocean and surrounding land and beaches. Trails are marked for the direction of travel. Park is open weekdays from sunup to sunset.

Price Historical Park

This four-acre park and open space provides hiking trails and a class 1 bike trail. The park incorporates a self-guided history walk recognizing Chumash culture



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*Pismo Beach, Shell Beach
& Oceano*

and the history of missions and Pismo Beach. The gated Meherin House and Price Anniversary House, built by Pismo Beach founder, John Michael Price, are also located in this park. Visit 365 days a year during daylight. For additional information call Pismo Beach Recreation Division (805) 773-7039.

Pismo Beach Pier

This 1,200-foot pier is a major fishing attraction. For serious recreation, try kayaking, surfing, or scuba diving. For a more relaxed afternoon walk the pier and then head to the downtown area for shopping.

Attractions & Tours

The Great American Melodrama

Live entertainment for the whole family, featuring hilarious comedies and Vaudeville-style musical revues. Professional actors, food, drinks, beer & wine, and good old-fashioned fun add up to a unique and memorable experience that's been thrilling audiences since 1975. 1863 Front St., Oceano, americanmelodrama.com, (805) 489-2499

Dining & Drinks

Ada's Fish House

A family-owned establishment with a full cocktail bar, boasting fresh fish and seafood in a relaxed atmosphere. Offering classic coastal dishes with East Coast influence like steamed clams and lobster rolls with mouth-watering specialties like Pacific Coast Halibut and grilled swordfish. adafishhouse.com, 558 Price St, (805) 556-3077

Brad's Restaurant

Award-winning clam chowder, best tri-tip sandwiches in SLO County, BBQ Buffalo Clams. Dine inside or on the patio. 1 block from the ocean. 209 Pomeroy, Downtown Pismo Beach, (805) 773-6165

Cracked Crab

Cracked Crab serves the finest seafood available, in a most casual style. Located at 751 Price St, Pismo Beach, opened Sunday-Thursday 11 a.m. - 9 p.m., Friday and Saturday 11 a.m. - 10 p.m. CrackedCrab.com, (805) 773-CRAB

Pismo Fish & Chips

Renowned for its exceptional fish and chips and hearty clam chowder, it has built a legacy on serving fresh, delectable seafood dishes. With decades of tradition, it continues to offer a timeless dining experience,



where quality and flavor remain paramount. 505 Cypress St., Pismo Beach, pismofishandchips.com, (805) 773-2853

Splash Café

Splash Café is one of the longest standing restaurants on the Central Coast. A popular destination since 1989, serving OVER 40,000 gallons of Clam Chowder per year! Splash Café is a certified landmark that truly represents Classic California. 197 Pomeroy Ave, Pismo Beach, SplashCafe.com, (805) 773-4653

RV Resorts

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Pismo Coast Village RV Resort is an award winning vacation getaway. Swimming pool, arcade, laundromat, bicycle rentals, playgrounds, mini golf and many courts

and games, not to mention a beautiful beachfront location. Bring your RV and enjoy all the fun they have to offer! 165 S Dolliver, Pismo Beach, 888-RVBEACH, pismo coastvillage.com

Shopping

Ashtie's Beach Shack

Ashtie's Beach Shack on Pomeroy in Pismo Beach is a gift, souvenir and clothing shop for the whole family. There's an assortment of trendy beach clothes, bathing suits (perfect since it's just up from the beach), sandals (dressy and flip flops) and loads of fun sparkly baubles. Come on in and see for yourself what Ashtie's has for you! 240 Pomeroy Avenue, Pismo Beach, (805) 295-5055

California Fresh Market

California Fresh Market provides groceries to the local community. Organic, Specialty, and Gourmet products. Full Service Deli & Bakery, Full Service Meat & Seafood, Specialty Wines & Cheeses, Unique Gifts and so much more! californiainfreshmarket.com, 555 Five Cities Dr., Pismo Beach, CA 93449, (805) 295-7162; 771 Foothill Blvd., San Luis Obispo, CA 93405, (805) 250-1425

Thomas Kinkade Gallery

A showcase of Thomas Kinkade's famous works both new and classic. Ask to see his lesser known pieces as well. Experience the many beautiful styles of Kinkade's artwork. 500 Cypress St., Pismo Beach, (805) 773-9424

California Fresh Market and picnics, the perfect match for a spring outing

Pack a lunch, hit the road, and enjoy spectacular sights and great food

Warming days mark the beginning of picnic season. The fresh ocean breezes and quaint coastal vistas found in San Luis Obispo County's Five Cities area are ideal for day trips, taking a hike, relaxing on the beach, or doing some sightseeing. Top it all off with a delicious picnic of fresh food and ingredients from California Fresh Market.

California Fresh Market in Pismo Beach offers a delicious selection of gourmet, organic, con-



The Pismo State Beach Monarch Grove is free to visit and open to the public daily from sunrise to sunset.

ventional, and freshly made products that are perfect companions to an outdoor excursion. Picnickers can stock up on fresh bread, meats, cheeses, and veggies, or grab something from the deli, sushi corner, or coffee and juice bar, and don't forget the chips, treats, and drinks!

The grocery store focuses on keeping things "hyper-fresh and hyper-local." Hyper-local food paired with a hyper-local view? What's better than that?

Choose an adventure

The Five Cities region consists of Pismo Beach, Grover Beach, Arroyo Grande, Oceano, and Halcyon, an unincorporated area in the southeast part of Grover Beach. Each city is unique, with its special history, terrain, and outdoor destinations.

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No visit to the Five Cities area is complete without checking out these iconic Central Coast outdoor destinations. Pack up the family and a picnic lunch and head out to one of these beloved picnic spots.

Dinosaur Caves Park—If you are looking for a place to enjoy a picnic lunch and let the kids play, Dinosaur Caves Park is ideal. This popular, 11-acre, oceanfront, bluff-top park is a local favorite for families, photographers, dog lovers, and anyone looking to enjoy fresh ocean air. The park includes sweeping views, a grassy area, restrooms, and a play structure with a dinosaur, dinosaur eggs, concrete sea animals, a tot swing, and the “USS Imagination,” a play ship. Dinosaur Caves Park is a top pick for families in Five Cities and is located at 2701 Price Street in Pismo Beach.

Pismo Beach Pier—The iconic Pismo Beach Pier is a must for visitors to SLO County. The pier and the nearby promenade are the perfect place to stroll, shop, and head out over the water to get a unique view of the Five Cities area and maybe even throw a fishing

line over the edge. The Pismo Pier and Promenade are located at 100 Pomeroy Ave, in Pismo Beach.

Monarch Butterfly Grove/Pismo State Beach—The Pismo State Beach Monarch Grove is free to visit and open to the public daily from sunrise to sunset, weather permitting. Butterflies overwinter in the grove in the park in the winter months, November - February. The grove is located on Highway 1 between Grover Beach and Pismo Beach. The GPS location is 445 South Dolliver, in Pismo Beach.

CA State Parks reminds visitors to be respectful of the important, endangered pollinator: remember to watch for butterflies on the ground; don't step on them, stay on the designated paths, do not disturb butterfly clusters, and dispose of all litter in proper receptacles.

At Pismo State Beach, visitors can also enjoy camping, surfing, swimming, walking trails, fishing, and bird watching.

Oceano Dunes—Just south of Pismo State Beach is the Oceano Dunes State Vehicular Recreation Area, suitable for those seeking a



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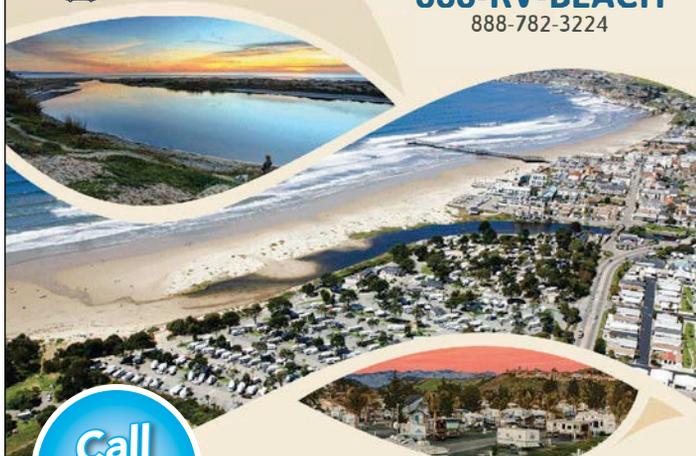





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Pismo Beach, Shell Beach & Oceano



bit more adrenaline in their visit. One of the few beaches on the West Coast where you can drive on the sand, recreationists bring or rent ATVs and explore the otherworldly dunes and camp on the beach next to the roaring surf. A truly unique experience, the recreation area is located at 100 Pier Ave. in Oceano.

Lopez Lake—Located in rural Arroyo Grande, Lopez Lake is a hidden escape located about 20

minutes east of The Village of Arroyo Grande. The reservoir is nestled among rocky hills and has hiking trails, picnic areas, and kayaking, fishing, and camping.

California Fresh Market's Pismo Beach location is at 555 Five Cities Drive in Pismo Beach, phone (805) 295-7162. For more information about their fresh offerings and other locations visit californiafreshmarket.com.

—Skye Pratt





(805) 556-3077 • 558 PRICE STREET, PISMO BEACH
ADASFISHHOUSE.COM





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ROSARESTAURANT.COM

'East Coast meets West Coast,' the story behind Ada's Fish House

*Fresh, traditional,
coastal classics*

Welcome to Ada's Fish House in Pismo Beach, where 35 years of restaurant experience in coastal cuisine has culminated in this family-owned and operated restaurant by the sea.

The "East Coast meets West Coast" menu is known for freshness. Lobster, steamers, and sea scallops are flown in every few days, and fresh live Pacific seafood from local fishermen and vendors. Lobster rolls and fish and chips are favorites. Crisp fresh salads and a tasty clam chowder round out any meal. The clam chowder is a People's Choice and Judge's Choice winner at the Pismo Beach Clam Festival.

Ada's has a delightful outdoor dining area. Diners are kept cozy with heat lamps when the coastal fog rolls in. Reservations are best, but walk-ins can be seated if space is available. Wine, beer, and liquor are available with meals. Take-out is available.



Crispy fresh salads satisfy every appetite.

When destiny calls

Doug MacMillan was destined to be a chef and restaurant owner. Ada "Rosa" MacMillan started the original Rosa's Ristorante Italiano in 1961 in

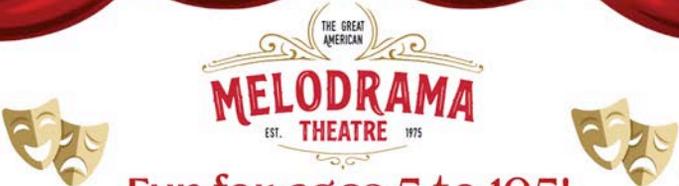
Visalia, California, later opening the Pismo Beach Rosa's in 1988. Doug learned the craft by working for his parents and cooking in Italy, where he apprenticed in 1992.

Ada's Fish House came about in 2019. Shannon and Doug saw an available space across the street from Rosa's restaurant and decided to open a much-needed fish house in Pismo Beach.



Young noble Jane is kidnapped by "The Nameless Piratess" just before her wedding. Together, they seek a witch's treasure on a dangerous island. Will Jane be rescued, or will she embrace a pirate's life for magical riches?

MAR 13 ~ APR 25



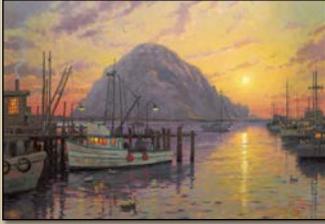
Fun for ages 5 to 105!
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Gail, stuck in a mundane life, is transported to Hatzyon after an earthquake. There, she teams up with a cursed stranger and a mismatched crew to defeat the town's elusive Wizard, embarking on a chaotic and secret-filled adventure.

MAY 1 ~ JUN 13



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“Mom was born in Bonito, Italy, and delivered by a midwife named Ada. She became known as Ada Rosa.” Ada is the name Doug and his wife, Shannon, chose for Ada’s Fish House.

When planning the menu for Ada’s, Doug also benefited from his father, Bill’s, influence. Bill hailed from Boston, where Maine lobster is king. Ada’s lobster roll is most favored among the restaurant’s loyal following.

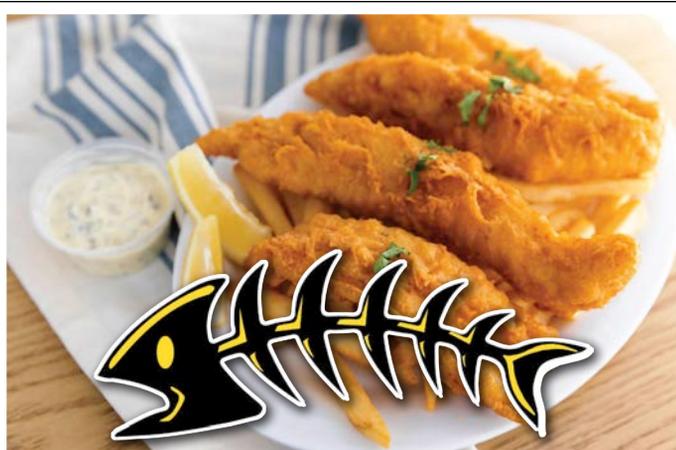
After deciding to open Ada’s, Shannon took over renovating and decorating. “It’s her brain-child,” said Doug, “everything from the decor to the menu. We work together on this.”

Macmillan was instrumental in launching the culinary program at Arroyo Grande High School. Ongoing support for the program includes a scholarship program from the family restaurants and often hiring culinary program students to work at Ada’s.

“I want to give these kids the tools to be successful.” No matter what the job, whether it is busing tables or washing dishes, everyone is an important part of the team. MacMillan feels it is his job to make sure his teams are successful. This requires having a good teacher and, more importantly, a good communicator. The MacMillan kids also help out, carrying on the family business tradition.

Ada’s Fish House is at 558 Price Street, Pismo Beach, CA. Open for outdoor and indoor dining Sunday-Thursday from 11:30 a.m. -9:30 p.m., and until 10 p.m. Friday and Saturday. Seating by reservation. Walk-ins are seated if space is available. Five or more guests are seated in the heated patio. For reservations or more information, visit adasfishhouse.com or call (805) 556-3077.

—Ruth Ann Angus



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Grover Beach

Don't miss the hidden gems, dunes, golf and parks of this laid-back beach town

Grover Beach is an outdoor lover's dream with access to wide expanses of beach and nearby parks and hiking. The town resting between Pismo Beach, Oceano and Arroyo Grande is one of the area's gateways to the many experiences and memories that add up to a relaxing break in the regular routine. Exploring nature, the many open spaces and parks, shops, restaurants and activities, including nearby golf courses, are only a few of the attractions that bring visitors back to Grover Beach.

Attractions

Skating

The South County Skate Park, operated by the City of Grover Beach, is located at 1750 Ramona Ave. The park is open to skateboarders and inline skaters.

Helmets and knee and elbow pads are required. Call (805) 473-4568 for more information.

Hiking and beaches

Grover Beach shares one of the longest stretches of beaches in the area with Pismo Beach. Close to 15 miles of open beach is available for long beach walks, jogging, or exploring the beach and surrounding landscapes.

Grover Beach is also a gateway to the many outdoor activities that are available. The Grover Beach Recreation Department provides online trail maps to just about every open space in San Luis Obispo County. Visit grover.org to download the maps.

Golf

Fifteen golf courses are located within 20 miles of Grover Beach. A few of the most popular include:

- Pismo Beach Golf Course. This ocean front, nine-hole, par 27 course is located just one mile from downtown Grover Beach on LaSage Drive. Visit pismoeachgolf.com.
- Cypress Ridge Golf Course is an 18-hole, par 72 course located just four miles from the center of Grover Beach in Arroyo Grande. Visit cypressridge.com for tee times and more information.
- Blacklake Golf Resort. Play a choice of courses on these Nipomo links, or practice on the 275 yard driving range. Visit blacklake.com for more information.

Service

Cole's Linen & Laundry

The place to go when in need of laundry services. The Fluff and Fold

service lets you vacation while they do your laundry, or use their machines and do it yourself. Clean, safe laundromat with attendants to help. 360 W Grand Ave, Grover Beach, JacksWashtubGroverBeach.com, (805) 489-1192

Shopping

Natural Healing Center

Premier cannabis retailer in Grover Beach, Morro Bay and SLO. Focusing on education and providing state of the art facilities with expert 1-on-1 service, NHC offers a comprehensive selection of top-quality products in an inclusive atmosphere. 998 Huston St. GB, 495 Morro Bay Blvd. MB, nhcdispensaries.com, (805) 201-1498

Choose your adventure at Oceano Dunes State Park

Rent an OHV, camp overnight, hike, fish, and enjoy the beach year-round

A vehicle recreation destination since the early 1900s, Oceano Dunes is California's only off-highway vehicle (OHV) recreation area on the Pacific Ocean. Established as a state park in 1974, the long stretch of beach fronts 3600 acres of open space, including 1500 acres for OHVs. Over 1.6 million visit this unique park annually to ride the dunes, camp, swim, surf, fish, hike, birdwatch, and explore.

Come for the day or the camping

Oceano Dunes is open daily from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. for vehicle day use. Passes are \$5 per vehicle, first-come-first-serve at the entry kiosks at Grand Avenue in Grover Beach and Pier Avenue in Oceano.

All vehicles must display current registration. OHVs must be hauled in and offloaded at a designated location.

Leashed dogs are welcome in the park but may not be at nearby attractions.



Generations of visitors have considered Oceano Dunes a home away from home since the early 1900s.

Camping, at \$10 per vehicle per night, is primitive beach and dune camping with no designated campsites. Facilities include vault and chemical toilets. Make camping reservations up to six months in advance at Reserve California, reservecalifornia.com/Web/.

Map your adventure

Don't forget a map from a kiosk or the Oceano Dunes Visitor Center at 555 Pier Ave. The center, open

daily from noon to 4 p.m., is packed with exhibits about the Chumash, the unique Bohemian Dunite community, and much more.

The map identifies important locations within the park, especially along Sand Highway. Sand Highway is named for its expansive sand dunes, stunning coastal views, and access to nature trails offering chances to explore and enjoy the landscape, coastal vegetation, and wildlife.

OHVs allowed in the park include ATVs/UTVs, off-road motorcycles, some dirt bikes, sand rails, and dune buggies. Four-wheel drive vehicles are highly recommended. Even then, high tides, heavy rains, and blowing sand can get you stuck.

"Riders are encouraged to explore and scout routes. Ride within your experience and ability," said Oceano Dunes District Planning Chief, Roger Jacobs. "Don't hesitate to ask park rangers or more experienced riders for tips. They're here to help you have a great time. Enjoy the thrill, take in the beautiful scenery, and remember, the more you practice, the more fun it gets."

Hikers, horseback riders, and wildlife also enjoy the park. Remember to yield when you encounter them so that everyone has a great time.

Don't own an OHV? No worries. Rent one from a nearby vendor. Recommended vendors from the Oceano Dunes website include:

- Arnie's ATV Rentals, 311 Pier Ave., Oceano, (805) 474-6060
- BJ's ATV Rentals, 197 West Grand Ave, Grover Beach, (805) 481-5411
- Steve's ATV Rentals, 332 Pier Ave, Oceano, (805) 481-2597
- Sun Buggy Run Rentals, 328 Pier Ave, Oceano, (805) 473-8636
- Pacific Adventure Tours, (805) 481-9330. Book an extreme Hummer adventure for a "mild to wild" ride in a USMC Humvee over the wild terrain of Oceano Dunes.

Play safely

"Stay safe. Follow posted signs, wear proper gear, and ride only in designated areas. Help protect this stunning environment for the future by packing out what you pack in and respecting wildlife. Most importantly, have fun and enjoy the thrill of outdoor adventure!" said Jacobs.

Detailed safety information is available at ohv.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=1207. The State of California has partnered with the All-Terrain Vehicle Safety Institute (ASI) to conduct regular OHV training and certification sessions at the park. For more information, visit atvsafety.org.

Getting there

Oceano Dunes is located three miles south of Pismo Beach in Oceano. Exit Highway 101 at Pismo Beach to Highway 1 and turn right at the light in Grover Beach to enter the park. For more information, visit ohv.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=1207, call (805) 773-7170 or (805) 473-7220.

—Jackie Iddings

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Arroyo Grande

The charming village of Arroyo Grande showcases its history through the variety of buildings and historical landmarks that line the streets, many housing restaurants, shops and museums. The shops include antiques, specialty boutique goods and gifts. Restaurants range from bakeries, cozy cafes and coffee houses, to family dining for every food preference.

Attractions

The Swinging Bridge

The Swinging Bridge in the Village of Arroyo Grande, spanning the Arroyo Grande Creek, is the only remaining bridge of its kind in California. Originally built in 1875, the bridge was reconstructed in 1995 after it was destroyed by a fallen tree.

Open-air historical experiences

- The Santa Manuela School House, a one-room school that held classes from 1901 until 1957
- The Paulding History House, a registered California Historic Resource at 551 Crown Hill Road, was built in 1889.

Visit the South County Historical Society at southcountyhistory.org more information about the Heritage House Museum, the Barn Museum, the IOOF Historic Hall and other Arroyo Grande historical resources.

Farm fresh foods

The town is surrounded by agricultural land and small farms that grow fresh, farm-to-fork, fruits and vegetables. Many of these essential farms offer produce and fresh farm goods at roadside stands.

Farmer's market

If you're in town on Wednesday, don't miss the Farmer's Market at 1464 East Grand Avenue. Take your pick of fresh local farm fare, vegetables, fruit, fish, flowers and more. If you missed out on the local farm fresh roadside stands, the chances are the same farmers are at the Arroyo Grande Farmer's Market.

Lopez Lake Recreation Area

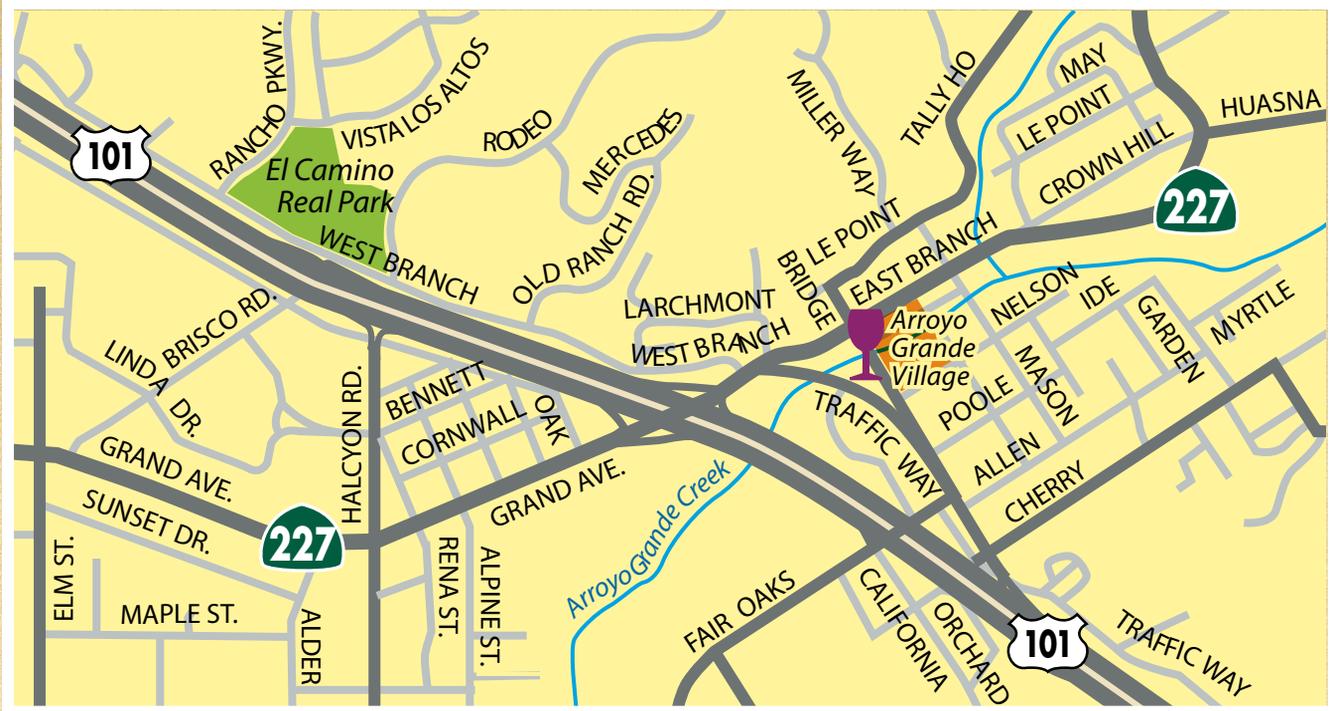
Located just 10 miles east of Arroyo Grande, Lopez Lake has close to 1000 acres of lake surface for boating, fishing, canoeing and windsurfing. The lake has a launch ramp, tackle shop, and many other amenities for water sport enthusiasts. The oak tree studded open space offers hiking and equestrian trails and is home to more than 175 species of flowering plants, more than 150

species of birds and all of the wildlife that calls the region home. Quagga mussel inspections are in force. Call (805) 781-5930 for more information about Quagga mussel inspections, camping, boat launching and horse trailer parking.

