

Melt away stress in

Monterey!

Breathtaking Pacific Ocean vistas, sun-drenched seaside towns and perfect temperatures make this California coastal region an irresistible getaway!

17-MILE DRIVE

Motor this meandering coastal route and take in stunning seascapes and views of gorgeous cliffside homes, as well as the "Lone Cypress," one of the most-photographed trees in the world.

Looking for a perfect place to unwind and have fun? Just drive three hours south of San Francisco to California's Monterey Peninsula. Surrounded by 99 miles of picturesque coastline, the area holds charms for every kind of vacationer, from hand-holding honeymooners and outdoor enthusiasts to beachgoers and luxury-lovers. The dramatic oceanside cliffs, inviting seaside towns, renowned restaurants and pampering resorts make it a modern-day paradise!

At the world-acclaimed Monterey Bay Aquarium, enjoy watching as children confidently go nose to nose (separated by glass walls) with neon-colored jellyfish, giant octopuses, cruising sharks and adorable sea otters. Shopper or foodie? Take a stroll

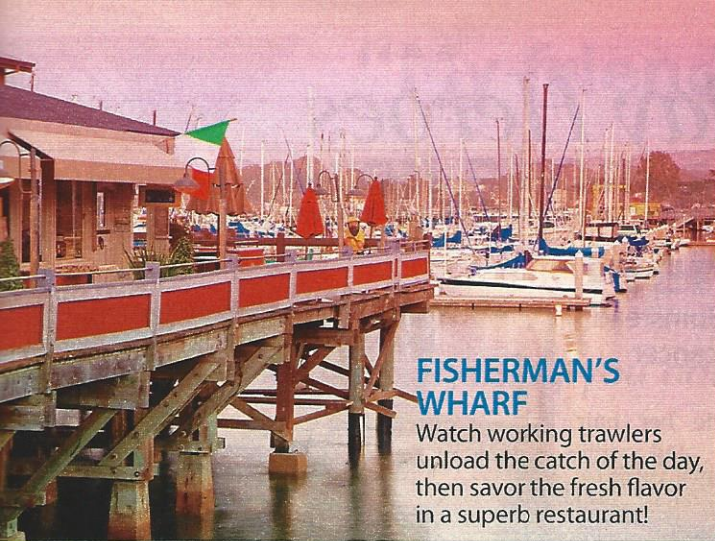


MONTEREY BAY AQUARIUM

You'll be mesmerized by views of brilliant-hued sea anemones and drifting jellyfish and charmed by the penguin chicks that call this world-famous aquarium home!

along Cannery Row, where former warehouses and sardine factories now hold boutiques perfect for window shopping and lively restaurants serving great local food and wine. History lover? Have a heavenly time exploring the early 1800s adobe buildings in Old Monterey, then drive north along the coast past 17-Mile Drive's unparalleled views of seascapes and gorgeous mansions.

Feeling energetic? Explore the sites on a bike, take a hike, sign up for a whale-watch cruise, go for a tasting at an award-winning winery, stroll on a serene beach, take the kids to Dennis the Menace Park or play a round at the famed Pebble Beach Golf Course. End the day dining on just-caught seafood at Old Fisherman's Wharf watching the sun slowly set on the horizon!



FISHERMAN'S WHARF

Watch working trawlers unload the catch of the day, then savor the fresh flavor in a superb restaurant!