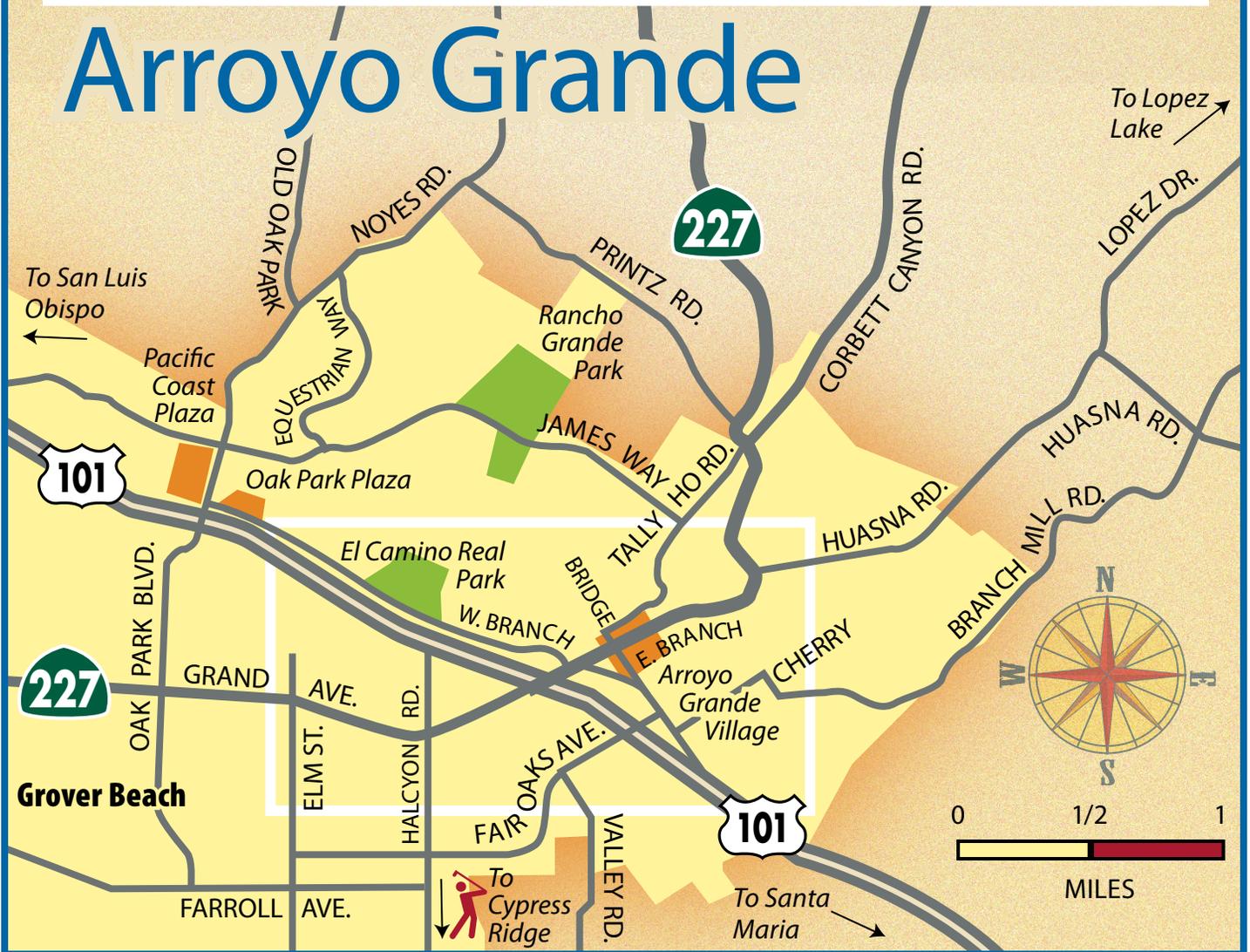
Dining & Drinks

Klondike Pizza

The owners have been serving award-winning pizza in a cozy Alaskan atmosphere since 1988. Munch on peanuts and toss your shells on the floor. Try the Reindeer Sausage! They also have a gluten-free crust option. Sun-Thurs: 11-9 p.m. / Fri & Sat: till 10 p.m., 104 Bridge St., Arroyo Grande, klondikepizza.com, (805) 481-5288



Arroyo Grande



Klondike Pizza's cozy, family-friendly interior brings a taste of Alaska to the Central Coast



Alaska has magnificent glaciers, the highest mountain in the U.S., over 12,000 rivers, 3 million lakes greater than 5 acres, and vast open spaces that support its diverse wildlife. But does it have the best pizza? For that, you'll have to go to Klondike Pizza in the quaint Arroyo Grande Village.

From the peanut shells on the floor, Alaskan artifacts, and Mickey the Moose—to the framed goofy tall tales on the entrance wall about the origins of Klondike Pizza—every view is reminiscent of Alaska. Buy a bag of peanuts and toss your shells on the floor while you wait for your meal.

Delicious food, delightful family fun

Klondike pizzas are made from scratch with your choice of red or garlic sauce. Specialty pies include The Roadkill, The Kodiak Korn Pizza, The Hot Honey Pizza, and The Chicken Cordon Bleu. Klondike Pizza also offers gluten-free pizzas and vegan options. The menu includes juicy burgers, grilled chicken, and baked sandwiches served on warm French rolls, plus fresh salads—including the infamous Klondike Salad served with the restaurant's secret sweet 'n' sour dressing.

A large, heated patio lets guests enjoy the beautiful Central Coast

weather year-round. Monday nights are "Unplugged Nights." Bring the family, pick a board game, and unplug together. For many locals, it's become a Monday night tradition. They also have a video arcade.

Join the "Klondike Gold Rush Club" for special member-only deals like free cheese bread and being in the know about upcoming events, like their popular Beer and Pizza Tastings.

Klondike Pizza has been serving "Good Times 'n Good Grub" since 1988 in Arroyo Grande and since 1996 in Santa Maria. Mike and Pam moved from Alaska with their two young sons and still run the restaurants today with the help of their outstanding crews and managers. These days, they have five grandkids, and Pam writes the "Murder Blog Mysteries," set on California's Central Coast—where her protagonist's favorite pizza just happens to be Klondike Pizza. Go figure. Her books are available on Amazon.

Klondike Pizza is located at 104 Bridge Street in Arroyo Grande, (805) 481-5288, and 2059 S. Broadway in Santa Maria, (805) 348-3667. To see the menu, for hours, more information, or to join the Gold Rush Club, visit klondikepizza.com. Dine-in, take-out, curbside delivery, and delivery with Cafe Runner.

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at 11am
for
Lunch and Dinner

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Good Times 'n Good Grub
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See Our Full Menu at Klondikepizza.com or scan the QR Code

DENALI
Pepperoni, Salami, Sausage, Mushrooms, Black Olives, Bell Peppers, Onions.

VEGGIE
Mushrooms, Zucchini, Black Olives, Tomatoes, Bell Peppers and Onions.

ROADKILL
Pepperoni, Ground Beef, Salami, Italian Sausage and Canadian Bacon.

GARLIC CHICKEN
Garlic Sauce, Minced Garlic, Grilled Chicken Breast, Red Onion and Parsley.

One of the Klondike owners is a mystery
writer! Check out Pam's series on Amazon!



Nipomo

Nipomo is a small town on the mesa in the southern area of San Luis Obispo County that is known for its stands of eucalyptus trees, expansive golf courses and special outdoor and nature experiences.

Nipomo preserves a spirit of true frontier land even while modern businesses thrive in its commercial areas. Standing on the wet sand of the shore of the Pacific, looking out over the sprawling Guadalupe-Nipomo Dunes toward the rich, riparian woods, creeks, fresh water lakes and the Santa Maria River, one imagines seeing the same views that the original Chumash saw while going

about their daily activities. The word “nipomo” means “base of the hills” in the Chumash language.

Bostonian sea captain, Captain William G. Dana acquired a land grant in 1837, and settled the 37,888-acre Rancho Nipomo. His adobe house still stands near the 101 Freeway.

Attractions

Guadalupe-Nipomo Dunes

The 3,400-acre Guadalupe-Nipomo Dunes Preserve is one of the largest remaining coastal dune systems in the nation and is a must-see excursion for hikers, naturalists

and bird-watchers. Catch glimpses of more than 200 varieties of birds and view more than 120 imperiled plants and animals within the preserve’s National Wildlife Refuge and surrounding dune habitat.

Nipomo Native Gardens

A forest of native plants and trees are maintained by volunteers from the Nipomo Native Gardens Society. The Nipomo Native Garden is a 12-acre site located between Pomeroy, Camino Caballo and Osage, nipomonativegarden.org.

Nipomo Swap Meet

The huge Nipomo Swap Meet and Flea market is on the grounds adjacent to the 101 Freeway at the Teft Street off-ramp. The Nipomo Swap Meet & Flea market combines great family entertainment with old school swap meet atmosphere. It is the largest swap meet on California’s Central Coast and is open Sunday only 6 a.m. - 4 p.m. \$4 Parking. No dogs. Visit nipomoswapmeets.com or call (805) 929-7000 for more information.

Dana Adobe Historical Landmark and Cultural Center

The mission of the Dana Adobe Cultural Center is to engage visitors with the stories of California’s Rancho

Era History, connecting them with the peoples, the land and its resources to foster environmental stewardship and cultural understanding. The Dana Adobe is located at 671 Oakglen Ave, Nipomo, CA. Be sure to visit danaadobe.org before arriving for the most recent information.

The Luffa Farm

Come and see how luffas grow at the Luffa Farm. These natural sponges grow like squash. Take a free tour and see all their products at the gift shop. Open Wed. to Sun. from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., 1457 Willow Road., theluffafarm.com, (805) 343-0883

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The Luffa Farm
Natural Luffa Sponge
 This perfect all-natural sponge was grown from our special Heirloom Luffa Seeds, making it softer than commercial luffa sponges. It is a luxurious exfoliant, safe for all skin types. This completely non-abrasive sponge can also be used for household cleaning.
 Machine washable.

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Los Osos

and Baywood Park

Los Osos, Spanish for “the bears”, is off the beaten path and the gateway to Montana de Oro, an amazing state park along the ocean. Ranch Cañada de Los Osos, meaning “Valley of the Bears,” was a Mexican land grant initially granted to Victor Linares in 1842 by Governor Juan B. Alvarado. The town of Los Osos has many quaint places of interest for visitors to stop on their way to and from the state park. Try one of the many restaurants or grab something to take with you for a picnic at the beach or one of the nearby forests.

Montaña de Oro State Park

The park is well-used with daily visitors throughout the year who go there to hike, picnic, fish, camp, surf, take a dip in the ocean, or visit the tide pools. The park’s visitor center is located at Spooner’s Ranch House Museum above Spooner’s Cove. The park is open from 6 a.m.-10 p.m. and is free to enter. Details: (805) 772-6101, or parks.ca.gov.

El Moro Elfin Forest

El Moro Elfin Forest in Los Osos is a 90-acre natural area in the San Luis Obispo County Parks

and California State Parks systems. Its plant communities include coastal brackish marsh, riparian woodland fringe, pygmy oak woodland, maritime chaparral, and coastal dune scrub. The Elfin Forest supports more than 200 species of plants, as well as 110 kinds of birds, 22 species of mammals, and 13 species of reptiles and amphibians. It is home to rare plants, butterflies, snails, and birds. Chumash middens occur throughout the forest. There is a short, wheelchair accessible boardwalk loop that also protects sensitive habitat. Guided walks are conducted every third Saturday, reservations required. The forest is managed by the Friends of El Moro Elfin Forest. Details: elfin-forest.org, (805) 528-0392.

Baywood Pier

The pier, at the intersection of 2nd Street and El Morro Ave., overlooks the shores of the back bay of Morro Bay. The Los Osos Oaks State Reserve Half-mile east of South Bay Boulevard on the south side of Los Osos Valley Road. The

reserve has an easy one-mile trail through the “Pygmy Oaks”, which are dwarfed coast live oaks. The low canopy reserve is on the site where Chumash once lived.

Los Osos Community Park

Located at the corner of Los Osos Valley Road and Palisades Avenue, the park includes a 17,000-square-foot skate park, three tennis courts, playgrounds and restrooms. The park is ideal for walking or picnicking and is the site of the Los Osos Valley School, one of five original one-room schoolhouses between San Luis Obispo and the coast. Of those five, only two still exist today, both in Los Osos.

Sweet Springs Nature Preserve

Located on the north end of Ramona Avenue between Broderon and 4th Street, the park is open from dawn to dusk and has trails that wander through the Monterey cypress and eucalyptus trees around two freshwater ponds and a salt marsh to the edge of Morro Bay.

Baywood Park Farmers’ Market

On Santa Maria Avenue between 2nd and 3rd streets. The market takes place every Monday from 2-4:30 p.m. (805) 748-1109.

Bear statues

On your way into Los Osos notice the large grizzlies stationed as guards into the town at South Bay Boulevard and Los Osos Valley Road. The statues were created by local artist Paula Zima.

Dining & Drinks

Foggy Bottom Distillery

A small-batch craft distillery located in Los Osos on Los Osos Valley Road, specializing in bourbon, whiskeys, gin, and spiced rum. Come visit and meet the distiller. 905 Los Osos Valley Road, fbdistillery.com, (805) 795-1727



Hiking, biking, camping, wildlife, and rugged coastal scenery

Experience the natural wonders of Montana de Oro State Park

Montana De Oro is a stunning state park spanning over 12 square miles of rugged cliffs, secluded sandy beaches, coastal plains, streams, canyons, and hills, including the 1,347-foot Valencia Peak. The park's name, Spanish for "Mountain of Gold," comes from the golden wildflowers that bloom in spring.

From day use to camping, families, naturalists, backpackers, and equestrians can enjoy the solitude and freedom found along the park's trails. The best-known beach is Spooner's Cove, across from the campground. On a clear day, there are magnificent views of the park from the top of Valencia Peak. The trailhead for Valencia Peak is from the main campsite near Spooner's Cove.

Wildlife in the park includes black-tailed deer and the black oystercatcher. The park offers primitive and equestrian campsites, as well as picnic areas, hiking trails, prime scuba diving, guided tours, and more. The weather can be changeable; layered clothing is recommended.



Spectacular views can be enjoyed from the park's trails.

Only visiting for the day?

You might change your mind after viewing the list of things to do. Along with picnic and barbecue areas, there are a variety of things to do for every level of outdoor enthusiast.

- Visit the historical and cultural site, participate in a variety of exhibits, programs, and guided tours
- Fish, SCUBA dive, or snorkel
- Take a hike on any of the trails or enjoy the beaches and tide pools.
- Cycling and horseback riding are allowed for most of the trails. Dogs are not allowed on trails.

A variety of campsites

The park has family campsites, environmental campsites, primitive campsites, and even a campsite for horses and riders. There is also RV and horse trailer access. Be sure to check campsite availability and make reservations.

Comforts that make it worth staying

Amenities include RV parking, drinking water, coin-operated showers, and firewood available for purchase.

Dogs are permitted in campsites and on park roads and must be kept on a leash no longer than six feet held by an adult. Dogs are not allowed on the trails or the beach except Spooner's Cove beach, and may not be left alone in campsites.

Montana de Oro State Park is six miles southwest of Morro Bay and seven miles south of Los Osos on Pecho Road. For more information, campsite reservations, and campfire restrictions, visit parks.ca.gov or call (805) 528-0513.



Morro Bay

A sightseer's delight

Explore the natural beauty of Morro Bay, a town famous for its fog and fishing. Whether for a day or a week, this small town by the Rock has something for everyone.

Morro Bay is bursting with exciting activities to try. There's deep sea fishing, whale watching, world-class surfing, hiking, biking, and kayaking.

When it comes to birdwatching, there's little doubt that Morro Bay provides the best chance for observing a great variety of species. It's an incredible birding spectacle. There are also harbor seals, sea lions, and sea otters.

Looking to take a slower pace? Stroll down the Embarcadero and browse gift shops and art galleries. Explore the local cuisine and dine on fresh caught fish. Sit on a bench in Tidelands Park and watch the boats leaving the harbor or take a walk on the beach and watch the waves. Walk out the harbor boardwalk to Morro Rock, the 576-foot volcanic plug that looms over the bay and seashore. Keep an eye out for sea otters that rest in the kelp beds near the shore.

Attractions

Morro Bay Maritime Museum

This museum has been preserving and interpreting the maritime history, especially that of California since 1995. The current fleet on exhibit includes the tug boat "Alma" that rescued sailors from the December 1941 Japanese attack on a Union Oil tanker off the coast of Morro Bay and the "Avalon," one of two Deep Submergence Rescue Vehicles (DSRV) submarines designed to rescue crews of downed submarines. The museum is located at 1210 Embarcadero in Morro Bay. For hours visit morrobaymaritime.org.

Morro Bay State Park

Morro Bay State Park, located at 60 State Park Rd. Morro Bay, features lagoon and bay habitat, all in view of Morro Rock. The park has opportunities for sailing, fishing, hiking and bird watching and features a marina and an 18-hole golf course. The Morro Bay Golf Course is located at 201 State Park Rd. Call (805) 772-1923 for hours and tee times.

The park is a California state park, visit parks.ca.gov for information about parking, hours and other attractions.

North Point Natural Area

Operated by the City of Morro Bay, the North Point Natural Area has a stairway that leads down to the beach. Once on the beach, people can walk north to Cayucos or south to Morro Rock. The beach has one of the best tidepool areas. In the spring, the meadow is full of blooming wildflowers. The entry is located on Toro Lane in Morro Bay.

Black Hill Trail

Located at Main St and Parkview Dr., this 2.5 mile trail is a moderate hike. The trail is a favorite spot for nature walks and birdwatching. Leashed dogs are welcome.

Giant chessboard at Centennial Parkway

According to the United States Chess Federation, the Giant Chessboard at Centennial Parkway, 806 Embarcadero, is only one of two outdoor chessboards in the United States. The other is located in New York City. The Morro Bay Chess Club installed chess tables and benches adjacent to the Giant Chessboard. The Giant Chessboard is available for reservations, Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., through the Morro Bay Recreation Services for a small fee. Visitors are

always welcomed to join the Morro Bay Chess Club on Saturdays beginning at noon. For more information call (805) 772-6278

Art Galleries

Art Center Morro Bay

The Gallery has become a hub for fine art. They offer many opportunities to purchase beautiful, local drawings, prints, sculpture, jewelry, cards and more through an array of venues, as well as networking and educational opportunities for artists to further their craft. Morro Bay Art Center 835 Main St., artcentermorrobay.org, (805) 772-2504

David J Rogers Fine Art

Visit the gallery and working studio of local artist, David J Rogers. He offers original paintings, giclée prints, cards, gifts and live watercolor workshops. Located in downtown Morro Bay, 407 Morro Bay Blvd., open daily 10 am - 5 pm, Sundays 11 am - 4 pm, davidjrogersart.com, (805) 225-5077

Attractions & Tours

Bay Cruisers

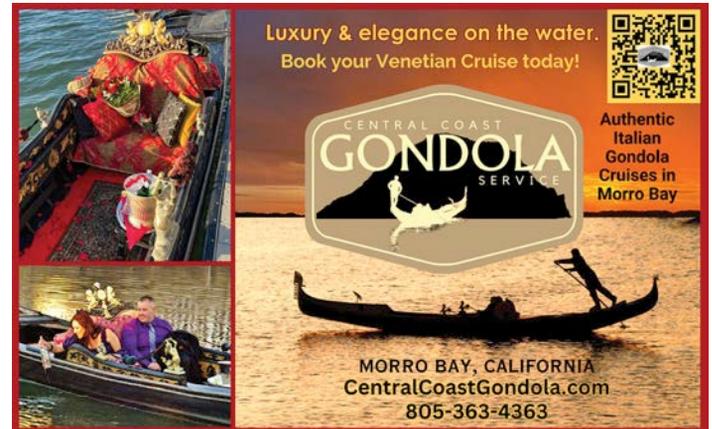
Offers a variety of fun water activities including electric boat rides, kayak rentals and sailing lessons on the bay. Contact us today to schedule your next boating adventure. We're on the waterfront! 845 Embarcadero, #11 Morro Bay BayCruisers.com, (805) 771-9339

Chablis Cruises

Treat yourself to a delicious meal and incredible vistas of Morro Bay Harbor aboard Chablis Cruises. Featuring weekly chowder and sightseeing cruises. Check our website for wine tasting and special events! Private charters available. Reservations highly recommended. Across from the stacks in Morro Bay, ChablisCruises.com, (805) 772-2128

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Morro Bay

kind adventure on the water. Relax with a tropical drink and soak in the scenery, daily departures. 845 Embarcadero Suite D, Morro Bay morrobaytikiboat.com, (805) 771-9337

Dining & Drinks

Byside Cafe

Located at the State Park Marina it's the best kept secret on the Central Coast. Seafood dinners, such as fresh fish, steamers and fish and chips. Meatloaf served Thursday nights. Lunch daily starting at 11 a.m., dinner Thursday-Sunday 4 - 8:30 p.m. Located across the street from the State Park Campground entrance, (805) 772-1465

Mi Casa Mexican Restaurant

Enjoy generously portioned California-style Mexican cuisine with views of Morro Bay. Freshly prepared breakfast, lunch, dinner, and dessert in a family-friendly atmosphere. Full beverage menu, including horchata and margaritas. Open daily 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. 2848 Main St., Morro Bay, (805) 772-1272 or visit micasarestaurant.wixsite.com/micasamorrobay

Shopping

A-leave Antiques & Giftery

Step into a space where every item has a story. From vintage treasures to forgotten curiosities, this antique shop offers a glimpse into the past—and maybe the perfect piece for your present. 1108 Front Street, (805) 610-2966

Natural Healing Center

Premier cannabis retailer in Grover Beach, Morro Bay and SLO. Focusing on education and providing state of the art facilities with expert 1-on-1 service, NHC offers a comprehensive selection of top-quality products in an inclusive atmosphere. 998 Huston St. GB, 495 Morro Bay Blvd. MB, nhcdispensaries.com, (805) 201-1498

Hotels & Lodging

Salty Sister Boutique Hotel

Salty Sister a boutique hotel is Morro Bay's newest hotel and closest lodging to Morro Rock. With a stunning panoramic view of the bay, this boutique hotel | vacation rental is a popular addition to the Morro Bay waterfront. Rent the full complex (six private suites) or choose a 1, 2 or 3 bedroom suite layout, 7svr.com, (805) 900-6000



Outdoor Activities

Central Coast Gondola Service

Enjoy a timeless cruise experience in a beautiful, authentic Venetian Gondola! A gondolier will row you through Morro Bay (& maybe sing), while you relax with friends & family. Dinner & Sunset cruises available. Up to 6 guests. 833 Embarcadero, Dock 1, centralcoastgondola.com, (805) 363-4363



Shopping

Beads By The Bay

The only Bead and Garden store on the Central Coast! Old-town charm with a hidden nursery behind. Beads from around the world, charms, findings, tools and repairs. Tillandsias, succulents, miniature garden accessories and more! Open Wed-Mon. 333 Morro Bay Blvd., (805) 772-3338



Rich Man Poor Man Antique Malls

Two giant locations on the central coast offering a unique selection of antiques and collectables. Open daily 10 am to 5 pm. Located in Morro Bay at 2200 Main Street, RichManPoorManAntiques.com, (805) 225-1400



Enjoy fresh food and enchanting waterfront views at Bayside Café

Dessert and a kids' menu, too!

Hungry? Drop into the Bayside Café at the marina in Morro Bay. Relax over lunch while watching the sun reflecting on the water. Looking for a casual, romantic location for dinner? The Bayside Café is the place.

Dawn Borst started Bayside Café after recognizing the need for a place to grab a quick meal after coming in from a day on the water. As the restaurant grew, she remained dedicated to serving the freshest food to every customer. A favorite since it was opened in 1986, when Dawn started Bayside Café as a walk-up. She created each recipe herself, and the menu continues featuring her unique recipes for every meal.

Recipes for the perfect bite

The extensive lunch, dinner, and kids' menus offer a variety of options to please everyone, featuring Dawn's unique recipes. Each recipe is crafted out of a love for the perfect bite.