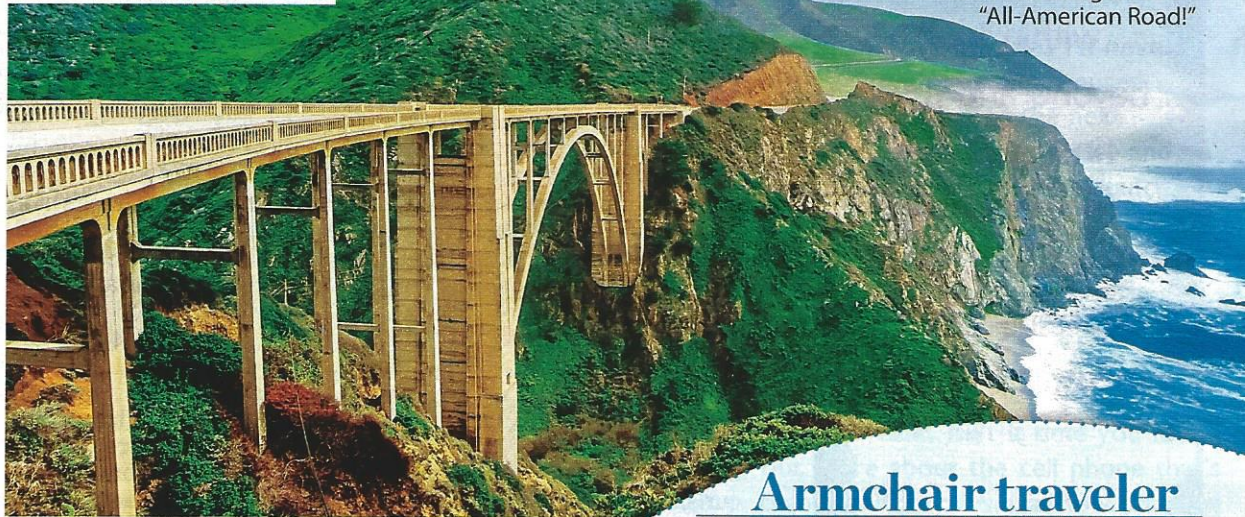
CARMEL-BY-THE-SEA

This storybook seaside town is renowned for its delightful eateries, art galleries, shops and intimate inns. Want to add a little romance to your day? Go for a hand-in-hand stroll along Carmel's beautiful, white-sand beach!



POINT LOBOS STATE NATURAL RESERVE

Brake to explore this top-rated state preserve, where you'll have fun spying sea otters in the waves, exploring tide pools and scrambling up rocky paths leading to beautiful lookout points.



PACIFIC COAST HIGHWAY

If you're in the mood for an exhilarating road trip, hop on this famously scenic highway! Starting in Monterey, it winds south along the coast for 123 miles, through Big Sur and past vistas of unparalleled magnificence. No wonder the route's been designated an "All-American Road!"

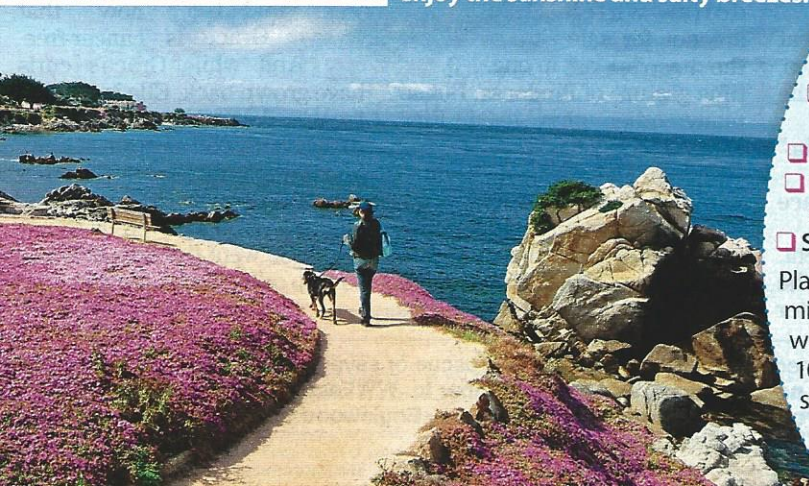
Armchair traveler

**Perfect for potlucks: Guacamole
Potato Salad from Monterey!**

Shake up your potato salad routine! Swapping delicious California avocados for mayo in this classic summer dish adds heart-healthy benefits and melt-in-your-mouth flavor.

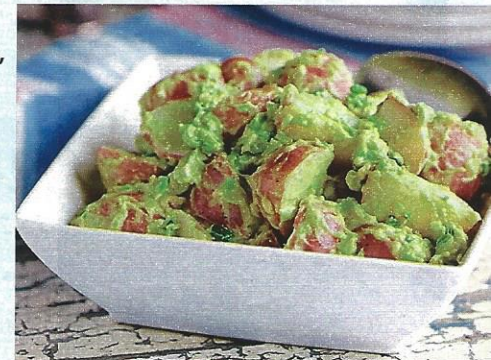
COASTAL RECREATION TRAIL

Stretching for 29 miles along the edge of Monterey Bay, this easy-to-walk trail is a great place to catch some million-dollar views. Relax on a trailside bench and enjoy the sunshine and salty breezes!



- 2 lbs. small red potatoes
- 2 ripe California avocados, pitted, peeled, mashed
- 2 scallions, white parts only, chopped
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 1 large serrano pepper, seeded, minced
- Salt, to taste

Place potatoes in large microwave-safe bowl; cover with water. Microwave on High 10 minutes or until tender. Drain; refrigerate until cold. Cut into bite-sized pieces; place in large serving bowl. Add remaining ingredients, seasoning to taste with salt. Serves 8.



Recipe courtesy of the California Avocado Commission. Photos: Huber/Sime/eStock Photo; Richard T. Nowitz/Corbis; Alan Copson/Corbis; Shutterstock: SuperStock; Blaine Harrington III/