The lunch menu offers plenty of delicious options. From seafood, burgers, and pasta to Mexican specialties, the whole family can enjoy a variety of dishes, catering to everyone's preferences.

The dinner menu at Bayside Café is more romantic. Chicken Marsala, tender slow-roasted tri-tip, and blackened ahi are just a few of the choices, and the entree list is a perfect variety of both surf and turf.

The kids' menu is tailored to young appetites and comes with fries!

Want to share a few appetizers with your group? Try the shrimp cocktail and calamari strips. Or maybe you'd like a bowl of chowder, which is a meal in itself.

"Everything looks so good," is a regular comment from Bayside



Romantic views and great food at Bayside Café

Café patrons. Count on having a hard time making up your mind about what to eat, but you can save a little time by checking out the menus at baysidecafe.com.

Dessert heaven

Locals have long discovered that a trip to Bayside is more than the mouthwatering main courses – the homemade desserts are must-eats. Chocolate Oblivion and Tres Leches Cake are just two of the delights that leave diners wishing for more.

Great beer, wine, and a selection of other beverages top off the meal.

Perhaps the best part about dining at Bayside Café is the feeling that even if you are just visiting the area, you are treated like a local. Smiling employees, delicious food, and a laid-back atmosphere are the perfect combination.

Low-key and relaxed

The cozy café boasts seating with perfect views of the bay. Sit inside and soak up the views through the huge glass window, or bring your dog and enjoy the heated patio. Every seat offers memorable views of the bay and marina. Soar-

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Roné Prinz ©

Morro Bay



ing birds, boats gently drifting at their moorings, the drifting fog, and stunning sunsets perfectly accompany your delicious meal.

Just across the street from the campground, Bayside Café is the restaurant every camper dreams about. Diners often show up in beach cover-ups and camping attire. The fact that dogs are welcome on the patio bears repeating!

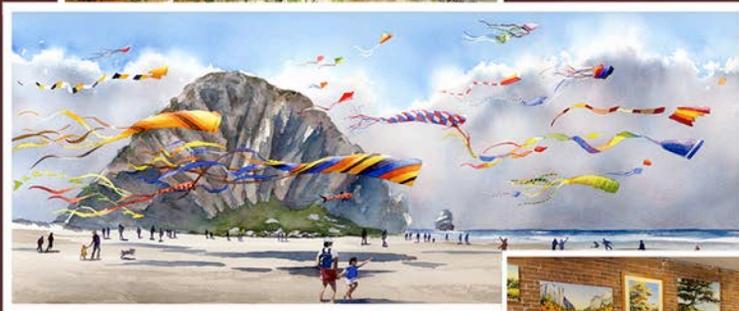
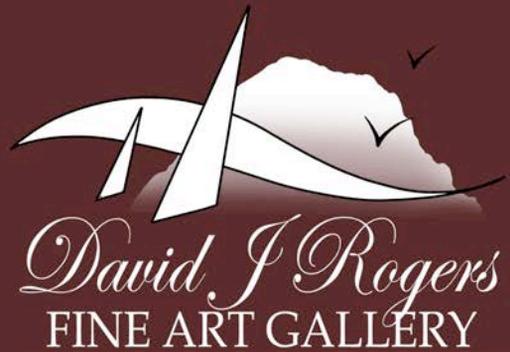
Mix the delicious food, amazing views, and casual atmosphere

with a large dose of relaxation, and you will have a hard time leaving, guaranteed.

Bayside Café, located at 10 State Park Road directly across the road from the Morro Bay State Park Campground, is open for lunch Monday through Wednesday, 11 a.m.-3 p.m., and 11 a.m. – 8 p.m. Thursday through Sunday, except for 3:30 to 4 p.m. for dinner preparations. For more information, call (805) 772-1465 or visit baysidecafe.com.



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Take the 'SLO Life' escape with Seven Sisters Vacation Rentals

Ideal settings for a getaway with friends, a family reunion, or special celebrations, these homes are ideal settings for memorable stays

The "SLO life" isn't just a vacation style—it's a way of living that embodies the essence of California's Central Coast. Whether you're dreaming of morning walks on shell-strewn beaches or sunset wine tastings overlooking rolling vineyards, Seven Sisters Vacation Rentals offers a gateway to this sought-after lifestyle, even if just for a while.

"Our focus at Seven Sisters Vacation Rentals is providing guests with a true Central Coast lifestyle experience, not just a place to stay," says owner Terri Hicks. "Our homes are thoughtfully curated to



reflect the charm of beach and wine country destinations, complete with carefully chosen amenities to enhance the experience."

Seven Sisters' rental homes are located in Avila Beach, Pismo Beach, Shell Beach, Cayucos, Morro Bay, Arroyo Grande, Oceano, and the Edna Valley wine region in San Luis Obispo.

Experience coastal living with a beach house retreat

For those drawn to the rhythm of the waves, properties like The Seven Sisters offer more than just accommodation—they put you at the heart of the Pacific lifestyle. Imagine starting your day with coffee on the deck as dolphins play in the distance, spending afternoons

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Morro Bay

exploring hidden coves, and ending each evening with ocean sunsets shared with family and friends.

These coastal retreats combine comfort with the relaxed charm of a beach town. Spacious gathering areas become the center of your group's getaway, while private spaces provide quiet moments to unwind. Whether you're hosting a family reunion, a getaway with friends, or a special celebration, these homes offer the ideal setting for a memorable stay.

Embrace your custom Central Coast experience

Each home in the Seven Sisters collection comes with a thoughtfully prepared welcome packet and local insights, allowing guests to settle into the region with ease. The team specializes in assisting with recommendations, from scenic drives to hidden local favorites, ensuring visitors make the most of their time on the Central Coast.

Modern amenities like contactless entry blend seamlessly with the charm of each property, while the Seven Sisters team remains avail-



able to answer questions and offer support. For those looking to stay longer, monthly rentals provide an extended opportunity to experience coastal living or immerse in wine country life.

Seven Sisters Vacation Rentals offers nearly 100 carefully curated properties, providing a range of

options for guests seeking a coastal retreat or a wine country escape.

"Our work is good. I promise," says Hicks, "And behind that promise, I want you to know that I back our work with a satisfaction guarantee. My team and I won't stop working until you like what we've done."

Let Seven Sisters Vacation Rentals provide your home base for exploring one of California's most cherished destinations.

Visit *Seven Sisters* online at sevensvr.com, or call (805) 900-6000.

—Skye Pratt



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Across the road from State Park campground entrance on State Park Rd

A perfect day with coastal charm and adventure in Morro Bay

A guide for the day, from morning coffee to dinner

Looking for the ideal day trip along California's Central Coast? Morro Bay offers small-town charm and maritime adventure, perfect for those craving fresh seafood, wildlife encounters, or unique shopping. This guide will help you make the most of your time in this relaxed coastal destination.

Morro Bay's skyline stands out along the SLO County coastline, anchored by two iconic landmarks: the 576-foot volcanic Morro Rock and the three smokestacks from the decommissioned power plant. Just 12 miles from San Luis Obispo, the town makes for an ideal day trip and a strategic base for exploring the county.

Morning adventures

Start with breakfast and a warm cup of coffee from a local restaurant while watching surfers catch waves at Morro Strand State Beach, or after strolling along the Embarcadero.

Once you're fueled up, wander the Embarcadero's waterfront shops, while nearby Main Street has even more unique finds. Beads By The Bay offers coastal-inspired jewelry and garden art. For art lovers, the Morro Bay Art Center at 835 Main Street hosts rotating exhibits by Central Coast artists. A block over, David J Rogers Fine Art Gallery captures the area's landscapes in exquisite watercolors.

Midday exploration

For an intimate view of the bay, reserve a Central Coast Gondola tour (centralcoastgondola.com), or captain your own boat for an hour or two at Bay Cruisers (baycruisers.com). These cruises offer close-up encounters with the harbor's wildlife, including sea lions and otters.



Take an easy walk along the bay to a close-up view of Morro Rock.

When hunger calls, head to Bayside Cafe at 10 State Park Road, a local favorite overlooking the marina. The fish tacos are popular, but it's the clam chowder in a sourdough bread bowl that steals the show. The dog-friendly patio provides views of the estuary, making it an ideal lunch spot.

Nearby, Morro Bay State Park offers hiking trails and the Museum of Natural History. For a \$3 admission fee (17 and under free), visitors can explore

interactive exhibits about the estuary's ecosystem. The Marina Peninsula Trail provides excellent bird-watching opportunities among the area's 250 species.

Afternoon discoveries

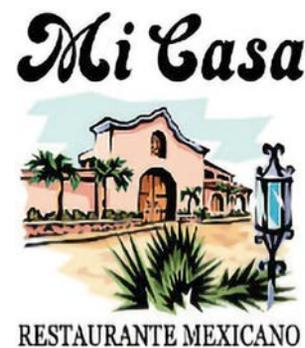
Morro Bay is known for its antique shops, so if you're still in the mood to explore, visit Rich Man-Poor Man Antiques at 2110 Main Street. The store's maritime section includes authentic pieces from local fishing vessels.

Dinner delights

As the day winds down, consider returning to Morro Strand for a sunset stroll with a coffee in hand. For dinner, book a Chablis Cruise (chablisdives.com), an evening voyage with fresh seafood and scenic views of the harbor lights.

Visitor tips

- Morro Bay's coastal climate calls for layers, as mornings may be foggy until around 11 a.m., and evenings stay cool year-round.
- Remember to maintain a respectful distance from wildlife, including seals and sea otters.
- Most shops are open from 10



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a.m. to 5 p.m., and some restaurants take a break between lunch and dinner.

- Free parking is available at the Morro Rock lot and near the state park.
- For special experiences like Chablis Cruises and Central Coast Gondola tours, reservations are recommended.

Respect the rock! Morro Rock, known as "Lisamu" to the indigenous Northern Chumash people, is more than just a scenic backdrop. This sacred site has been a spiritual

center for thousands of years, playing a crucial role in Northern Chumash ceremonies and cultural practices. You are welcome to admire its majesty from the beach or harbor, but climbing the rock is prohibited, both for your safety and to preserve its cultural significance.

After just a day in Morro Bay, you'll see why this unpretentious coastal town captures the hearts of visitors and locals alike. It's a place where time slows down, nature takes center stage, and the simple pleasures of coastal life are a reminder of what truly matters.

—Skye Pratt



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Cayucos

Enjoy this scenic seaside retreat



A quiet town, Cayucos invites folks to slow down, smell the ocean air, pick up sea glass, and never take life for granted. The broad main street recalls the days of stagecoaches and cowboys, and some of the buildings there date back to that bye-gone era.

Cayucos is the number one destination on the Central Coast for antique shoppers and a great place to just cool down and get away from the heat. It is the perfect beachside town for renting a beach house and enjoying a week of sand castles, sunsets and relaxation.

Attractions

Public art

Cayucos has a number of public murals and sculptures on display at various locations. The art includes a "Mosaic Sculpture Honoring Indigenous People," an underwater scene of the Cave of Mysteries, and more. Visit cayucos.org/muralsociety for a map of the art.

Explore tidepools

Rocky areas around the pier on Cayucos State Beach are great areas to find tidepools. Estero Bluffs State Park north of Cayucos is another area with plenty of tidepools. Depending on the tide, the animals that can be seen in tidepools include small fish, shrimp, sea stars, hermit crabs, anemones, sponges, sea urchins, tube worms, sea cucumbers and many, many more. Please leave the tidepools exactly as you found them. Tidepools are special, fragile systems and disturbing the animals and plants can cause harm.

Fishing

Fishing on the pier and from the shore of Cayucos State Beach is a favorite activity for locals and visitors. No fishing license is needed. Surf fishing is also allowed but a license is needed. Deep sea fishing is also available from local commercial fishing businesses.

Beach activities

The Cayucos State Beach stretches five miles south to Morro Bay. Run, jog, or walk as far as you like. Leashed dogs are welcome. Other beach activities include surfing, boogie boarding, kayaking or sitting in the sand and building sand castles.

Dining & Drinks

Brown Butter Cookie Company

Since 2008, they have crafted signature hand-rolled cookies renowned for quality and taste. The latest offerings include cookies infused with Ghirardelli® chocolate in three flavors: White Chip, Chocolate Chip, and Dark Cocoa Chocolate Chip. Brown Butter Frozen Custard was recently introduced, expanding the indulgent lineup! 95 N. Ocean Ave., Cayucos, brownbuttercookies.com, (805) 464-6636

Cayucos Sausage Company

Cayucos Sausage Company is a seaside delicatessen that makes gourmet sausages with the finest ingredients and never uses preservatives. In addition to the sausages they are an upscale full-service deli and meat market. 12 N. Ocean Avenue, Suite 121, cayucosausage.com, (805) 900-5377

Hotels & Lodging

Beachside Rentals

Over 65 vacation rentals located in perfect locations in Cayucos, Morro Bay, and Cambria. Clean, comfortable,

and many just steps from the sand. Friendly staff ready to help guests enjoy unforgettable Central Coast getaways. Some pet-friendly availability. Beachsiderentals.com, (805) 995-3680

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Rent a slice of paradise on the Central Coast with Beachside Rentals

Vacation rentals suit families, retirees, and outdoor enthusiasts alike

Vacation rentals can offer a unique way for travelers to experience California's Central Coast at a slower pace, with the comfort of a private home and easy access to the coast's beaches, towns, and outdoor activities.

Beachside Rentals, Inc. has spent more than 30 years managing vacation properties along the Central Coast, providing visitors



Enjoy ocean views with morning coffee or afternoon wine.

with homes that allow them to settle in and experience the area like locals. The company focuses on offering clean, well-maintained rentals located either directly on the beach or within walking distance of the shoreline or nearby downtown business areas.

Owner and broker Toni LeGras-Price said her connection to the area began long before she entered the vacation rental business.

"I grew up visiting Cayucos with my family. My great-grandparents bought our family vacation home in 1934," LeGras-Price said. "I always loved it."

That generational tie to the coast helped shape Beachside Rentals' approach to hospitality, which emphasizes local knowledge and personal service. Legras said the company values direct communication with guests, while still offering the convenience of online booking.

"Our service is personal, we actually like to talk to people on the

phone if they want to, and we are all locals familiar with the homes being offered and the community," Legras said. "Of course, they can book online too."

Beachside Rentals works with a variety of travelers, including families, adventure seekers, and retirees. The properties are designed to serve as comfortable home bases for visitors who want to spend time outdoors, explore nearby towns, or simply relax by the ocean.

Guests most often comment on the peacefulness of the Central Coast and the outdoor activities available during their stays, LeGras-Price says. "We have amazing public beach access."

From their rental homes, visitors can spend their days surfing, walking along the beach, biking coastal routes, and exploring local dining options. Wineries throughout the region are popular destinations, as are nearby attractions such as Hearst Castle and Morro Rock,

which offer additional opportunities for sightseeing and day trips.

LeGras-Price said the company's local presence allows it to provide attentive service throughout a guest's stay. Managers live close to the properties they oversee, allowing them to respond quickly to questions or needs and to ensure the homes are well cared for.

For visitors looking to rent a slice of paradise, Beachside Rentals offers an option that blends the comforts of home with the natural beauty of the Central Coast. Whether guests are planning a family vacation, an active outdoor trip, or a quieter coastal retreat, the rentals offer settings that highlight the scenery, access, and laid-back pace that define the region.

Beachside Rentals is located in Cayucos. For more information, visit beachsiderentals.com, or call (805) 995-3680.

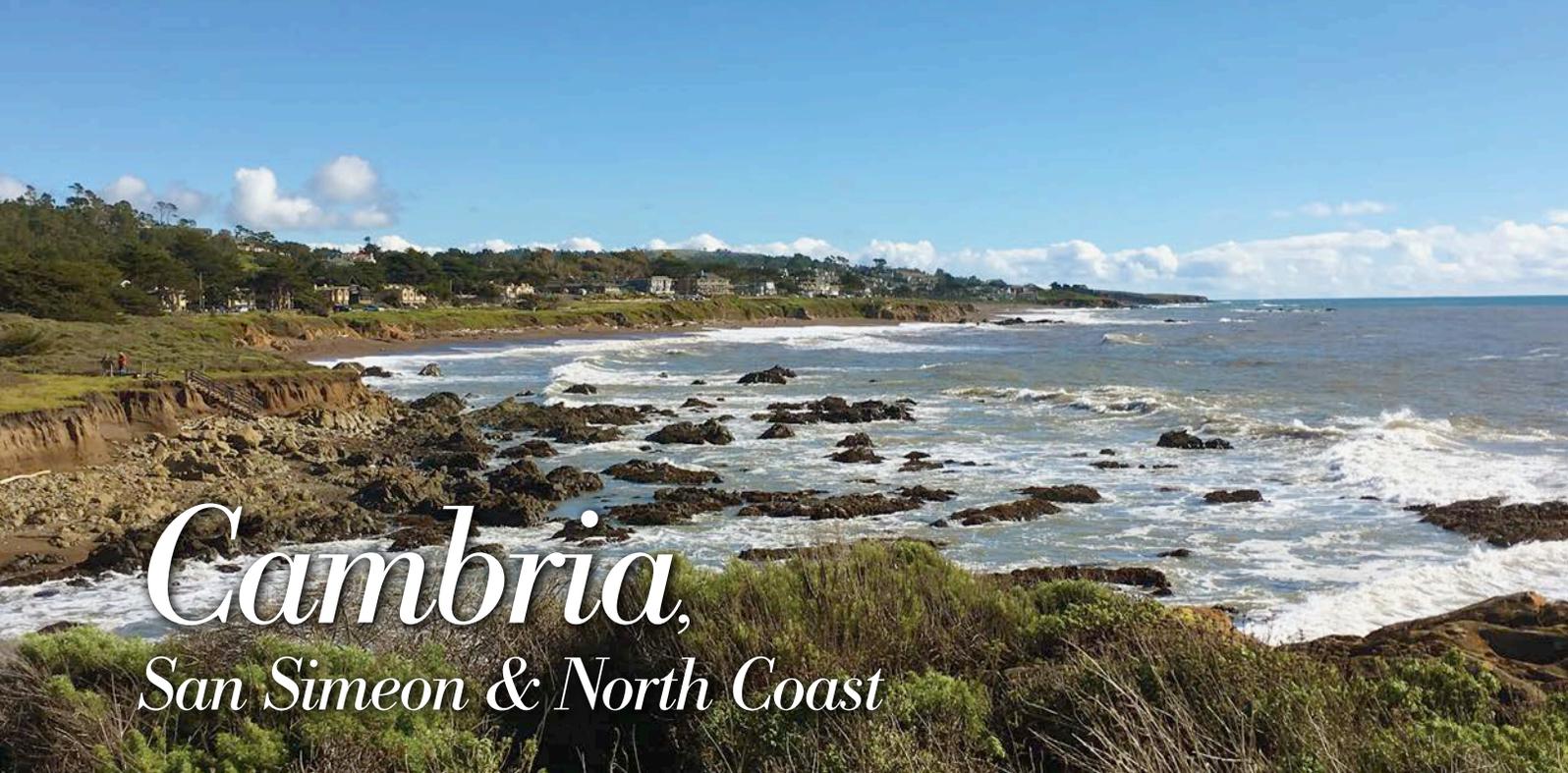
—Skye Pratt

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Cambria, San Simeon & North Coast

The charming village of Cambria is filled with unique shops, galleries, and restaurants serving all kinds of delicious food. The shops have everything from antiques, specialty items, household gadgets, exquisite jewelry, and art from the quirky to traditional. Walking through the village, along flower-filled yards and shady trees, the well-maintained buildings, many dating from the 1800s, all come together in a sense of how life in a more tranquil time must have been.

Cambria is also known as the gateway to Hearst Castle, glorious ocean scenery along Highway 1, and during the month of October, is the heart of the Cambria Scarecrow Festival. The festival is an outdoor display of whimsical handmade scarecrows that draws visitors from all over.

Attractions

Historical walking tour

Visit the Cambria Historical Society website (cambriahistoricalsociety.com) for a map of a walking tour of Cambria's historical buildings. The self-guided tour encompasses 28 buildings and the map includes a written history of each one. Learn the fascinating history of these old buildings and how their uses evolved from the original business or residence to their current occupations. Learn a little about the people and families who shaped Cambria's early years.

Visit the elephant seals

The elephant seal rookery extends six miles along the shoreline near Point Piedras Blancas in the Hearst San Simeon State Park. The seals may be seen all year but the largest populations are present during late January, April and October. Visit the Friends of the Elephant Seal

website at elephantseal.org for information about the best viewing times and spots.

The Hearst San Simeon State Park

The state park encompasses the Moonstone Beach, the Santa Rosa Creek Natural Preserve, the San Simeon Natural Preserve and the Pa-Nu Cultural Preserve.

- Santa Rosa Creek Preserve includes valuable riparian forests and coastal wetlands, that provide habitat for endangered Tidewater Goby.

- San Simeon Natural Preserve covers vast wetlands, riparian areas, and several undisturbed native plant communities and is a wintering site for monarch butterflies.

- The 13.7 acre Pa-nu Cultural Preserve contains an archaeological site dated to 5850 years before the present era. The site holds significant evidence of prehistoric technology and life patterns.

A 3.3 mile trail runs through parts of the San Simeon Natural Preserve, with a portion of the trail being wheelchair accessible. The trail includes scenic overlooks, rest-stop benches and interpretive panels. The park address is 500 San Simeon Creek Road, Cambria. Call (805) 927-2010 for information about days and times the park is open.

Nitt Witt Ridge

This California Registered Historical Landmark #939 is famous for the artistic use of recycled materials used in its construction. Reclusive artist Arthur Harold Beal purchased the land in 1928 and spent the next 50 years creating his own version of a castle. Building materials include beer cans, concrete, washing machines, car parts, old stoves

and abalone shells.

Attractions & Tours

Covell's Clydesdales

Covell Ranch has 50+ Clydesdale horses and 2,000 acres of pasture and forest the family lives on in Cambria. They have been raising them for nearly 40 years. They are open Mon. – Sat. 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. for horseback riding and at noon for vehicle tours. 5694 Bridge St, Cambria, covellsclydesdaleranch.com, (805) 975-7332

Dining & Drinks

Cavalier Coastal Kitchen

Enjoy breakfast, lunch, and dinner in an elegant oceanfront setting. Featuring thoughtfully sourced local ingredients, seafood, and premium Hearst Ranch beef. Start your day with breakfast or savor a handcrafted cocktail at sunset. 9415 Hearst Dr., San Simeon, CA, cavalierresort.com, (805) 927-3276

Madelines Restaurant & Wine Tasting Room

Try some fantastic local boutique wines of the Central Coast in the wine shop. Enjoy an intimate French-influenced dinner in the restaurant. Serving only the best organic meats and produce. Dinner 5-9 p.m. Lunch 11:30 a.m. - 3 p.m. Wine Bar open 11 a.m.-6 p.m., 788 Main St., Cambria, madelinescambria.com, (805) 927-4175

Hotels & Lodging

Cambria Pines Lodge & Restaurant

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Shopping

Ball & Skein & More

A wide variety of unique yarns, knitting and crochet supplies, buttons, and kits. Something for everyone, from the beginning knitter to the serious fiber artist. Unique gifts and offerings to remember your trip to Cambria. 4210 Bridge St. entrance on Main St., cambriayarn.com, (805) 927-3280

The Cambria Nursery & Florist

The Cambria Nursery offers extensive selections of plants, flowers, and garden decor! Take a piece of Cambria home with you from their gift shops and year-round Christmas Shoppe. Open daily 9 a.m.-5 p.m. 2801 Elton Rd., cambrianursery.com (805) 927-4747

Maddie Mae's Pet Pantry

Since 2009, Maddie Mae's Pet Pantry has been helping residents and visitors of the Central Coast provide their pets with top-of-the-line pet supplies. Come see us at our beach location in Cambria, or one of our three other locations in Templeton, San Luis Obispo, or Pismo Beach. 614 Main Street, Cambria, maddiemaespetpantry.com, (805) 924-1139

Rich Man Poor Man Antique Malls

Two Giant locations on the central coast offering a unique selection

**Cambria,
San Simeon, North Coast**

of antiques and collectables. Open daily 10 am to 5 pm. Located in Cambria at 2110 Main street. RichManPoorManAntiques.com, (805) 203-5350

The Shops At The Cambria Garden Shed

In mid-town Cambria the quaint shops include several beautifully curated shops: Cambria Garden Shed, garden and home grown rare and exotic succulents; Lily's Coffeehouse, refreshments; Ocean Heir, woman's apparel and greeting cards; Simplistic Home, home décor and gifts; and, Cayucos Cellars Winery. cambriagardenshed.com, (805) 927-7654

Vacation Rentals

Breen Realty & Vacation Station

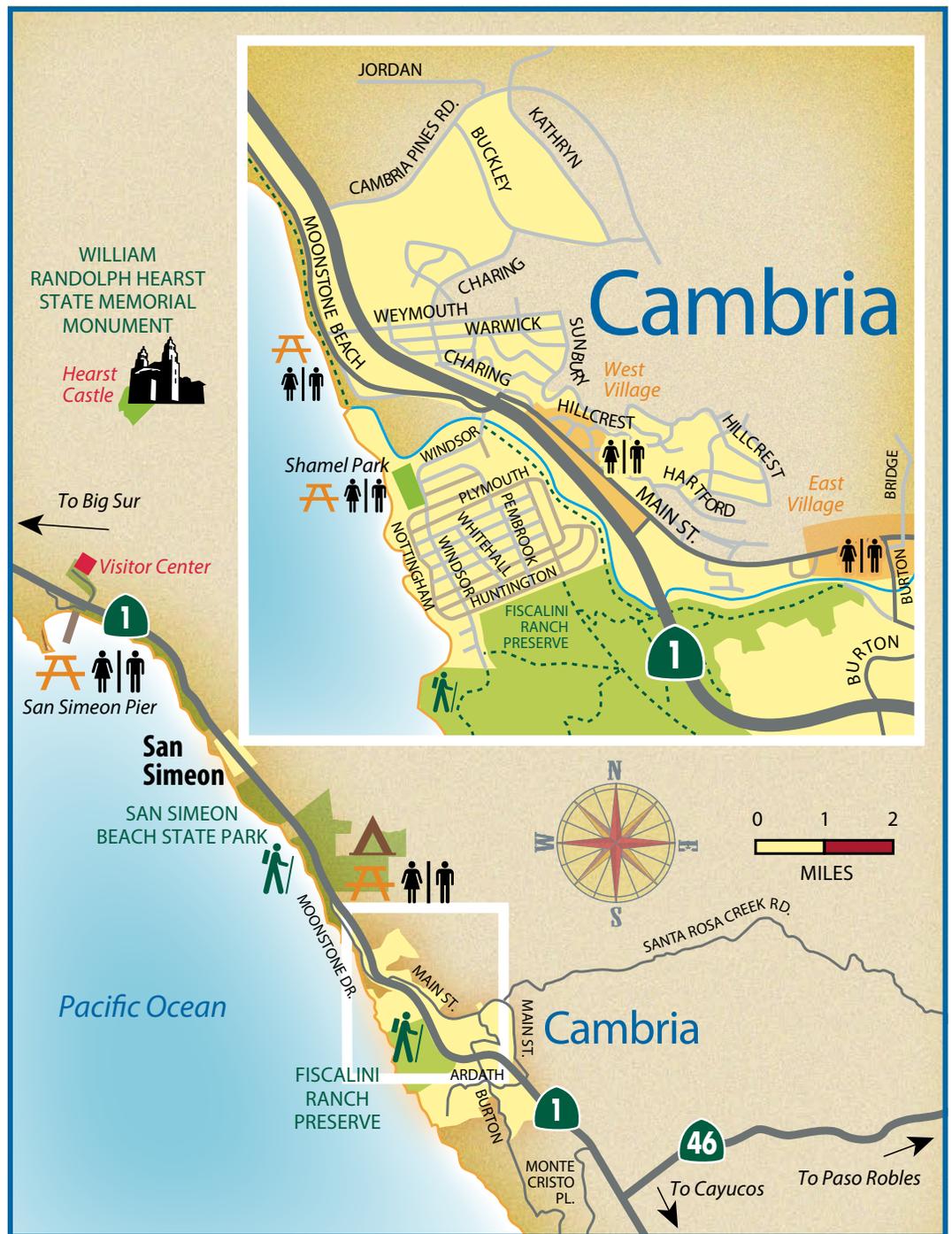
Specializes in ocean-front and ocean view vacation rentals and real estate sales. Serving the Central Coast from Cambria, south to San Luis, north into Big Sur, and east to include Paso Robles Wine & Ranch country. 768 Main St., Cambria, breenvacationstation.com, (805) 927-1303

Cambria Vacation Rentals

An independent property management company offering amazing vacation rental homes with ocean views and stunning sunsets. 784 Main St. in the West Village, cambriavacationrentals.com, (800) 545-5079 or (805) 927-8200

Scenic Coast Vacation Rentals

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Ride a gentle giant at Covell Clydesdale Ranch

Trails rides, and tours travel past spectacular views

Take a trail ride through acres of Monterey pine forest, through pastures of grazing cattle, and along a spectacular ocean view. Covell Clydesdale Ranch in Cambria offers guided trail rides atop their 2000-pound gentle giants. Tara Covell says, "These are gentle and calm horses and easy to ride; you just have to be able-bodied and able to take instructions." Imagining sitting atop their broad backs can be daunting, but many say it's the experience of a lifetime.



"The rides are mostly walking," said Tara, "with some trotting and cantering depending on ability." Chil-

dren must be at least seven years old. Helmets are not required but are provided if wanted. Bring your camera!

Other fun includes UTV tours for groups of five or fewer or wagon tours for larger groups. The tours include the history of the ranch and up-close encounters with the pastured Clydesdales. Before Tara Covell's Clydesdale tourism business, her father had raised Clydesdales for nearly 40 years, 23 of those in Cambria, before he passed in 2023. Originally based in Azusa, California, he bred and showed his huge horses throughout the country. His search for more rural space brought his horses and family to a nearly 2000-acre ranch amongst the Monterey pine forest in Cambria. The Inspiration to open the ranch to the public came about in 2015 when Tara came up with the idea to offer the rides and

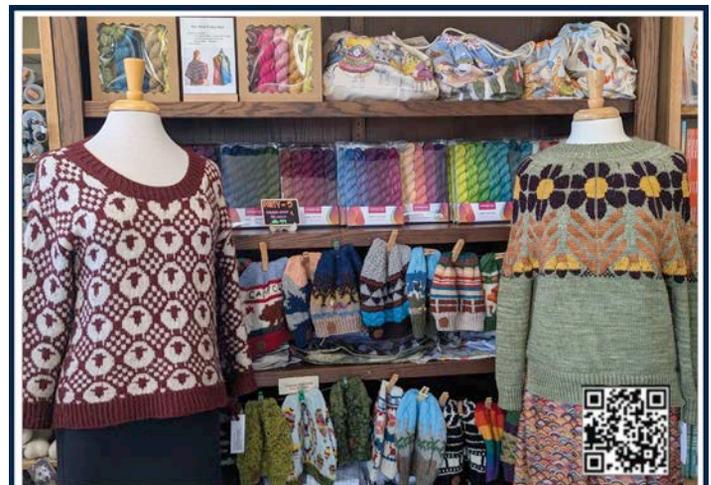
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tours to the public. Her business has carried the ranch for years, and is continuing the legacy her Father dreamed of for decades!

Covell currently has between 50 and 60 Clydesdales, a breed of draft horse well known in the United States for representing Budweiser. The large, gentle Clydesdale is named for its origin in the valley of the River Clyde in Lanarkshire, Scotland. The breed originated in the 18th century when imported Flemish stallions were bred to local mares. In the 19th century, the Shire, another draft breed, was introduced to the bloodlines. Clydesdales were exported to other countries to help with farming. As mechanized farming began replacing the horse, the Clydesdale's population diminished. Today, the Clydesdale is bred primarily for show and is considered a vulnerable breed.

Clydesdales weigh between 1800 and 2000 pounds and measure around 18 hands. A hand



equals four inches measured from the withers (top of the shoulder) to the bottom of the

hoof. One of the horse's beautiful characteristics is the long, silky hair, called feathers, covering

the hooves and floating in the air as the horse moves. Another characteristic is the coat colors, ranging from tan, through reddish tan, dark brown, to almost black. Many have a blaze of white down the front of their faces. The famous Budweiser Clydesdales are a specific bay color, and all markings are closely matched. Budweiser is very particular that its horses match specific conformation standards.

Rates are \$140 for the trail rides. Tours start at \$200 for groups of one to four, with arrangements of \$50 per person for larger groups.

Covell's is open Monday-Saturday by appointment only. Trail rides at 9 a.m. and 3 p.m., vehicle tour at noon. To book a ride or tour, text or call (805) 975-7332. For more information, visit covellsclydesdaleranch.com or follow them on Facebook or Instagram.

—Ruth Ann Angus

DRE#01834125

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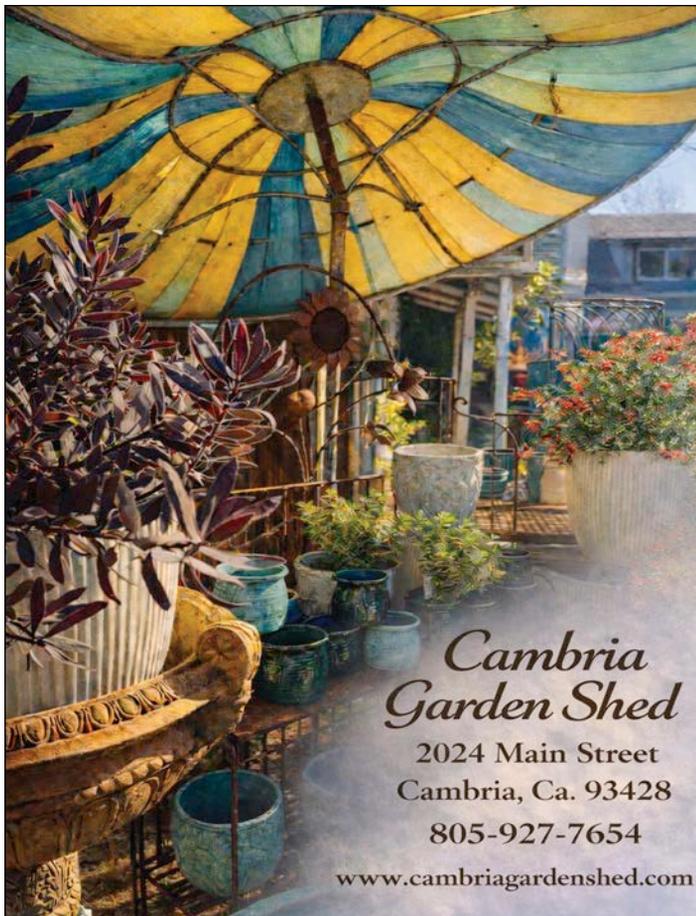
Home away from home for the perfect escape

If you haven't thought about staying at a vacation rental, perhaps it's time to explore the options! Vacation rentals are usually homes or condos, often located in neighborhoods. Cambria management companies offer a wide variety of rentals, some directly on the water, some nestled in the pines, and



some in town. Depending on how you plan your trip, any choice can work well for individuals, couples, and families.

There are several positive aspects to staying in a vacation rental as opposed to a motel or hotel. For one, you won't be awakened early by housekeeping. Renting a vacation home is usually the most economical for families and friends traveling together. Vacation rentals are a "home away from home," providing many of the amenities we are used to at home, not to mention the same privacy you'd get at home!



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Vacation Rental amenities can include a full kitchen to keep meal costs down, a comfortable living room with a TV, fireplace, washer and dryer, free Wi-Fi, supplied linens, BBQ grill, full bathroom with walk-in showers, dining room table for family meals, and some with hot tubs or even a free bottle of local wine. You will find places offering from two to five bedrooms with king and queen-sized beds and bunk beds. Many are also dog-friendly, so no one gets left behind!

A discussion with the rental agent makes all the difference in finding the perfect vacation rental. The agent can provide guidance that is helpful for those who have trouble with stairs, child-safe vacation rentals, views, and location.

Families with children want safety and someplace close to the beach or playground. Couples may desire that romantic spot. Do you want to wake up to views of sunrise over the ocean or enjoy a glass of wine while watch-



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ing the sunset? Vacation rentals can give you just the right view.

Do you want to be within walking distance of the beach or maybe be able to take a stroll to a restaurant for dinner? Is hiking in your plans? You may want to be a short drive to parks with hiking trails. Great central locations for sightseeing, wine tasting, and shopping are also available.

Renting a home in a neighborhood means you will be staying with area locals, so behaving just like you would in your home neighborhood is important. You can expect to receive all the amenities listed for the home of your choice! Reserving one is easy using the management company's website or calling their office directly. Make sure to check out the photos and information, and be sure to read reviews. Rental agents will also help you with guidance to outdoor activities, shopping, the best surfing and kayaking places, art galleries, restaurants for fine dining, playgrounds for

children, banking, post office, and more.

Rental fees vary depending on your choice, but usually include the rental, occupancy tax, cleaning fee, processing fee, and pet fee if applicable. Also, ask about the cancellation policy.

To learn more about vacation rentals, visit:

- Breen Vacation Station at breenvacationstation.com.
- Scenic Coast Property Management at cambri-coastrentals.com.
- Cambria Vacation Rentals at cambriavacationrentals.com.





Atascadero

Outdoor activities abound

The city of Atascadero, originally founded by E.G. Lewis in the early 1900s as a utopian community, is a popular location for shopping, dining and strolls along the lake shore. Home to the Charles Paddock Zoo, the town has a large selection of restaurants offering a range of cuisine from rib-sticking American style to Asian, Mediterranean and more. Breweries, wine tasting, bakeries, antique stores, specialty shops, boutiques and art galleries are tucked away in locations along the main El Camino Real and on side streets around the Sunken Gardens. Popular area wineries are only a short drive from downtown and any of the town's several hotels.

Attractions

Atascadero Lake Park

A 1.3-mile easy walk path circles the lake in the park providing views of the lake, the many varieties of birds that frequent the lake and other visiting wildlife. Bring binoculars; more than 48 species of birds have been sighted at the lake and recorded on ebirds.org. Leashed dogs are allowed and the path is also a favorite place for cyclists. The park has restrooms, small barbecue and recreation areas. The Faces of Freedom Veterans Memorial occupies the edge of the park facing Morro Road and is well worth a visit. The park is located at 9305 Pismo Ave, Atascadero just off of Morro Road (Highway 41).

Central Coast Zoo

The zoo is one of only 211 zoos accredited by the American Zoo and Aquarium Association, this zoo was founded in 1955 by Charles Paddock, a county park ranger who nursed injured wild animals back to health. Today, the zoo covers more than five acres. Many of the zoo residents are part of a world-wide program to preserve animals and their habitats. Some of these rare and endangered animals include the American Alligator and endangered owls and the Greater Roadrunner native to California. The zoo is located at 9100 Morro Rd, Atascadero. For hours and more information call (805) 461-5080 or visit centralcoastzoo.org.

Golfing

Atascadero and North San Luis Obispo County has several challenging golf courses. Contact any of these golf courses directly for tee times and more information: Chalk Mountain Golf Course, Links Golf Course of Paso Robles, Paso Robles Golf Club, Hunter Ranch Golf Course and River Oaks Golf Course.

Historic City Hall

Atascadero's historic city hall is probably the city's best known historic building. Located at 6500 Palma Ave. and gracing the back of the Sunken Gardens, the double-domed Italian Renaissance building was originally constructed in 1914 as the Atascadero Administration Building. After founder E.G. Lewis

declared bankruptcy the building was purchased in 1927 and, over the years, served as three different private schools and a bank. It became the Veterans Memorial Building when acquired by the County of San Luis Obispo in 1954, and served as a community building. When the City of Atascadero incorporated in 1979, government offices occupied the building until it suffered major damage in the 2003 San Simeon Earthquake. After years of reconstruction and restoration, Historic City Hall opened again in 2013.

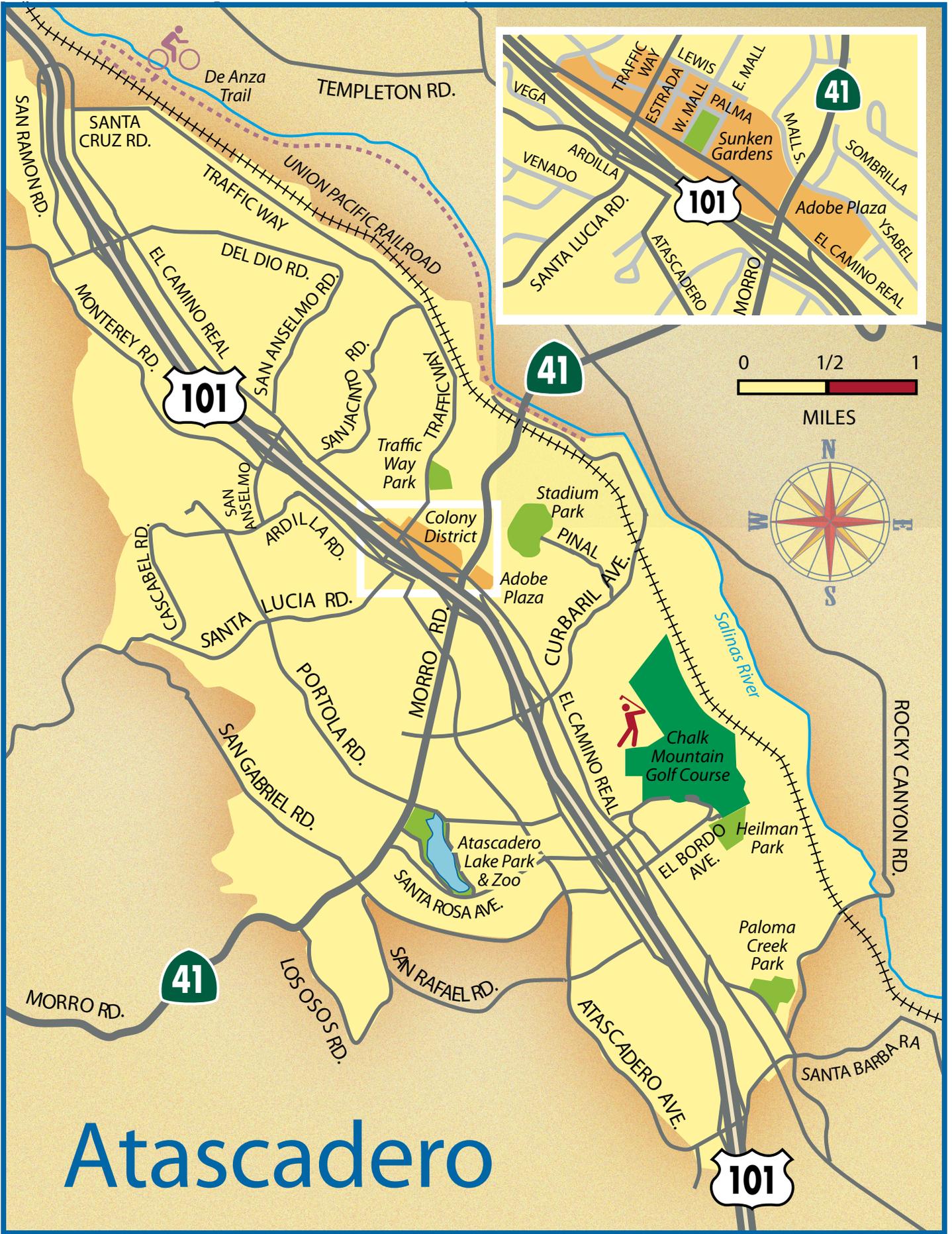
Beer & Cocktails

Whiskey & June

Whether it's for happy hour or a birthday celebration, Whiskey & June is the perfect spot to meet up with friends in downtown Atascadero! Open daily 10 a.m. to 2 a.m., 5950 El Camino Real, Atascadero, CA, (805) 466-9974. Follow on Facebook.

Wild Fields Brewhouse

A local brewpub crafted as a comfortable space for beer lovers and families alike. Their facility includes mini-bowling lanes, arcade games, foosball, air hockey and a toddler corner. 6907 El Camino Real Suite C, Atascadero, wildfields.com, (805) 399-2337



Atascadero

If you love the planet, thrifting, tamales, wine, movies, and more, Atascadero has your ticket

April celebrates the planet, May has all-you-can-eat tamales, and there's even more to do in the following months.

Party for the Planet at Central Coast Zoo

Celebrate Earth Day on April 18 at the local zoo with global reach. Bring the kids, and Party for the Planet is included in the price of general admission. This annual Earth Day celebration is a fun way for children of all ages to experience interactive adventures, hands-on activities, exhibits by sustainability-conscious businesses, plus a variety of educational demonstrations.

Central Coast Zoo is located at 9100 Morro Rd. in Atascadero. For hours and information about admission and events, visit centralcoastzoo.org.



Thrifters' paradise at the Annual Citywide Yard Sale

Don't miss this if you are a bargain hunter, thrifter, and collector! More than 120 locations have signed on to display their

family heirlooms and fascinating things that you need! April 18 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m., and April 19 from 8 a.m. to noon.

For more information and vendor maps, visit atascaderoyardsale.com.

Central Coast Cider Festival

Tickets are now on sale for this annual event! Order your tickets and mark your calendar for April 25, noon-4 p.m. at Atascadero's Sunken Gardens. Relax and enjoy some cider education and tasting at the 8th Annual Central Coast Cider Festival. It's a great opportunity to meet the cider makers.

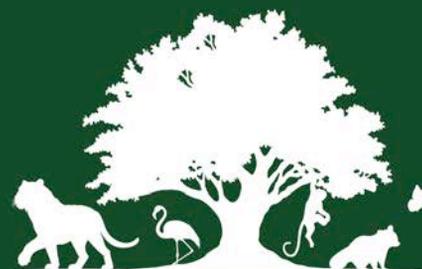
The event is held at the Sunken Garden, 6505 El Camino Real. For tickets and more information, visit centralcoastciderfestival.com.

Ten years of tamales, Margaritas, dancing, and more! How fun is that?

Atascadero's famous Tamale Festival is a free celebration entering its tenth year. The event kicks off with a sneak peek at the tamale vendors and live music on Friday, May 1, from



See
What's New
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CENTRAL COAST ZOO
ATASCADERO

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CentralCoastZoo.org

5-8 p.m. Saturday, May 2, launches the festival with over 30 tamale vendors tempting your taste buds from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Reminder! Tamales freeze very well, so plan on stocking your freezer!

Enjoy over 100 vendors from tamales to a wide variety of other kinds of food, Margaritas, beer, cider, wine, artisan merchandise, and live music, too! Proceeds from the Tamale Festival adult beverage sales benefit Friends of the Central Coast Zoo.

One of the best parts is that entry to the Tamale Festival is free!

The event is held at the Sunken Garden, 6505 El Camino Real. For tickets and more information, visit atascadero.org.

Don't forget about June!

June 6 features the Ice Cream Zoofari at the Central Coast Zoo from 5-8 p.m. Enjoy lots of ice cream while learning how the animals stay cool.

For tickets and more information, visit centralcoastzoo.org.

The 10th Annual Cornhole Showdown Tournament is June 6 at



the Sunken Gardens. All ages and skill levels are welcome.

Register at visitatascadero.com/cornhole.

The 29th Annual Atascadero Lakeside Wine Festival is on June 13, from 4-8 p.m., and includes admission to the Central Coast Zoo. This festival showcases premier wines from the Central Coast. Boasting over 100 wines and distilled spirits from more than 50 wineries, breweries, and cideries, the event includes food purveyors serving delicious local food, live mu-

sic, and incredible art exhibitors.

Guests enjoy unlimited tastings and an exclusive "roar and pour" that puts you up close and personal with animals at the Central Coast Zoo.

Bring a blanket and a low-back chair to enjoy the live music and other activities that fill the park. A portion of the proceeds benefits the Central Coast Zoo.

Atascadero Lakeside Park is located at 9305 Pismo Ave. For tickets and more information, visit atascadero-chamber.org.

More upcoming events

June 13 and August 29 are movie nights, featuring fun, games, and movies under the stars. Beginning at 7 p.m., participate in fun activities including soccer, chalk art, and hula hooping contests. The movie starts shortly after sunset, and food is available for purchase. Movie nights are held at Colony Park Softball Field #2 at 5599 Traffic Way in Atascadero.

June 20 kicks off the free Saturday in the Park Summer Concert Series. Concerts run through August 15, except for July 4 and 18. Concerts are at the Atascadero Lake Park from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Bring a blanket, low-backed chair, and the entire family to enjoy the park and the music. The park is located at 9305 Pismo Avenue.

More events coming in July and August, including the Atascadero 4th of July Music Festival, and the Cruisin' Weekend in Atascadero in August.

More information about upcoming events can be found at visitatascadero.com.

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Santa Margarita

Santa Margarita is a taste of the Old west. This settlement, easily reached from Highway 101 or Highway 58 is the gateway to Santa Margarita Lake and the Carrizo Plain National Monument. The small town quickly changes from the first impression of a sleepy western town to reveal surprising shops full of antiques, quirky garden art, plants, garden supplies, creative décor, restaurants serving up wholesome meals, and winery tasting rooms. The long history of Santa Margarita, from the ancestors of today's Chumash and Salinas people through the Spanish and Mexican land grants and early American settlers until today, is being researched and preserved by the Santa Margarita Historical Society.

Attractions & Tours

Santa Margarita Lake

Follow Highway 58 to Santa Margarita Park to find the lake located in Santa Margarita Regional Park at 4695 A Santa Margarita Lake Road. Be sure to head out with a full tank of gas. The lake and park offer boating, fishing, hiking trails and picnicking. The park is located on several thousand acres of land designated as open space. Call ahead (805) 781-5930 to verify boat launches, swimming and camping.

The Carrizo Plains National Monument

The 250,000 acre Carrizo Plain National Monument is the largest surviving native California grasslands. The plains are reminiscent of Africa's Serengeti, providing the highest concentration of irreplaceable wildlife in California. To reach Carrizo Plain, take Highway 58 south from Santa Margarita to 17495 Soda Lake Rd.

Santa Margarita Historical Society

The historical society takes local history online, with copies of research material held at the public library located on the corner of I & Murphy Streets. Ongoing projects include documenting a number of the

community's historic buildings and recording the stories of "old timers." santamargaritahistoricalsociety.org

Margarita Adventures Zipline Tours

Margarita Adventures is the ultimate blast for the entire family! Here in the heart of San Luis Obispo County, you will embark on six ziplines spanning nearly 1.5 miles total, starting with a thrilling 2,800-foot tandem ride and finishing with an unforgettable 1,800-foot journey over Pinot Noir vines. To book a tour or for more information visit Margarita-Adventures.com or call (805) 438-3120

Welcome to Margarita Adventures— The Central Coast’s ultimate playground

Calling all thrill seekers! Offering a variety of five-star adventures for all ages, interests, and budgets, Margarita Adventures has been the Central Coast’s ultimate playground since 2011. And now they are taking family fun to the next level.

Epic zipline tours

Margarita Adventures zipline tours offer a uniquely thrilling perspective on a true California landmark—the historic Santa Margarita Ranch. Embark on six distinct ziplines spanning more than 7500 linear feet, starting with an epic 2800-foot tandem-line thrill ride and finishing with an 1800-foot journey over Pinot Noir vines.

Acclaimed escape rooms

ESCAPE! at Margarita Adventures is the ultimate destination



for escape room enthusiasts. Three episodes of the “Renegade” trilogy spaceship-themed challenges and storylines bring a total of four acclaimed escape room experiences to test your wits, imagination, and ingenuity.

Awe-inspiring nature tours

Explore the diverse wildlife and ecosystems of Santa Margarita Ranch with an unforgettable nature tour led by ranch naturalist Jacqueline Redinger. Nature tours

illuminate the natural world, providing insights lasting a lifetime, including Eagle Tours, Foraging Tours, Ranch Tours, and seasonal wildflower tours. It’s a great way to unplug and get away from it all.

Scenic vineyard eBike tours

A pedal-assisted eBike ride into Margarita Vineyard is the opportunity to learn about its rich history, sustainable winegrowing practices, and more. Your excursion includes a sampling of two Ancient Peaks wines grown at Margarita Vineyard (21 and older).

For reservations and more information, visit margarita-adventures.com, or call (805) 438-3120. The Margarita Adventures office is at 22719 El Camino Real, Santa Margarita.



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Templeton

Templeton is the epitome of small town charm. Originally founded in 1886 as the last station on the southbound Southern Pacific Railroad, the town hosted horse drawn stagecoaches that met the trains and gave passengers a ride to San Luis Obispo to connect with the next stagecoach to their destinations. Even after the railroad extended the rails south to Santa Margarita in 1889, Templeton remained the shipping point for local crops and products bound eastward and to boats in shipping ports on the coast. Grain, wood, charcoal, fruit and cattle, driven from as far away as Kern County, arrived in Templeton for the next destination.

Many of the buildings from the late 1800s are still lining Main Street and housing unique shops, wineries and restaurants serving everything from

hearty country breakfasts to dinner for every taste and the Templeton Historical Museum Society.

Attractions

Fresh farm to table adventures

Templeton is an ideal starting or end-of-day spot for touring the back roads on the way to or from your favorite wineries. Small farms along oak lined winding roads have produce stands offering fresh vegetables, fruit, eggs and more.

Farmers market

The Saturday morning Farmers Market from 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at the Templeton Park. The park is located at 550 Crocker St. Find fresh

vegetables, fruit, bakery goods, meat, fish, nuts, honey, olive oil and hand-made crafts.

Dining & Drinks

Chulos Cafe & Cantina

Chulos offers an extensive menu, featuring American cuisine with a Latino touch, not to mention a wide selection of artfully created coffee beverages. The sophisticated dining experience includes Nouveau-Latin dishes and handcrafted cocktails. Truly a hidden gem. 335 Posada Lane chuloscafecantina.com, (805) 434-3044

McPhee's Grill

Fresh seafood, wood grilled steaks, & gourmet pasta served in a converted old saloon with contemporary country decor. 416 S. Main St., (805) 434-3204

Pig Iron

A new restaurant serving high-end California comfort food, award winning cocktails, and a brunch most would die for. Open for lunch and dinner, come find out what all the talk is about! Follow on Instagram: [@pigirontempleton](https://www.instagram.com/pigirontempleton). 508 S. Main St., pigirontempleton.com, (805) 400-4542

Templeton Market & Deli

Hometown deli with delicious homemade salads, sandwiches and fried chicken. Serving breakfast, lunch and dinner. Huge selection of snacks and beverages, including local wines. Open daily 6 a.m. to 9 p.m. 390 S Main St., Templeton, (805) 434-2345

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Local legacy, McPhee's Grill, is a Central Coast classic

A Templeton tradition for great food and service

McPhee's Grill chef-owner Ian McPhee and his wife, June, have been serving customers in their downtown Templeton restaurant since 1994. McPhee attributes his success in reaching this milestone to the growth of the surrounding wine country, tourism, and the loyalty of his local customers. McPhee recalls that when the couple first opened their restaurant, there were about 20 wineries in the surrounding area; today, more than 250 fill the countryside.

Start with a basket of bread and a pickled vegetable plate, and add extra starters such as warm goat cheese and roasted garlic on olive oil toast, crispy tempura shrimp, or kung fu pork baby back ribs with secret Asian BBQ sauce.

The menu offers soups, salads, and delicious entrees, including USDA Prime top sirloin, filet mignon with wild mushroom sauce, macadamia nut- and panko-crusted halibut, burgers, chicken, and more. There is a choice of desserts to top off each perfect meal. Check out the menu on the restaurant website www.mcpheesgrill.com.



'I'm happy to be here, and love what I do,' Chef Ian McPhee.

Over four decades of family, community, and fine dining

After operating Ian's Restaurant in Cambria for 10 years, the McPhees and their partners purchased the current building in Templeton, spent four months remodeling the building, and opened McPhee's Grill. Family-owned and operated, the restaurant has employed all four of the couple's children, with two still working there today.

"We have customers from the first week we opened our restaurant in Cambria in 1983 who still come to our restaurant in Templeton regularly to this day," McPhee said. "It's an amazing thing. We love being supported by the community. It's truly the most rewarding part of my job."

Over the years, McPhee's menu has maintained house favorites while seasonal, farm-fresh ingredients inspire a revolving selection of new menu items. "This is not a job to me - it's part of my life and lifestyle,"

McPhee said. "I am so happy to be here, and I love what I do."

"The dining experience here, at McPhee's Grill, is due to the talented and caring staff," said McPhee. "The creativity and hard work from kitchen to table, and welcoming patrons, is what keeps people coming back!"

McPhee's Grill is located at 416 Main Street in Templeton. Dinner is served Wednesday-Sunday beginning at 5 p.m. Reservations recommended. For more information, call (805) 434-3204 or visit mcpheesgrill.com.



Paso Robles

Shopping, Fine Dining & Wine Tasting

Paso Robles is known worldwide as the place for award winning wines, but the wine is just one of the reasons to spend some time here. Easy access to lakes and the coast makes the town a perfect central location for boating, fishing or beach time.

Browse the many boutiques, antique and specialty shops for unique gifts, jewelry, home décor, books and one-of-a-kind items, often created by local artisans, that you know you need. Visit art galleries and museums. Order lunch or dinner and dine outside in the beautiful shady Downtown City Park.

Several winery tasting rooms are located within easy walking distance in downtown Paso Robles. There are more than 200 wineries in the region around Paso Robles. One of the fastest growing American Viticultural Areas in California with 26,000 acres planted, Paso Robles wine country has one of the longest and most consistent growing seasons for wine grapes in California.

Antique Shops

Park Street Antiques

A unique variety of hand-selected vintage and antique goods, including records, glassware, jewelry, trading cards, lamps, furniture, collectibles, and vintage clothing. Pet-friendly establishment! Look for the black, silver, and blue balloons at 1335 Park Street, (805) 296-3040

Reminisce Antiques

Browse this village of shops for a selection of fabulous antiques and treasures for everyone. Vintage, home decor, western, gifts, jewelry, accessories and everything inspirational. Open Mon. to Sat., 11 a.m.-5 p.m., Wed. 'till 6 p.m., Sun., 11 a.m.-4 p.m. In downtown at 1344 Pine St., reminiscepasorobles.com, (805) 239-1001

Art Galleries

Park Street Gallery

Park Street Gallery showcases some of the finest work from premier artists of the Central Coast. Featuring original paintings, sculpture, furniture, unique jewelry, blown and fused glass, wood turnings, ceramics, and fiberarts! Located at 1320 Park Street, Paso Robles. parkstreetgallery.com, (805) 286-4430

Attractions & Tours

ArtSocial 805

A vibrant painting, drawing and pottery studio. Whether you're a sprightly 5-year-old or a seasoned 105-year-old, this is your creative playground to splash some color, sketch your heart out, craft away, and have fun! Book a private party or join a workshop, 631 Spring St., artsocial805.com, (805) 400-9107

Franklin Hot Springs

A local favorite since the 1950s, known for soothing warmth, healing benefits, and a serene, relaxing year-round retreat. Pure, chemical-free mineral pools and tubs (98–100°F). Open daily 7:30 a.m.-9 p.m. Affordable admission. 3015 Creston Rd, Paso Robles, (805) 712-5372

Redwings Horse Sanctuary

This sanctuary rescues horses that have been abandoned, neglected or abused. Its mission is to eliminate the causes of equine suffering through education and community outreach programs. Located at 6875 Union Rd. Paso Robles. The sanctuary is open for visitors from Tuesday- Saturday 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., (805) 237-3751

The Ravine Waterpark

Celebrating 20 years of fun. Enjoy summer with thrilling slides, a relaxing lazy river, a wave pool, all- new Splash Lagoon, elevated dining, and premium cabanas. Opens Memorial Day Weekend, 10:30 a.m.- 4:45 p.m., 2301 Airport Rd., Paso Robles. Schedule and reservations at ravinewaterpark.com, (805) 237-8500.

Dining & Drinks

Black Sheep Sourdough Micro-Bakery

Naturally fermented, real ingredients, fresh sourdough bread, flaky scones, delicious cookies with personality, prepared and baked the slow way—honest baked goods from a rebellious bakery breaking all the rules. 1306 Pine St., # D, Paso Robles. Open Wednesday-Sunday, 7 a.m.-2 p.m. Visit blacksheepsourdough.com, (805) 221-5281



Brown Butter Cookie Company

Since 2008, they have crafted signature hand-rolled cookies renowned for quality and taste. The latest offerings include cookies infused with Ghirardelli® chocolate in three flavors: White Chip, Chocolate Chip, and Dark Cocoa Chocolate Chip. Brown Butter Frozen Custard was recently introduced, expanding the indulgent lineup 801 12th St., Paso Robles, brownbuttercookies.com, (805) 464-6636

Cane Tiki Room

Cane Tiki Room gives a tropical exotic escape to their guests, right in the heart of Paso Robles. Featuring Polynesian small bites and delicious tiki cocktails, Cane Tiki Room is a must visit! 1240 Park St. Paso Robles, canetikeroom.com, (805) 227-7113

Eleven Twenty Two Speakeasy & Cocktail Lounge

1122 was named one of the Top 50 hidden bars in the world! Elegant and classy, it's like stepping back into the 1920's roaring cocktail scene. Located directly behind Pappy Mcgregor's Gastro Pub. Open Wed-Fri evenings. 1122 Pine St., eleven-twentytwo.com, (805) 238-4141

Odyssey World Cafe

Cozy, casual, comfortable! Gourmet sandwiches, salads, burgers, steaks, stir fry, desserts. Outdoor seating available. Open daily 11 a.m.-8:30 p.m. (Friday & Saturday til 9 p.m.). Downtown, 1214 Pine Street, odysseyworldcafe.com, (805) 237-7516

Pappy McGregor's Gastro Pub

Award winning gastropub adored by locals since 2006. Specializing in elevated comfort food, craft cocktails, local beers & wine. Offering lunch, dinner and late-night drinks 7 days. Pappy's is a must visit when in Paso Robles, trust us. 1122 Pine St., PappyMcGregors.com, (805) 238-7070

Paso Terra Bistro

Enjoy Paso Terra's affordable global menu and tasty entrées, including seafood, steak, pasta, sandwiches, appetizers and more. Open Wednesday-Saturday 4:30-9 p.m. Happy hour 4:30-6 p.m. 1032 Pine St., pasoterrabistro.com, (805) 286-4002

Pine Street Saloon

Chances are outlaws like Jesse James huddled within these walls. The saloon is one of the oldest and most unique false-front buildings in the area. Enjoy your visit to this historic saloon and raise your glasses to the spirit of Jesse James. 1234 Pine St., (805) 238-1114

Primal House

Blending heritage, craftsmanship and diverse local flavors into a distinctive experience. Their offerings include an old-world-style butcher shop, in-house brewery featuring seasonal craft beers, farm-to-table comfort food and a local produce market. 3330 Ramada Dr., Paso Robles, PrimalHousePaso.com, (805) 202-4700

Red Scooter Deli

Featuring a variety of breakfast choices, salads, soups, piled high sandwiches and a full espresso/smoothie bar. Catering menu. Delivery available 7 days a week. Red Scooter Deli – The Deli that Delivers. redscooterdeli.com, (805) 237-1780

Rustic Fire

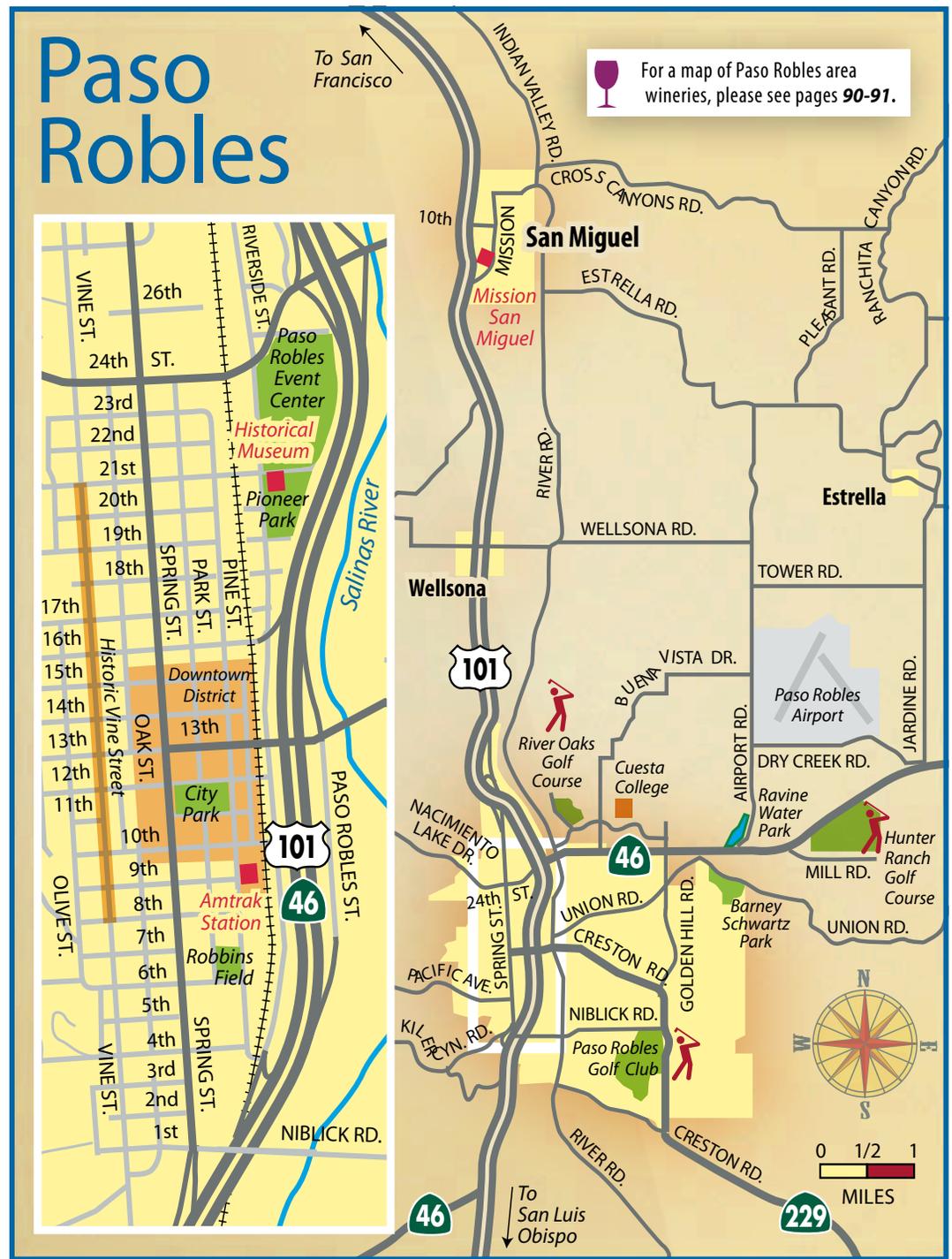
Locally owned for nearly 20 years, Rustic Fire serves North County's top-rated brick-oven pizza, fresh-made salads, homemade soups, and locally crafted gelato. Enjoy an extensive local wine and craft beer selection, warm hospitality, and family-friendly dining. 1145 24th St., Suite D, Paso Robles, rusticfire.com, (805) 238-7711

Spirit of Paso Robles

Great breakfast, brunch, lunch, dinner, and amazing golf course views. Also check out Spirit of San Luis in SLO, for great food and runway views! Open daily. 700 Clubhouse Drive, Paso Robles, or 925 Airport Dr., SLO. Spiritofpaso.com, (805) 257-8003

The Anderson Paso

Enjoy dining and milestone events in seamless indoor/outdoor settings at the "first castle on your right." Restaurant opens April 16, Thursday-



Monday, 11:30a.m.-9 p.m. 3090 Anderson Road, Paso Robles, theandersonpaso.com, (805) 226-5060

Vivant Fine Cheese

With over 150 cheeses to choose from, expert staff will assist you with wine pairing or creating a gourmet picnic box. Charcuterie and local food products. 821 Pine St., Ste. B, (805) 226-5530

Yes Cocktail Co.

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tastings & mixology classes, bookable online at yescocktailco.com, 2915 Union Rd. Paso Robles, (805)-591-4735

Hotels & Lodging

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Indoor Activities

Crimson Cue Sports & Billiard Club

The Crimson Cue is the all-age fun location for pool, shuffleboard, and darts. Serving a variety of beers and seltzers. Open daily from 1 p.m. with late hours on Friday and Saturday. 1319 Spring St., Paso Robles, (805) 674-4664



Museums

Estrella Warbird Museum

An aviation museum dedicated to the restoration and preservation of military aircraft, vehicles, and memorabilia. Hours: Thursday through Sunday: 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Memorial Day, July 4th, Labor Day, Veterans Day, Banquet Hall available for rent, 4251 Dry Creek Rd, Paso Robles, CA 93446, ewarbirds.org, (805) 227-0440

Paso Robles Children's Museum

The museum's mission is to engage children in a joyful learn-through-play environment and inspire educational curiosity. It's a favorite for a fun family afternoon. Located in the historic Paso Robles Volunteer Firehouse. See website for hours. 623 13th Street, pasokids.org, (805) 238-7432

Pioneer Museum

The Pioneer Museum is fun for all ages! Get a glimpse of what local life was like in the "Good Old Days." View Paderewski memorabilia, vintage farm equipment, pioneer artifacts, a one-room schoolhouse and much more. 2010 Riverside Ave. Open Thursday-Sunday 1p.m.-4 p.m., Free Admission, pasoroblespioneeremuseum.org, (805) 239-4556

Real Estate

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Sapphire Real Estate Services

A full-service agency specializing in residential sales and purchases in San Luis Obispo County. With trusted expertise, local knowledge, and personalized guidance, they ensure a smooth, stress-free experience—whether buying a first

home or selling—supporting clients with professionalism every step of the way. 1402 Marsh St, San Luis Obispo and 641 Spring St, Paso Robles, sapphirealestateservices.com, Melina Trujillo - (805) 703-0998

Shopping

The Blenders

A unique women's boutique and Merle Norman Cosmetic Studio that offers latest technology in skin care and color. Life style apparel including Charlie B, French Dressing, Jess and Jane, and unique accessories to complete your vibe. Supporting the community for 47 years! 538 12th St., Paso Robles, theblenderspasorobles.com, (805) 238-5554

Dubs Green Garden

A great selection of top grade cannabis products conveniently delivered directly to your door. Locally owned and operated. Open 7 days a week, 8 a.m.- 10 p.m. See menu online at Dubsgreengarden.com. Call or text (805) 286-5987

EarthTones Gifts & Gallery

Steps from downtown find calm and tranquility. Find unique jewelry, local art, handcrafted gifts, candles, incense, books, and crystals blended with mind-body therapies for

spirituality and inspiration. It shines new energy on The Historic Depot on Pine, 790 Pine Street, Paso Robles, earthtonesgifts.com, (805) 238-4413

Naughty But Nice

Flirt with style! Featuring lingerie, shoes, books, sleepwear, club wear, lotions & potions and so much more! One-stop love boutique for women and couples. Open noon- 10 p.m. 1319 Spring St., nbnstores.com, (805) 238-2787

New With Tags

Paso Robles only women's consignment for over 10 years. Featuring high end contemporary fashion at affordable prices, 60-70% off original retail. Also offering new specialty curated liftable items. Reach out to us on Instagram @new.with.tags Open Tuesday- Friday 10m a.m. - 5 p.m. and Saturday 10 a.m. - 3 p.m., 591 12th St., (805) 226-5655



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Black Sheep Sourdough Micro-Bakery and the life-changing magic of sourdough bread

‘There’s so much science behind sourdough.’

Just two years ago, Paula Kopper’s life was completely different. For starters, she didn’t bake at all. “It’s been a whirlwind. Actually, it’s been a tornado,” she says, reflecting on the past two years.

For years, her husband had begged her to bake cookies, but they never turned out quite right. She considered herself a cook and left baking to others until her husband developed a gluten sensitivity.

After giving up gluten to support him, she realized that she missed good bread.

Kopper stumbled across a video explaining how traditional sourdough fermentation breaks down gluten, making it easier to digest for people who are gluten-sensitive. That discovery sent her down a rabbit hole. The non-baker realized sourdough wasn’t just baking; it was science. “I put my headphones on and just learned,” she says. “There’s so much science behind sourdough. I got obsessed.”

Although she was still working full-time running her daycare, she spent her nights experimenting. It took four months to develop her sourdough starter, and she named the living culture Dough Rita. “I probably baked 30 to 50 loaves before I felt good about it,” she says, “and every flavor after that took just as much tinkering.”

She began giving it away to the families at her daycare. It was made with love, and she cherished the



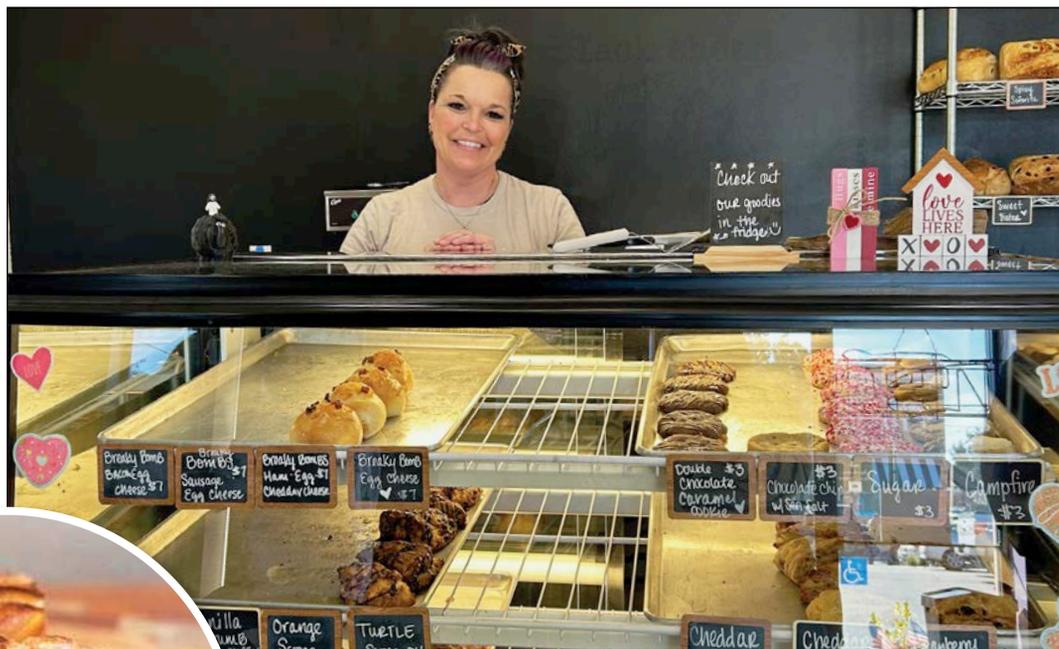
idea that she was giving them something wholesome to share.

Her sourdough was a hit!

Eventually, they started trying to buy her bread. Six months later, she had closed the daycare she had run for 15 years, and she was selling her sourdough to local wholesalers and at the Paso Robles Farmers Market.

The leap that paid off

Opening a storefront wasn’t something she planned. She was content baking from home, selling at the market, and wholesaling. She heard that the donut shop was closing, and again her curiosity was piqued. She called to inquire about the shop but didn’t hear back for five months. Seemingly out of the blue, she got a call saying she was first on the list for the shop. However, the waitlist was long, and they gave her only four hours to decide



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if she wanted the shop. With no time to run the numbers, she followed her gut. “If we didn’t do it, we would’ve regretted it forever,” she says.

The leap paid off. Black Sheep Sourdough now sells out almost daily, often before noon. About 50 to 60 loaves are baked each day, all made by hand in small batches using minimal ingredients. The base recipe never changes. “It’s flour, water, and salt. That’s it. Nothing else,” she says.

She created The OG menu that includes: The Basic B (her original sourdough loaf), The Spicy Señorita (cheddar jalapeño) which is her bestselling sourdough, The Guido (parmesan cheese), Mob Boss (Italian herbs and cheddar cheese), Green Goddess (pesto and parmesan), and she adds fun flavors each week like Everything But the Sourdough which is her take on Everything But the Bagel, or Sweet Sister which is cinnamon brown sugar swirl with raisins.

“I keep it basic because basic is good,” she says. “I don’t want to



do 85 things. I want to do a few things really, really well.”

That philosophy extends beyond bread. The bakery offers sourdough cinnamon rolls along with brioche breakfast “bombs,” stuffed with eggs and bacon, and kolache-style pastries. Baguettes and sourdough bread bowls round out the menu.

“A place of love and bread”

Her passion for the community is baked into everything. Nearly every product in the shop is local, including coffee, olive oil, salsa, juice, merch, and even the jam, made by her mom. Unsold pastries are shared with neighboring businesses; extra loaves are donated to shelters and food organizations. Nothing goes to waste.

She chose the name Black Sheep Sourdough because her friends call themselves the “Black Sheep girls.” The group has supported her unconditionally. They helped build the bakery, paint walls, install plumbing, and keep the dream alive. Today, one works full-time in the shop, another’s daughter is employed there, and her husband shows up daily at 2 a.m. before heading to his day job.

Sourdough is her new way of life, and she’s eager to share it. Kopper gives freely what many guard closely—knowledge. She doesn’t gatekeep. Sourdough has completely changed her life, and she happily shares her recipes and encourages others to bake.

“It’s a place of love and bread,” she says. “That’s it.”

Black Sheep Sour Dough Bakery is located at 1306 Pine Street, Paso Robles. Hours are 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. Wednesday through Sunday. For more information, visit blacksheepsourdough.com or call (805) 221-5281.

—Karen Lycan

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The Crimson Cue Sports & Billiard Club for family fun and entertainment

Pool tables, shuffleboard, electronic darts, pinball machines, and more

Those looking for a fun and relaxing place to visit in Paso Robles return again and again to The Crimson Cue Sports & Billiard Club. With a team that's both energetic and welcoming, it's been a favorite among locals and tourists alike since opening in 2017.

Owner Erik Skupien, a veteran, firefighter, and private pilot, is a certified pool instructor. Since opening the doors to The Crimson Cue nearly a decade ago, he continues to grow and expand the family entertainment center daily with the help of Vice President Abbi Henderson.

"Not only is Erik a certified pool instructor, he truly enjoys playing the game daily," Henderson says. "He loves his hometown of Paso Robles, so when he leased the building and began construction, it was with the intent of providing a fun atmosphere for locals and visitors to gather, play pool, and enjoy family entertainment."

Now, The Crimson Cue is more popular than ever among new and returning guests. Best friends since their years together at Paso Robles High School, Skupien and Henderson continue to grow and expand the business and value the input they receive from loyal customers and friends.

Local homage and modern technology

The rustic décor is an homage to early sports in town, with the crimson colors of the Paso Robles Bearcats featured throughout. Large photos of past local sports teams, acquired from the Paso Robles

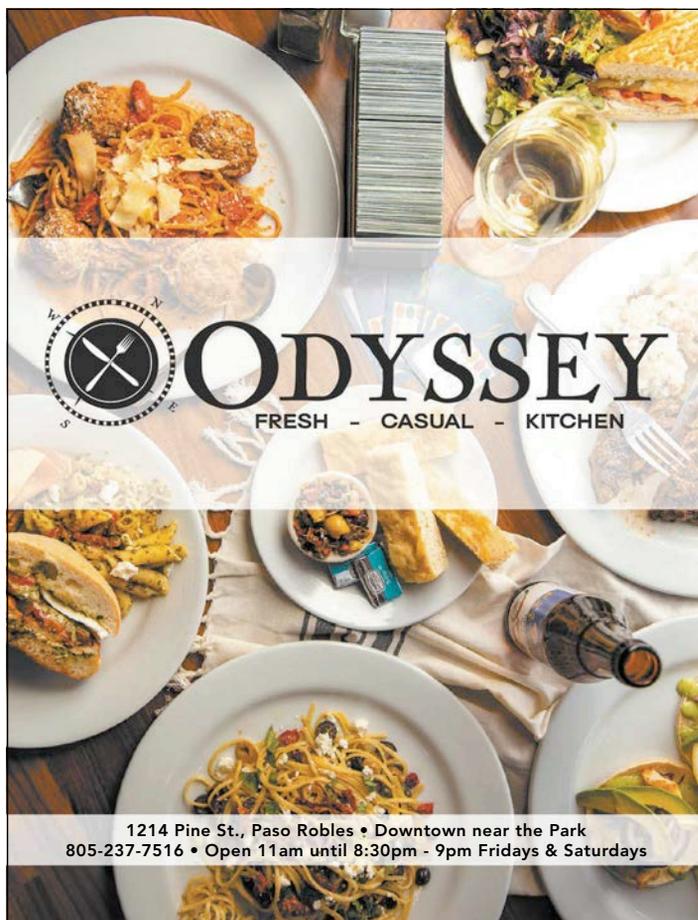


Historical Society, adorn the walls. Modern LED lighting brightens the Olhausen pool tables. Guests have choices to enjoy the 22-foot shuffleboard, electronic darts, pinball machines, along with a variety of games and shows featured on the big screen TVs.

The Crimson Cue holds a weekly pool league and monthly tournaments in addition to daily open play. Free youth instruction and games of pool are offered every Tuesday, with instructors on hand to teach and encourage the next generation of pool players.

As the only pool hall in the North San Luis Obispo County, Crimson Cue stands out for its well-maintained tables, excellent customer service, and positive atmosphere for everyone. All ages are welcome and, on weekend nights, there's an upbeat bar vibe for 21 and over groups and couples.

"We really put an emphasis on interacting with our customers," Henderson said. "Everyone on our team is friendly, fun, energetic, and upbeat. We all make a point of getting to know our regulars and their preferences."



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UPCOMING EVENTS

Downtown Paso Robles



• APRIL •

Sat. April 25th, 10am - 4pm

Vintage Sidecar Rendezvous, Recycled Treasures,
Antique Motorcycles & British Cars
Downtown City Park - Free Admission



• MAY •

Sat. May 9th, 10am - 4pm

Paso Robles Olive & Lavender Festival
Downtown City Park - Free Admission



• JUNE

Thurs. June 11th, 18th & 25th

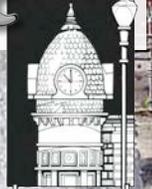
Concerts in The Park

Thursdays, 6pm - 8pm - Free Admission



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Paso Robles



Fun times at The Crimson Cue

Leigh Ann Harms has been the lead bartender for almost two years. She and her crew serve beer and seltzer on tap and in bottles and cans, and free popcorn on busy nights. Since they are currently in the process of obtaining a food vendor, customers are encouraged to order from local businesses and bring food in while they play.

“The Crimson Cue is known by both locals and visitors as a fun and relaxing place to go, and the overall vibe is mellow and fun,” Skupien said. “We provide a great customer experience and a chill atmosphere for people to stop in and enjoy a fun time.”

The positive comments and accolades from visitors to The Crimson Cue speak volumes.



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Yvette Lozada, a recent visitor to the area, shared, "From the moment we walked in, we felt like family. The locals treated us like they'd known us for years, and the atmosphere was warm, welcoming, and just plain fun. The pool area is fantastic, and the customer service is absolutely top-tier."

One of the more popular events among the regulars is "Neon Nights," which turns The Crimson Cue into a completely different atmosphere several times each year. Black light and neon pool balls, neon games, and party favors add to the fun while a local disc jockey provides upbeat music.

"People come to listen to the jukebox and hang out while they drink some beers and play pool without drama," Henderson said. "Families enjoy coming with their kids, and we have a lot of amazing teenagers who come to play, too."

Whether you're looking for something to do for date night or you're searching for a place with

good music, great pool tables, and cold beer to hang out with your friends, it's the place to be. The team emphasizes family entertainment as they welcome all ages during the week, and 21+ only on Friday and Saturday nights.

"We would love to let everyone see how much fun they can have here at The Crimson Cue," Skupein says. "We have a positive vibe here, people are respectful, and everyone wants to have a good time. We are always looking to grow and evolve, and there are still a lot of people who don't know we are here. As a team, we continue to add activities to appeal to a wider customer base, and we are always changing the inside to keep it fresh and new."

The Crimson Cue is located at 1319 Spring Street in Paso Robles. For more information, visit them on Facebook, other social media, or call 805-674-4664.

—Meagan Friberg



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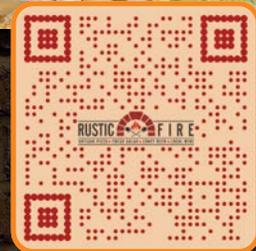
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Good times are to be had in Downtown Paso Robles!

Vintage Sidecar Rendezvous, recycled treasures, antique motorcycles & British cars

April 25 is the day to get to the Downtown City Park. Everyone who admires things of the past can get their fill at the Vintage Sidecar Rendezvous. Along with sidecars, the event includes antique motorcycles, British cars, and recycled treasures for collectors. Spend the day admiring the vehicles, shopping for treasures



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at the many vendor booths, and enjoying local food and drink. Admission is free. The event hours are 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Rest up after enjoying the day, admiring the vehicles, and adding irresistible treasures to your collection because another festival is following soon!

The Olive & Lavender Festival

The free Olive & Lavender Festival features local farmers showcasing a variety of olive oils and lavender products. Meet the producers and learn about the

region's agricultural offerings. Taste various olive oils, learn how to get the most benefit from them, and learn about the many uses of lavender. May 9 from 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

The Olive Festival is in its 22nd year, and the Lavender Festival started 18 years ago. Experience a delightful blend of Paso Robles' finest olive and lavender offerings as you meet local farmers and discover their diverse range of olive oils, along with local & regional lavender farmers bringing all your favorite farm-fresh lavender products.

New with Tags

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Concerts in the Park kick off in June

Thursday, June 11, kicks off the free Concerts in the Park from 6-8 p.m. The concerts run every Thursday through August 20. Bring low-backed chairs, blankets, kick back, and enjoy live music performances featuring a variety of music. The performance lineup will be completed soon and available to view on the Downtown Paso Robles website.

The Downtown City Park is located on 11th and Spring streets in Paso Robles. For more information, visit pasoroblesdowntown.org, or call (805) 238-4103.

A tribute to Norma Moye

The San Luis County Visitors Guide was saddened by Norma Moye's passing in December. Norma was a driving force behind the events and activities in Paso Robles, and she is deeply missed.

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Rustic Fire remains a Paso Robles favorite after nearly 20 years

The home of local, legendary Italian cheese breadsticks

For nearly two decades, Rustic Fire has been a familiar landmark just off the freeway in Paso Robles. It's a place where locals mingle with travelers, where families return year after year, and where the pizza arrives crisp and straight from a roaring brick oven.

Siblings Jonathan Gannon and Connie Kahanu have created a restaurant where everyone in the family can find something they like. Rustic Fire's menu is expansive but intentional. Nearly



20 specialty pizzas, multiple crust styles, vegan and gluten-free options, sandwiches, house-made soups, fresh salads, desserts, and gelato. Owner Jonathan Gannon says, "We prep everything fresh, every day."

At the heart of the restaurant is its high-heat brick oven, producing pizzas with a thin, crisp center and a golden rolled edge. Guests can choose from multiple crust styles: traditional, ultra-thin, or thick, along with cauliflower and gluten-free options. The menu is designed for customization, but also anchored by longtime favorites like pepperoni, margherita, Hawaiian, and the fully loaded Rustic Fire Works pizza.

One item, however, has achieved near-legend status—the Italian cheese breadsticks served with the house pizza sauce and ranch dressing for dipping. "People come back once a year during the fair, and that's the first thing they ask for," Gannon says. Made with fresh dough, olive oil, garlic, and high-quality cheese, they've become a must-order for first-time visitors and regulars alike.

They want everyone to be able to enjoy the pizza, and they truly mean it. Rustic Fire offers two gluten-free preparation methods for general gluten sensitivity, and a fully separate protocol for guests with celiac disease. "For celiac, it's a completely separate process," Gannon explains. "New gloves, separate screens, separate prep, separate storage. It takes longer, but that's the point."

They even use rice flour instead of wheat flour in the kitchen to reduce airborne contamination. It's an uncommon step that doesn't go unnoticed by guests. "We hear it all the time," Kahanu adds. "People say, 'I can eat here and not get sick.' That's huge."

Where happy staff means happy guests

The atmosphere is warm and inviting with brick walls, televisions in each booth, and also placed throughout the restaurant, so nobody misses the game. Perhaps the warmest and most inviting feature is the staff. A core group of staff have been at Rustic Fire almost since the beginning, along with several others who have been there for more than a decade. "Our turnover is really low, and we're proud of that," Gannon says. "Happy staff means happy guests."

Owners Gannon and Kahanu grew up in Paso Robles, and they champion local partnerships. Their wine list is extensive and offers wines exclusively from the Paso Robles area. The gelato is from their friends at Leo Leo Gelato in Paso Robles. Leo Leo Gelato sources its dairy from Cal Poly. Their new coffee bar features local organic coffee from Joebella Coffee Roasters, which is out of Atascadero. Guests frequently ask for recommendations, and the team is happy to play informal concierge, guiding visitors to wineries, events, and hidden gems around town.

After nearly 20 years, Rustic Fire remains rooted in its original values of consistency, quality, and connection. "People choose to spend their hard-earned money with us," Gannon says. "We owe it to them to give them the best experience we can, every single time."

Judging by the generations of families who keep coming back, Rustic Fire has done exactly that. To visit, it's an easy stop off Highway 101. They offer dine-in, takeout, and delivery, and they're a perfect end to a day of local wine tasting.

Rustic Fire is located at 1145 24th St., Suite D, Paso Robles. Open daily at 10:30 a.m. Closed Tuesday. For more information or to place an order, visit rusticfire.com, or call (805) 238-7711

—Karen Lycan

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A fresh take on a Paso Robles favorite—the reimagining of Paso Terra Bistro

Savory, sweet, and satisfying, must-try menu choices for every preference

For an elegant, yet casual place to enjoy dinner with the family, look no further than Paso Terra Bistro in Paso Robles. Located just steps from the downtown city park, this charming eatery is owned and operated by Jennifer Loewen Nicolds, a long-time local with a passion for serving others in her community.

“When people walk through our door, my goal, and the goal of my team, is for our customers to have a great meal and leave with a good



feeling,” she says. “We take pride in treating people with kindness, serving amazing food, and making our customers and friends feel like family.”

Many will remember Paso Terra, a well-known seafood restaurant, that operated in the same location where Paso Terra Bistro now exists. After working there as the manager for five years, Loewen Nicolds jumped at the chance to purchase the business when former owners, Andre and Christina Averseng, decided to sell. She revamped the menu, did an extensive remodel of the interior and patio areas, and opened Paso Terra Bistro in late July of 2025.

“I gained so much experience when I was managing the former restaurant, and I had the full support of the previous owners to

A vibrant advertisement for The Ravine Waterpark celebrating its 20th anniversary. The background features a collage of waterpark slides and pools. In the center, the text "the Ravine's waterpark" is written in a stylized font above a large, bubbly "20 YEARS" graphic. To the left, it says "celebrate 20 years of SUMMER FUN at THE Ravine Waterpark!". Below this, a pink box contains text about a new Splash Lagoon and Premium Cabanas. At the bottom left, the address "2301 Airport Rd., Paso Robles, CA 93446" is listed. A QR code with "SCAN ME" below it is on the bottom right. A circular inset in the top right corner shows a new slide with the text "NEW IN 2026!".

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SCAN ME

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move forward with my vision; they are both still dear friends of mine,” Loewen Nicolds said. “Chef Andre stayed on as a consultant, helping with some training and menu ideas, and he fills in when needed. Everyone has been so supportive, and I was able to bring back all of the employees.”

Classic favorites meet local flavors

Loewen Nicolds kept some of the seafood dishes from the previous menu as a way to honor the past, while also bringing something new, and the team is also offering catering and private parties. Appealing to locals and tourists alike, the menu now features a wide variety of options and a kids’ menu. There truly is something for everyone at Paso Terra Bistro, from appetizers, soups, and salads to sandwiches, pasta, and seafood.

Head Chef Michael Taft has a vast repertoire gained from working at various restaurants and oversees a five-chef team. Together, they craft each dish using fresh,



locally inspired ingredients to create delicious and visually stunning meals and weekly specials.

“Chef Michael is definitely multitalented, and he does an amazing job of ensuring our back-of-the-house team works smoothly together,” Loewen Nicolds said. “He comes up with

various recipes, including all of our soup specials, and he’s always working to make things better in the kitchen.”

Some of the more popular items at Paso Terra Bistro are the beef empanadas, crab cakes, Cali elote quesadilla, and beef Bolognese. Customer favorites include

the shrimp linguini – tender shrimp tossed with linguine in a rich, creamy basil Alfredo sauce, and Cajun chicken pasta – flame-grilled Cajun chicken served over penne pasta. Be sure to try the classic cheeseburger or the guacamole burger, and check social media to learn about the burger of the month.

One of the newest dishes on the menu, the herb roasted chicken, is already gaining popularity. Cooked in a brown sugar sage sauce, it’s sweet and savory. The grilled salmon is the eatery’s most popular seafood dish. Flame-broiled, it’s served with mashed potatoes and a warm spinach sauté. Another favorite is the seafood paella, a colorful blend of shrimp, mussels, red snapper, and sausage with aromatic saffron rice.

Enjoy a sweet ending to your meal, or stop in to share a dessert with a friend. Choose from Vincenza’s Homemade Ice Cream, apple empanada with caramel, lemon cheesecake, chocolate mousse, and more.

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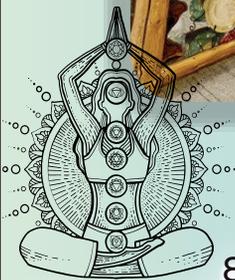
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Paso Robles



Paso Terra Bistro owner, Jennifer Loewen Nicolds.

“Our Sous Chef, Vincenza Zenobio, is a huge asset to our team,” Loewen Nicolds said. “She plates all of our salads, makes all of our dressings, and all of our desserts.”

An array of local wines, SLO Cider, and beer from Barrel House and Firestone are available, and the beverage menu includes soda, tea, and coffee.

A passion for food and hospitality

Loewen Nicolds takes pride in her team and says they are professional, friendly, knowledgeable, and family-oriented. The chefs work together to provide quality food, and the front of the house staff delivers exceptional customer service. “I definitely feel supported by my

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team, and I love that they care as much about the customers as I do," she said.

Her husband and children are part of that teamwork as well. John Nicolds frequently works behind the scenes, fixing anything and everything, and her daughters fill in as servers when available. Daughter Jayden Askew runs social media

accounts for the restaurant, oversees, and will eventually take on more of a management role. Twins Jacey and Jenelle Loewen both attend Azusa Pacific University and help out when they're home.

"When people come in, and we're all there, they see it really is a family affair here at Paso Terra Bistro," Loewen Nicolds said.

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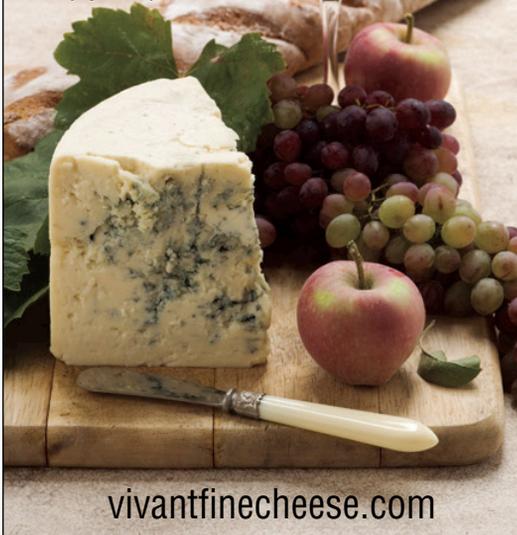
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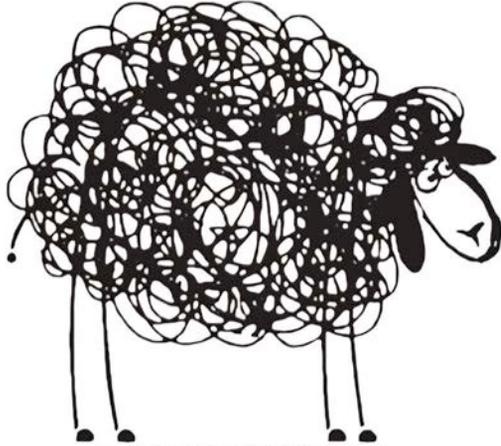
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Paso Robles

Feeding the community through fundraising

In addition to providing quality food and service, a big priority for the team is giving back to the community. The team has already hosted several fundraisers, and their goal is to hold monthly fundraisers to benefit local charities, sports teams, and more. Just a few of the ways they regularly contribute are by taking food to Paso Cares, Echo Shelter, and Loaves and Fishes.

“Our fundraisers are a chance for people to not only enjoy our food, but they can also help out somebody else,” Loewen Nicolds said. “In this way, everyone can give back and be a part of this community we all love in a positive and uplifting way.”

Paso Terra Bistro is located at 1032 Pine St. in Paso Robles. Open 4:30-9 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday. For more information, visit pasoterrabistro.com, call (805) 286-4002, or follow them on social media.

—Meagan Friberg

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Savor the flavor: Taste local premium olive oils

Olive oil tasting involves smelling the aroma of an oil, and then sipping it to taste its positive attributes. Official tasters drink the oil from dark blue glasses, to ensure they can't see the color of the olive oil (and be influenced by an oil's green or gold color).

Look for three qualities

Tasters should look for these three positive attributes:

Fruitiness: Any positive organic smell or taste.

Bitterness: A sign of freshness that is usually tasted on the sides of the tongue.

Pungency: A peppery, burning sensation in the throat.

Not all olive oils have all three of the attributes, but some should be present. Try it for yourself!! Grab that bottle you've had in the pantry for ages, and taste it to see if it's still good. Pour some into a wine glass— about an inch or two high – cover the glass with one hand while warming the base of the glass with the other. Place your nose into the glass after a minute and breathe in. Does it smell fruity, like green apples, cut grass, or tomato leaf? Great! Or does it smell unpleasant, like paint thinner, bacon, or a musty cellar? In that case, it's probably defective and should be thrown out.

Next, slurp in about a quarter of a teaspoon and let it sit on your tongue while you breathe in. Finally, swallow a bit and look for any signs of pepper in the throat. If an oil has a greasy feeling on your tongue, it's probably past its prime.



Remember, olive oil is a fresh product, much like a fruit juice. It needs to be used within 24 months of when it's made, and it needs to be used within a few months of opening the bottle.

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The love of food and great olive oil

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The knowledgeable staff is happy to help you choose culinary items, custom gift baskets, or corporate thank you packages. We Olive also offers custom labeling for special occasions.

“We share our passion and inspiration with our customers through the love of food and great olive oil. We want every customer to feel welcome and hope they are excited about their purchases,” said owner Ruth Mercurio.

Join the refill program!

Take advantage of We Olive’s refill program by returning washed bottles of oil or vinegar to the store to refill. Choose any oil or vinegar offered in the store. Earn reward points for each refill.

We Olive is located at 1311 Park St, Paso Robles. Open Mon-Thu 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Fri-Sat 10 a.m.-6 p.m., and Sun 10 a.m.-4 p.m. For more information and other store locations, visit weolive.com/paso-robles, or call (805) 239-7667 or (805) 239-7961.

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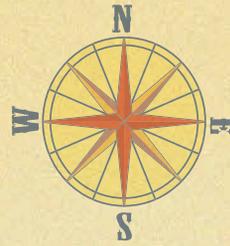


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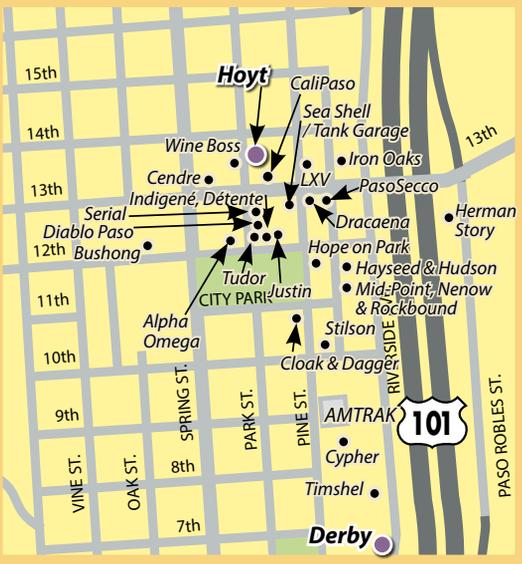
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DOWNTOWN PASO ROBLES

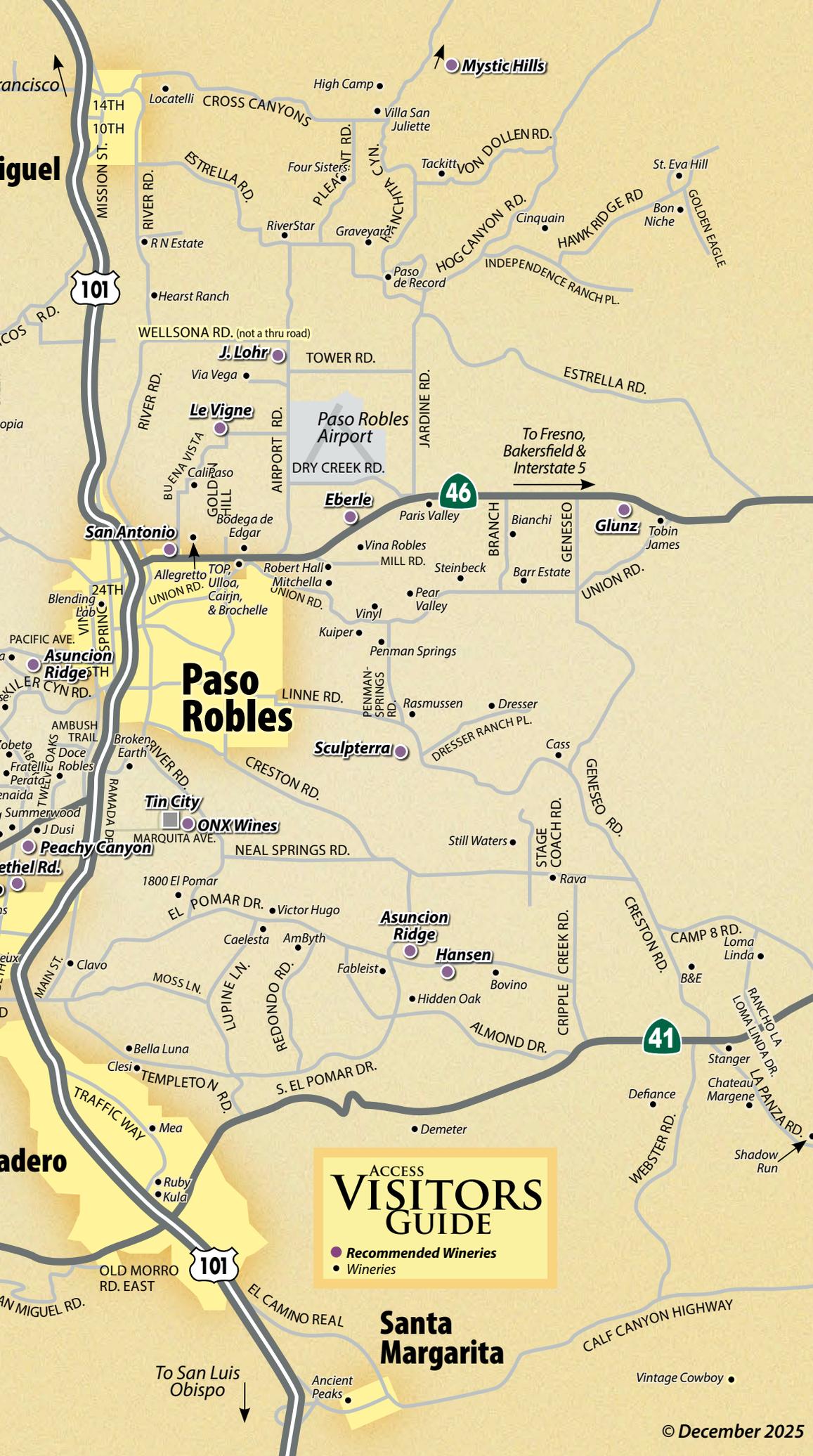


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From the time they planted their Mystic Hills Vineyard in 2007 and released their first bottles in 2014, Joel and Judy Cox have consistently demonstrated a passion for producing acclaimed wines and unsurpassed private, complimentary wine tasting. Their winery is a family-run operation with their children and grandchildren pitching in by helping with the vineyard, overseeing tastings, and managing the wine club.



Judy and Joel Cox.

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VINEYARDS & WINES

“We have so much love for people, and our private tastings allow us to spend quality time with each person or group,” Judy said. “These tastings are complimentary and by appointment only, giving us the chance to get to know one another, share our story, and just enjoy being together.”

Married for nearly 60 years, Joel and Judy encourage and support one another daily in their careers, business, and family life. Joel, an Academy Award-winning film editor who worked with Clint Eastwood for 50 years, has edited numerous films, including “Gran Torino,” “Unforgiven,” “Million Dollar Baby,”

“The Bridges of Maddison County,” “Letters From Iwo Jima,” and more. He fell in love with Bordeaux wines while traveling with Eastwood to the Cannes International Film Festival.

In 2004, Joel and Judy purchased their 14-acre hillside ranch in San Miguel and planted their boutique vineyard in 2007. Their children, Tammy, Rebecca, and David, and six grandchildren are involved, and bring what Joel calls “a youthful attitude” to the daily operations.

“All of them bring joy to our guests and new friends who come visit us at the vineyard,” he said.





Estate-grown wines crafted by Winemaker Keith Roberts

Farmer and winemaker Keith Roberts has been with Mystic Hills since the beginning, working the vineyard and creating hand-crafted, estate-grown Bordeaux-style wines with Joel. Their teamwork has led to the winery being named the Monterey County Winery of the Year and the San Luis Obispo County Winery of the Year. Bringing his knowledge and experience to the team, Roberts and the Cox Family share the same mindset when it comes to winemaking, with Joel calling Roberts, “a guru” and their teamwork, “an ideal partnership.”

The winery is part of the Pleasant Valley Wine Trail, with a typical climate of crisp mornings, hot days, and cool afternoon winds. These temperature swings and the way the team works the land contribute to the growth of superior fruit for Mystic Hills wines. The soil consists of three feet of sand topped with three feet of clay. Sustainability is of utmost importance, and no fertilizers or sprays are used, ensuring pure, beautiful wines.

“We are truly a boutique vineyard,” Joel says. “We have eight acres of vines grown over 12 acres using nine-foot row spacing. This ensures the plant’s individual vines don’t share the nutrients, and they are given plenty of space.”

It takes patience and time to craft wines with consistent balance and character. After the grapes are harvested by hand and separated, they are placed in French oak barrels and aged 18 months before blending, then left alone for another year in the barrel. Once bottled, it’s another 18 months before the wines are released.

A tradition of acclaimed wines

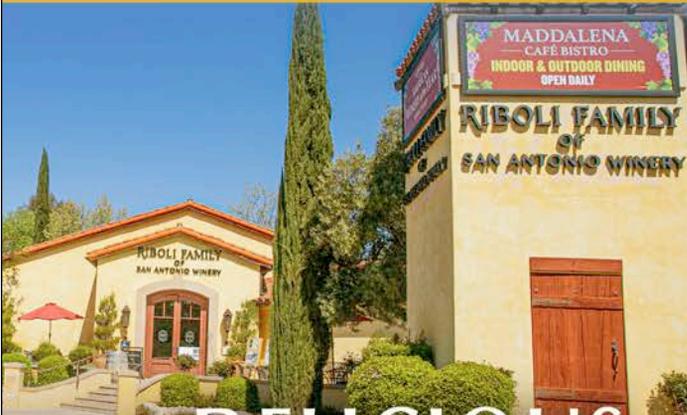
Not long after releasing the first 2011 vintage, they started racking up awards, including gold at the 2015 San Francisco Chronicle Wine Competition for their 2011 Unforgiven wine. That same first vintage went on to earn gold again in New York, platinum in San Diego, and Best of Class in Los Angeles.

“When Judy and our daughter, Rebecca, sent our first vintage to San Francisco, we did something that you normally don’t do,” Joel said. “That first vintage is normally

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Wine Tasting

a wine you might say is good, but is going to get better. And, it's hard to believe, but it got gold that very first time, and we knew we were on to something.”

Their 2020 Unforgiven recently earned a gold medal and Best in Class at the 2025 Los Angeles International Wine Competition. Aptly named after Joel's Oscar-winning film with Eastwood, this rich, velvety blend of cabernet sauvignon, cabernet franc, merlot, petit verdot, and malbec remains a favorite among customers.

In addition, Mystic Hills has consistently earned awards from such prestigious events as the New York International Wine Competition, the Critics Challenge International Wine Competition, and more. Their 2017 Reserve Unforgiven is bottled in pristine quality glass and available in limited quantity. Each bottle is hand-signed and decorated with a medallion put in place personally by Joel. Their Gran Trio blend includes cabernet sauvignon, cabernet franc, and merlot. Offerings of other varieties, such as their Joyride merlot, are



produced in limited quantities and most feature labels created by their son, David.

Their h.e.a.r.t.s rosé was crafted following a suggestion from a Mystic Hills wine club member. “I talked to Keith, and he said it might be interesting

to make a Bordeaux blend rosé,” Joel said. “So, we created it out of cabernet, cabernet franc, and merlot.” The name for this rich, fruity rosé was coined using the first initials of their grandchildren's names – Heather, Emma, Alexander, Rachel, Tyler, and

Savanna – thus, h.e.a.r.t.s. “Ours has a little more body, structure, and flavor, so red wine drinkers love it. When I ask the red wine drinkers to at least try it, they are pleasantly surprised and tell me they've never had a rosé that tastes like ours.”

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Tasting room, wine club, and special events

Providing a warm welcome and exceptional hospitality at the Mystic Hills tasting room is a top priority for the Cox Family. Their home has a spacious covered patio with gorgeous views of the vineyard and

surrounding hills. The landscaping includes several sitting areas and an outdoor kitchen, and they do everything they can to make each experience special.

“We want everyone to feel like they’re family when they come out here to visit us and have a truly

unique experience,” Joel says. Adds Judy, “We want to get to know people and share our love of family and wine with them. Everyone enjoys sitting outdoors and, when it’s cold, we just go inside.”

It’s free to join the Mystic Hills Wine Club, and member-

ship includes invitations to release parties, special events, and more; purchase six bottles twice yearly at a 20-percent discount to maintain membership. Each shipment contains information about the wines and special recipes, along with artwork and personal notes such as “Happy Fall, God Bless You All” from grandchildren Savanna and Emma.

Their annual “Movie Night with Joel” takes place on the first Saturday of August. Tickets are limited, and reservations are required. In 2026, the Cox Family will be celebrating the 11th anniversary of the event, and the evening will include food, their award-winning wine, popcorn, candy, games, prizes, and plenty of stories from Joel about his films.

Mystic Hills Vineyard is located at 79550 Watkins Lane in San Miguel. Winetasting appointments are available by appointment on Thursdays through Sundays, or by special arrangement. For appointments and more information, visit [mystichills-vineyard](http://mystichills-vineyard.com) or call (805) 610-1009.

—Meagan Friberg

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There is no dragon in the Eberle caves, and the guardian, Gary, is pleased to share the treasured wine he has stored there. He may even insist on it. Known as the Godfather of Paso Robles, Gary is one of the pioneers of Paso Robles wine country, a co-founder of the Paso Robles AVA, and the first to build wine caves in the area.

Thirty years underground

When the Eberle caves opened in 1996, they were a first for San Luis Obispo County—a bold venture carved into the limestone hillsides. The first request to excavate the caves was denied by San Luis Obispo County. No one had ever asked to do such a thing, and the county just didn't know what to do about it. Gary applied to the U.S. Bureau of Mines and, \$10 later, got the permit.

What began as 8,000 square feet of caves in 1996 more than doubled that size three years later. At a depth of 30 feet, with a temperature around 60 degrees, every barrel of Eberle wine is aged underground. The caves have the capacity to store 2700 barrels.

The caves are also stages for celebrations. The VIP room hosts small, intimate tastings or dinners and has seen many a romantic, candlelit proposal. The Wild Boar Room (Eberle is German for "boar") welcomes larger gatherings and hosts the famed Guest Chef Dinner Series.

Despite rumors of whispering spirits drifting through the tunnels, Gary insists no ghosts linger, and the only spirits are Eberle's award-winning wines. Some visitors claim you can catch a buzz just breathing the rich, wine-infused air.

Who is the Godfather of Paso Robles?

While enjoying a few glasses of Eberle Cabernet Sauvignon, Gary shared stories from his past.

After graduating from Penn State as a football star under the legendary "Papa" Joe Paterno, Gary was drafted by the Detroit Lions. Unfortunately, his football-damaged knees limited his pro career to less than three weeks. Gary decided to join the U.S. Marines. The Vietnam conflict was heating up, and Gary wanted to serve his country. His knees betrayed him again after two different Marine recruitment centers rejected him.

In hindsight, given the circumstances of the Vietnam War, being unable to enlist was probably a good thing. But Gary replied, “No, not really. Because I couldn’t go, someone had to go in my place.” Unable to join the Marines, Gary chose to study cellular genetics at Louisiana State University, where he discovered wine, specifically cabernet sauvignon. He decided to become a winemaker, which led him to UC Davis. There, he earned a Ph.D. in enology and viticulture and began a friendship with Robert Mondavi. Mr. Mondavi became his mentor, friend, and influencer, teaching him lessons that Gary continues to live by.

Gary brought those lessons to Paso Robles in 1973, co-founding the Paso Robles AVA and pioneering local viticulture alongside industry icons, including Justin Baldwin and Jerry Lohr.

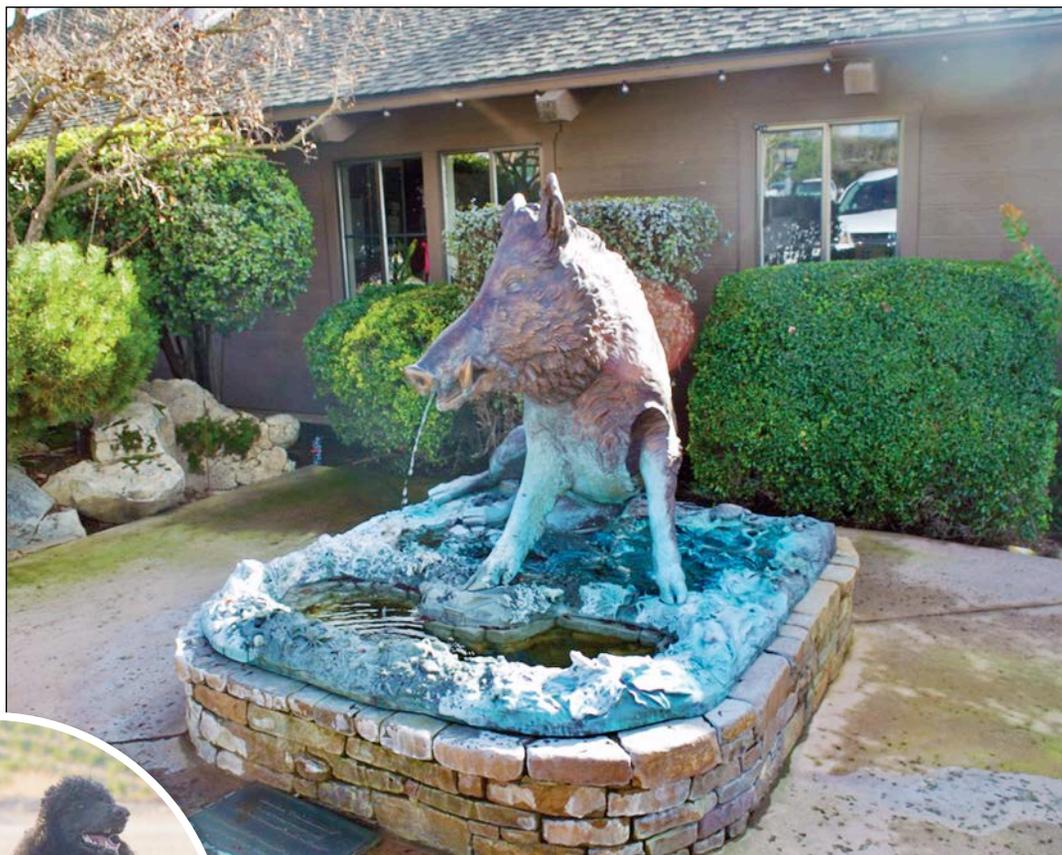
His first release in 1979 marked the beginning of a winemaking legacy that helped shape the region’s global reputation.

Mr. Mondavi’s influence

Over time, Mr. Mondavi became Gary’s mentor and friend. Taking another sip of his wine, Gary said, “I don’t know why Mr. Mondavi took me under his wing. He was about 60, and I was just a kid, but he taught me everything I know about winemaking.” Gary credits Mr. Mondavi’s teachings with shaping his success over the past 50 years. Those teachings include:

- Tastings should be free (and Gary extends that philosophy to cave tours).
- Once you have an established, recognizable label, never change it.
- You want your visitors to experience wine and the surroundings, not just taste.

During our recent visit, Gary shared a story about the day Mr.



Mondavi told him to drop the “Mr.” and call him Robert.

Even though they had

known each other

for a long time, Gary

persisted in using “Mr. Mondavi” and does so to this day. It’s a gesture reflecting the deep respect he holds for the man who taught him about the industry and helped shape the California wine scene.

The spirit of Eberle

Gary has been honored many times, receiving the American Wine Legend Award from the “Wine Enthusiast,” the Robert Mondavi Hospitality Award, the California State Fair Lifetime Achievement Award, in addition to the many awards for Eberle wines.

Eberle Winery was the first to list Paso Robles AVA on its label, the first to plant syrah vines on the Central Coast, and produce 100% syrah wine in the US. Eberle Winery led the way by being the first

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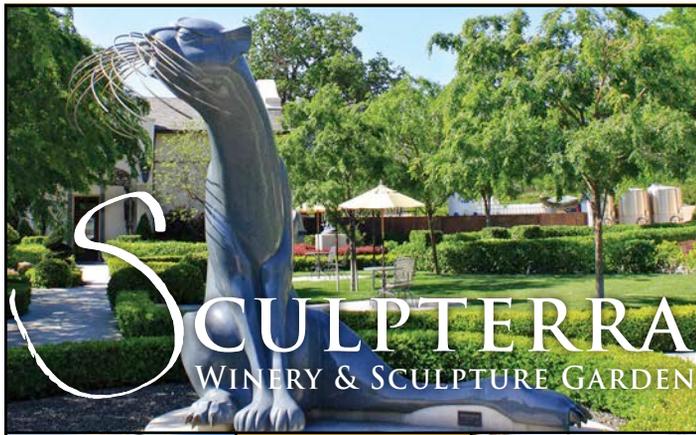
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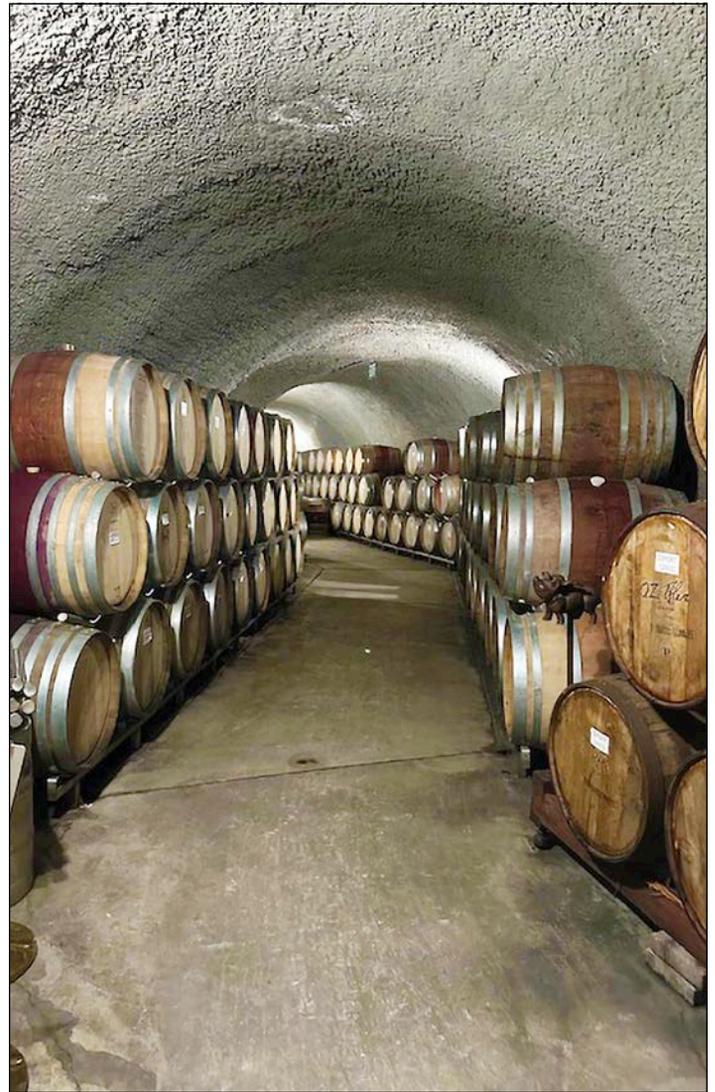


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San Luis Obispo County winery to achieve national distribution. Despite his leadership and pioneering, Gary consistently prioritizes the region's wines over self-promotion.

During our recent conversation, Gary revealed that he loves what he does and needs nothing more. He has created a trust to pass the winery on to his key employees when that time comes, ensuring the continuation of Eberle Winery and helping to secure the future of his employees and their families.

Gary can be found almost any day doing what he loves most, sitting at the winery entrance, sipping wine, and inviting visitors to chat. He'll also introduce you to his elegant standard poodles, Vio (short for viognier), and Barbera. If asked nicely, Barbera will even sing some opera.

Gary Eberle is like a fine

wine—well-aged, enticing, and fun, leaving you hesitating to finish that last drop from the glass and final words of conversation. But, in the end, you will have experienced the company of a man who helped build Paso Robles wine country and continues to pour his heart into it every day. And...you can always come back!

Eberle Winery is located at 3810 Hwy 46 East, Paso Robles. The tasting room opens at 10 a.m. and closing times vary by season. Closed for major holidays. For more information, visit eberlewinery.com or call (805) 238-9607.

—Don Sonderling

Don Sonderling is a freelance writer covering California's unique lifestyle of wine, food, and adventure from Santa Barbara to Napa Valley and beyond. He may be reached at: donsonderling@gmail.com

Welcome to Opolo Vineyards — a world apart in Paso Robles

Enjoy acclaimed estate wines and handcrafted spirits amid a scenic vineyard setting

The moment you turn onto the driveway at Opolo Vineyards, you enter into a world apart, a place where rolling vineyards mix with stunning mountain views. Here, in the heart of the renowned Willow Creek District, you can get away from it all for an afternoon as you indulge in fine estate wines, craft spirits, and delicious food pairings.

“This is a place where you can relax and taste at your own pace,” says Opolo Director of Marketing Ricki Quinn, daughter of co-founder Rick Quinn. “We want you to feel welcome and inspired by your time at Opolo as you try our most coveted small-batch wines.”

A Paso Robles original

Opolo was founded in 1999 by friends David Nichols and Rick Quinn, and today, two generations are actively involved in the daily operations. The wines reflect both the rich heritage and progressive winemaking for which Paso Robles is renowned. Specialties include zinfandel, cabernet sauvignon, Rhône-style blends, and aromatic whites.

“We were bullish on Paso Robles from the start, and we are even more so today,” Nichols says

Sustainably grown wines

Guests at Opolo enjoy access to Opolo’s small-production Opolo Reserve bottlings from the estate vineyards adjacent to the tasting room. These vineyards—Quinn West and To The Moon—are Sustainability in Practice (SIP) certified, one of the most stringent certification programs of its kind. From these estate vineyards,



Winemaker James Schreiner and Assistant Winemaker Skye Bruce routinely produce wines that score 90+ points from leading critics.

“We want our wines to do right by the land, the environment, and our community,” says Rick Quinn. “Sustainable vineyard practices also produce a more wholesome, high-quality wine.”

Tastings, tours, and craft spirits

Reserve Tasting Flights and Classic Tasting Flights are offered year-round inside the Opolo tasting room. Walk-ins are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. Menu offerings include wood-fired pizzas, gourmet sausages, and seasonal salads, providing an array of wine-pairing options. Opolo also offers an exclusive Estate Tour and Tasting, where guests experience everything Opolo “from the ground to the glass” at the Willow Creek District estate.

The Opolo tasting room places an emphasis on Old World family-style hospitality. “Our hospitality team and our tasting room educators are top-notch and approachable,” says Ricki Quinn. “They are really great at meeting you where you are and matching your energy.”

And, with the addition of the on-site Willow Creek Distillery, guests may indulge in a range of craft spirits, including modern expressions of whiskeys, brandies, liqueurs, and more. Guests may book an immersive tasting experience, where they choose four spirits from a list of offerings enjoyed right inside the distillery production room. Oftentimes, part of a visiting group chooses to go to the distillery and taste whiskey, while the others want to do some wine tasting.

Stay and play

Guests may also go beyond tastings with an overnight stay at The Inn at Opolo Vineyards. Boasting luxurious, spacious rooms with fireplaces, soaking tubs, and made-to-order breakfast, each stay includes complimentary wine and appetizers in the afternoon.

With events such as the annual Harvest Festival Dinner & Grape Stomp, Blending Parties in the Barrel Room, Sunset Crab Feeds, and more, the fun never stops. The versatile and modern indoor and outdoor venue spaces at Opolo also make it the ideal location for private events, weddings, and corporate gatherings.

The Opolo Vineyards tasting room, located at 7110 Vineyard Dr. in Paso Robles, is open daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. except for major holidays. Reservations are recommended, but walk-ins are welcome. For more information, visit opolo.com or call (805) 238-9593.

— Meagan Friberg

Sculpterra Winery, where vision, wine, and art flourish

A family's vision blends fine wine, stunning art, and a passion for giving

Family-owned and operated Sculpterra Winery and Sculpture Garden has become a destination for wine and art lovers since first opening for business in 2007.

With his wife, Kathy, by his side, Dr. Warren Frankel is the visionary and driving force behind the unique setting in Paso Robles. Their son, Paul Frankel, is the winemaker and vineyard manager,



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and their daughter, Faith Frankel, M.D., serves as the food pairing and tasting experience expert. Her husband, Truman Prewitt, handles all marketing and promotions for the business.

From dream to reality

“The winery was founded to support medical missions, Dr. Frankel’s passion, and local art,” Truman says. “Not too long ago, art options in Paso and San Luis Obispo County were scarce. Dr. Frankel wanted to change that.”

And how did this idea for utilizing a winery and artwork to help others come to be? It’s been a fabulous journey, indeed. While backpacking through Europe, a young Warren Frankel visited Frognear Park, a famous garden in Norway featuring sculptures by Gustav Vigeland. Spending hours in the garden with its many human forms, he was amazed by God’s creation.

Eventually, his career path led him to serve in the United States Army, where he received his training to become an army physician. Decades later, while practicing family medicine in Templeton, Dr.

Frankel met John Jagger in church after returning from a medical mission. Hearing about Jagger’s artwork and dream of building a larger-than-life sculpture garden, the good doctor couldn’t help but think how great that would be for the community.

It was during this same time-frame that his son decided to study viticulture and winemaking at Cal Poly SLO. Everything was lining up – make art to bring in people, make quality wine to pay for more art, and to support additional medical missions. Thus, Sculpterra Winery and Sculpture Garden was born.

An artist’s vision

“The overall decor was more of the artist’s vision to bring to the public,” Prewitt says. “Jagger designed the garden and the general exterior. He started with what he thought was his best work, ‘Morning Glory,’ a sunning cat in the very front of the garden.”

All of the cabinetry, doors, windows, the two 700-pound chandeliers, and metal work throughout the property were custom-built by Robert Bentley in his unique old-world style. An abundance



Mega Focus by Dale Evers on display in the sculpture garden.

of art has been added over the years. Recent pieces include the Safari by Monte de Gallo with its nine animal sculptures, and the Stagecoach, which is perfect for interactive social media shots.

Award-winning wines

The artwork in the garden and inside the tasting room is stunning, and the award-winning wines are spectacular. Customer favorites include the viognier, grenache, and cabernet sauvignon. All are top-sellers that tend to sell out quickly.

“The wines evolve every season, and seeing the wines change is a real treat,” Winemaker Paul Frankel says. “Our viognier always pleases. It’s become known as the red wine drinker’s white.”

Frankel points to his Paso Pink Rosé, a blend of grenache, syrah, and mourvèdre, as being “a great wine that is not too sweet or tart.” He suggests the Petite Syrah for those who prefer a bit more boldness. Truman’s go-to red wine is Figurine, a blend of primitivo, cabernet sauvignon, and merlot.

The Héroe label, consisting of a viognier, pinot noir, cabernet sauvignon, and primitivo, was created to honor all past and present production workers. Proceeds from sales support the Gold Coast Chapter of The Flying Samaritans, which operates free medical clinics in Baja California, Mexico.

The family’s commitment to giving back to their community and those in need is evident. As a veteran, Dr. Frankel values the importance of honoring those who have served their country, and he is currently on the board at Camp Roberts Historical Museum. Various efforts at Sculpterra help support four artists on staff and four medical missions annually. A rotation of art from more than 100 local artists is also featured in the tasting room each year.

Welcoming and inviting atmosphere

The knowledgeable and professional tasting room staff strives for a high level of friendliness to accommodate all types of wine drinkers.

“With the high volume of tasting room traffic, and the amount of information to convey regarding the wine profile, winemaking process, medical missions, and a variety of art, it’s essential to have the best staff,” Truman explains. “Deciding what information and how much to share with customers requires getting to know them first, and we take pride in doing just that.”

On weekends, musical guests add to the serenity of the space, and a rotation of food trucks serve up a variety of offerings, including seasonal specials.

Sculpterra Winery and Sculpture Garden, located at 5015 Linne Road in Paso Robles, is open daily from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. For more information, including the wedding venue, featured artists, and special events such as their spectacular Fourth of July celebration, visit sculpterra.com or call (805) 226-8881. Learn more about Héroe at heroewine.com.

—Meagan Friberg



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Bruce Hansen and the wine roadshow that put Paso Robles on the map

'We loaded our wine in the trunk of the car, and off we went'

There was a time back in the 1990s when few people outside of the area knew about Paso Robles wine. "So a bunch of us decided to take our wines on the road and introduce them to the rest of the country," said Bruce Hansen, founder and winemaker of Hansen Vineyards. "We picked an area, found someplace where we could pour wine like a hotel or some event, loaded the wine in the trunk of the car, and off we'd go."



Bruce Hansen pouring a barrel sample.

The group made three or four trips a year between 2003 and 2009 to locations in California, Las Vegas, Phoenix, Dallas, and the East Coast. "Sometimes we flew, but most of the time we drove," Bruce said.

Rich Hartnberger, founder and winemaker of Midnight Cellars, Doug Kruse of Jack Creek Cellars, Danny Panico of Dover Canyon Winery, and Joe Barton of Grey Wolf Barton Family Wines, came immediately to

Bruce's mind when talking about the wine roadshow.

Rich Hartenberger reports, "These trips were critical to spread the word. Paso was virtually unknown back then, and people were very open to learning about this new, exciting wine region!" He adds, "Of course, Justin Baldwin, Tobin James, Gary Eberle, and Art Norman, among many others, led the way for all of us newcomers."

Building wineries and creating wine

Traveling for wine was nothing new to Bruce. Before starting Hansen Vineyards, he made a living building winery and vineyard buildings. "I must have built around 500 different buildings for wineries from California up into Oregon," he said. "Yes. I built everything here, too, from our home to the Cab House, and the rest."

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Bruce Hansen's personal history with winemaking goes back to his childhood in Michigan. "Dad made wine at home and I helped him, which didn't make Mom happy," he reports. As an adult, he picked up winemaking tips and lessons from the various winemakers he worked with when constructing their winery buildings.

The friendships he made during his construction years helped launch Hansen Vineyards & Winery. When the time came for him to make wine, he bought a former almond orchard in 1992. After ripping out the old trees, he started planting rootstock, which has become 30 acres of 10 to 20-year-old vines growing mostly cabernet sauvignon grapes. Hansen Vineyards 2001 Cabernet Sauvignon was his first release.

"I had some great mentors," said Bruce as he listed off names including Gary Eberle, Craig Reed, now at Castoro Cellars, Alan Kinne, winemaker at Martin & Weyrich, and Christian Roguenant, now at Lightpost Winery in Morgan Hill.

Since its first release, Hansen Vineyard & Winery has become known for excellent, award-winning wines. Bruce oversees everything with precise detail, from planting, growing, and harvesting to barrels, fermentation, and bottling.

The vines grow in soil consisting mainly of nutrient-rich black adobe with an abundance of shale and limestone. The wines are aged in 100% French Oak barrels for two and a half to four and a half years, accounting for the amazing results and the reason the wine is so drinkable shortly after being bottled. He produces around 1500 cases a year.

Hansen wines were awarded gold and silver medals at the 2024 American Fine Wine Competition. The Hansen Cab House 2019 Cabernet Franc and the Hansen Cab House 2021 Cabernet Franc both won gold medals. The Hansen Cab House 2017 Cabernet Sauvignon and Hansen Cab House 2018 Cabernet Sauvignon both won silver medals.

Visit the winery and experience some serious wine. Chat with Bruce. Learn more about his winemaking, hear some tales from the wine roadshow, and maybe get a hot tip on when the Cab Challenge is returning!

Visit the Hansen Vineyards and Winery tasting room at 5575 El Pomar Dr. in Templeton; open Friday-Sunday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. except for major holidays. For more information, visit hansenwines.com or call (805)-239-8412.

—Jackie Iddings



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6454 Moonstone Beach Dr
(805) 927-8581

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6620 Moonstone Beach Dr
(805) 927-8605

Creekside Inn
2618 Main St
(805) 927-4021

Fogcatcher Inn
6400 Moonstone Beach Dr
(805) 927-1400

Moonstone Landing
6240 Moonstone Beach
(805) 927-0012

Ocean Point Ranch
7200 Moonstone Beach Dr.
(805) 927-4648

Pelican Inn & Suites
6316 Moonstone Beach Dr
(805) 927-1500

Sand Pebbles Inn
6252 Moonstone Beach Dr
(805) 927-5600

Scenic Coast Vacation Rentals
712 Main St
(805) 927-6163

Sea Otter Inn
6656 Moonstone Beach Dr
(805) 927-5888

White Water Inn
6790 Moonstone Beach Dr
(805) 927-1066

Cayucos

Beachwalker Inn
501 S Ocean Ave
(805) 995-2133

Cayucos Motel
20 S Ocean Ave
(805) 995-3670

Cayucos Pier View Suites
14 N Ocean Ave., (805) 995-0014

Cayucos Sunset Inn
95 S Ocean Ave., (805) 995-2500

Highway One Rentals
148 N. Ocean Ave., (805) 995-3678

On The Beach B&B
181 N. Ocean Ave., (805) 995-3200

Seaside Motel
42 S Ocean Ave
(805) 559-3809

Grover Beach

Holiday Inn Express
775 North Oak Park Blvd.
(805) 481-4448

Pacific Inn Grover Beach
150 S 5th St
(805) 481-7931

Los Osos

Back Bay Inn
1391 2nd St., (805) 528-1233

Sea Pines Golf Resort
1945 Solano St
(805) 528-5252

Morro Bay

Anderson Inn
897 Embarcadero
(805) 772-3434 or (888) 950-3434

Best Western El Rancho
2460 Main St, (805) 772-2212

Best Western San Marcos inn
250 Pacific St., (805) 772-2248

Best Western Tradewinds
225 Beach St., (805) 772-7376

Blue Sail Inn
851 Market Ave.
(805) 772-2766 or (888) 337-0707

El Morro Masterpiece Motel
1206 Main St.
(805) 772-5633 or (800) 527-6782

Embarcadero Inn
456 Embarcadero, (805) 772-2700

Avalon Inn
730 Morro Ave.
(805) 772-2244 or (800) 444-0562

Holland Inn Motel
2630 Main St., (805) 772-2650

Inn at Morro Bay
60 State Park Rd
(805) 772-5651, (800) 321-9566

La Serena Inn
990 Morro Ave.
(805) 772-5665, (800) 248-1511

Marina Street Inn B&B
305 Marina St.
(805) 772-4016, (888) 683-9389

Morro Bay Luxury Rentals
264 Bowie Dr., (805) 704-1169

Morro Bay Sandpiper Inn
540 Main St., (805) 772-7503

Morro Bay Vacation Rentals
1910 Hill St., (805) 459-8460

Morro Crest Inn
670 Main St.
(805) 772-7740, (800) 613-2007

Morro Shores Inn & Suites
290 Atascadero Rd.
(805) 772-0222, (800) 575-4095

Pleasant Inn Motel
235 Harbor St.
(805) 772-8521, (888) 772-8521

Sea Air Inn
845 Morro Ave., (805) 772-4495

Sundown Inn
640 Main St.
(805) 772-7381 or (800) 696-6928

The Bayfront Inn
1150 Embarcadero, (805) 772-5607

The Breakers Motel
Corner of Morro Bay Blvd & Market
(805) 772-7317 or (800) 932-8899

Travelodge
1080 Market Ave., (805) 772-1259

Nipomo

Kaleidoscope Inn & Gardens
130 E Dana
(805) 929-5444 or 866-504-5444

Oceano

Pacific Plaza Resort Hotel
444 Pier Ave., (805) 473-6989

Paso Robles

Adelaide Inn
1215 Ysabel St., (805) 238-2770

Allegretto Vineyard Resort
2700 Buena Vista Dr.
(805) 369-2500

Best Western Plus Black Oak
1135 24th St., (805) 238-4740

Budget Inn
2745 Spring St., (805) 239-3030

Cava Robles RV Resort
3800 Golden Hill Rd.
(844) 641-5093

Chanticleer Vineyard B&B
(805) 226-0600

Courtyard By Marriott Paso Robles
120 South Vine St.
(805) 239-9700

Dunning Vineyards Guest Villa
1953 Niderer Road
(805) 238-4763

Hotel Cheval
1021 Pine St.
(805) 226-9995 or 866-522-6999

La Bellasera Hotel & Suites
Jct 101 & 46 West
(805) 238-2834, 866-782-9669

La Quinta Inn & Suites
2615 Buena Vista Dr.
(805) 239-3004

The Oaks Hotel
3000 Riverside Ave., 805-237-8700

Oxford Suites
800 4th St., (805) 237-0305

Paso Robles Inn
1103 Spring St
(805) 238-2660, (800) 676-1713

Paso Robles Vacation Rentals
(805) 423-9174

The Piccolo
600 12th St., (805) 226-5920

Travelodge
2701 Spring St., (805) 238-0078

Vines RV Resort
88 Wellsona Rd., (877) 820-0940

Wine County RV Resort
2500 Airport Road
(805) 238-4560, (866) 927-8669

Pismo Beach

Beach Bum Rentals
354 Main Street Ste. A
(805) 773-7194

Beach House Inn & Suites
198 Main St.
(805) 773-7476 (PISMO)

Beachwalker Inn & Suites
490 Dolliver St., (805) 773-2725

Inn at the Cove
2651 Price St.
(805) 773-3511, (800) 848-1434

Shore Cliff Hotel
2555 Price St.
(805) 773-4671, (800) 441-8885

Coastal Vacation Rentals
330 Main St.
(805) 773.1080, (800) 700.1254

Cottage Inn by the Sea
2351 Price St.
(805) 773-4617 or (888) 440-8400

Dolphin Cove Motel
170 Main St., (805) 773-4706

Edgewater Inn & Suites
280 Wadsworth Ave.
(805) 773-4811

Ocean Palms
390 Ocean View Ave.
(805) 773-4669

Pismo Coast Village RV Resort
165 S. Dolliver Street
(888) RV-BEACH, (888) 782-3224

Pismo Lighthouse Suites
2411 Price St.
(805) 773-1508, (800) 245-2411

Quality Inn Monarch Shores
230 Five Cities Dr., (805) 773-1841

Sandcastle Inn
100 Stimson Ave.
(805) 773-2422 or (800) 822-6606

Sea Crest Resort
2241 Price St., (805) 773-4608

Sea Gypsy Motel
1020 Cypress
(805) 773-1801 or (800) 592-5923

Sea Venture
100 Oceanview Ave.
(805) 773-4994

Shell Beach Inn
653 Shell Beach Rd.
(805) 773-4373

Spyglass Inn
2705 Spyglass Dr.
(805) 773-4855, 1-(800) 824-2612

Valentina Suites
371 Pismo Avenue, (805) 773-1234

Ragged Point

Ragged Point Inn & Resort
19019 CA Highway 1
(805) 927-4502

San Simeon

Cavalier Oceanfront Resort
9415 Hearst Dr.
(805) 927-4688

Courtesy Inn
9450 Castillo Dr.
(805) 927-4691 or (800) 555-5773

The Morgan – San Simeon
9135 Hearst Dr.
(805) 927-3878 or (800) 451-9900

Sands By The Sea
9355 Hearst Dr.
(805) 927-3243 or (800) 444-0779

Sea Breeze Inn
9065 Hearst Dr.
(805) 927-3284 or (800) 927-3316

Shell Beach

The Palomar Inn
1601 Shell Beach Rd.
(805) 773-4204

Shell Beach Inn
653 Shell Beach Rd.
(805) 773-4373

San Luis Obispo

Comfort Inn & Suites Lamplighter
1604 Monterey St., (805) 547-7777

Courtyard by Marriott-SLO
1605 Calle Joaquin, (805) 786-4200

Days Inn
2050 Garfield St., (805) 549-9911

Embassy Suites
333 Madonna Rd., (805) 549-0800

Garden Street Inn
1212 Garden St., (805) 545-9802

Granada Hotel
1126 Morro St., (805) 544-9100

Holiday Inn Express-SLO
1800 Monterey St., (805) 544-8600

Hotel San Luis Obispo
877 Palm St., (805) 235-0700

Hotel Cerro
1125 Garden St., (805) 548-1000

La Cuesta Inn
2074 Monterey St., (805) 543-2777

Peach Tree Inn
2001 Monterey St., (805) 543-3170

Rodeway Inn
1001 Olive St., (805) 544-0400

San Luis Creek Lodge
1941 Monterey St.
(805) 541-1122 or (800) 593-0333

Sands Inn & Suites
1930 Monterey St.
(805) 544-0500 or (800) 441-4657

Sycamore Mineral Springs
1215 Avila Beach Dr.
(805) 595-7302

Templeton

Honey Oak House
2602 Templeton Rd.
(805) 434-5091



Calendar of Events —

see more at
slovisitorsguide.com

Morro Bay Citywide Yard Sale

March 20-22—Stroll through various neighborhoods in Morro Bay to browse and shop for a variety of goods and treasures. More information: morrobay.org.

Party for the Planet at Central Coast Zoo

April 16, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.—A great day for education, conservation, and fun for all ages. Regular admission. More information: centralcoastzoo.org.

Wine 4 Paws Weekend

April 25-26.—Raise funds for Woods Humane Society by purchasing from over 50 businesses and wineries. More information: wine4paws.com.

Atascadero Citywide Yard Sale

April 18, 8 a.m.-2 p.m.—Hundreds of vendors throughout Atascadero. More information and map: sites.google.com/view/atascderoyardsale.com.

Taste of Pismo

April 25, 1-4 p.m.—One of the premier 21+ culinary, wine, and beer events on the Central Coast. Dinosaur Caves Park, 2701 Price St, Pismo Beach. Tickets and information: atexperiencepismoeach.com.

Morro Bay Kite Festival

April 24-26—A high-flying weekend of family fun. Morro Rock, Morro Bay. More information: morrobaykitefestival.org.

Vintage Sidecar Rendezvous and more

April 25, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.—Vintage sidecars and motorcycles, British cars, recycled treasures, and more. Paso Robles Downtown City Park, 12th Street. More information: pasoroblesdowntown.org.

SLO International Film Festival

April 23-28 at various venues throughout SLO County—Filmmakers from all around the world screen independent films ranging from documentaries, narratives, music videos, short films, student films, and a central coast filmmaker showcase. Tickets and information: slofilmfest.org

Cruisin' Morro Bay Car Show

April 30-May 2—A celebration of community spirit, bringing together classic car enthusiasts while supporting local businesses, charities, and organizations. More information: morrobaycarshow.org.

Sip 'n' Saunter

May 3, 1-4 p.m.—Explore downtown San Luis Obispo while tasting some of the finest food and beverage served at downtown retail locations. More information: downtownslo.com.

Tamale Festival

May 1-2, —Friday tasting preview from 4-8 p.m. Saturday 11 a.m.-7 p.m. Free admission to over 100 tamale, food, and other vendors, and live music. Atascadero Sunken Gardens, 6505 El Camino Real. More information: visitatascadero.com.

Paso Robles Olive and Lavender Festival

May 9, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.—Experience a delightful blend of Paso Robles' finest olive and lavender offerings. Free event. Downtown City Park. More information: pasoroblesdowntown.org.

Paso Wine Fest

May 15-17—Explore Paso Robles Wine Country with wine tastings, food, live music, and more! Tickets and information: pasowine.com.

Morro Bay Art in the Park

May 23-24, starts at 9 a.m.—Hundreds of art and craft vendors, food, and more. Morro Bay City Park, corner of Morro Bay Blvd and Harbor Drive. Mark calendars for July 4-6 Art in the Park. More information: morrobay.org.

Golden State Classics Car Show

May 23, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.—Downtown City Park, Paso Robles. More information: goldenstateclassics.org.

Pismo Beach Classic Car Show

May 29-30—Free family event. See hundreds of classic cars, live music, food, and vendors. Public streets and the pier in Pismo Beach. More information: experiencepismoeach.com.

Concerts in the Park, Paso Robles

Thursdays starting June 11 through August 30, 6-8 p.m.—Downtown City Park. More information: pasoroblesdowntown.org.

Pinot & Paella Festival

June 7, 2-5 p.m.—Join talented local chefs and wineries for this 21+ afternoon of great wine, creative Paella dishes, and live music. Bring your blankets, lawn chairs, and dancing shoes. Templeton Community Park, 550 Crocker St., Templeton. Tickets and information: pinotandpaella.com.

Ice Cream Zoofari

June 6, 5-8 p.m.—Cool down on a warm summer evening with a relaxing and delicious ice cream-filled event at Central Coast Zoo, 9100 Morro Road, Atascadero. Tickets and information: centralcoastzoo.org.

Atascadero Movies in the Park

June 13, and August 29, 7-10 p.m. Activities start at 7 p.m., movie starts at 8 p.m. Atascadero Lake Park, 9305 Pismo Ave. More information: visitatascadero.com.

Atascadero Lakeside Wine Festival

June 13, 4-8 p.m.—Experience some of the best wineries, craft beer, dozens of vendors, artists, and live music. Atascadero Lake Park, 9305 Pismo Ave. Tickets and information: atascderylakesidewinefestival.com.

Live Oak Music Festival

June 19-21—A fun-filled weekend of great music, art, camping, activities, and reuniting with friends and family. El Chorro Regional Park, State Hwy 1 at Dairy Creek Road. Tickets and information: liveoakfest.org.

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