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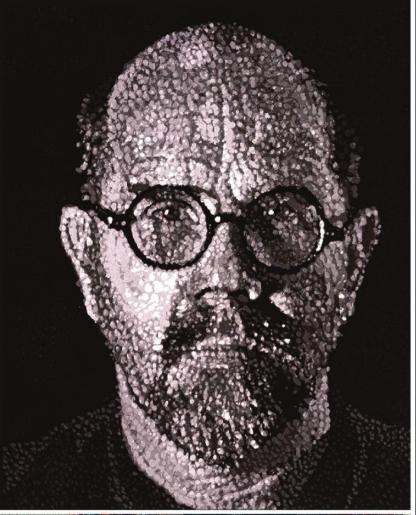
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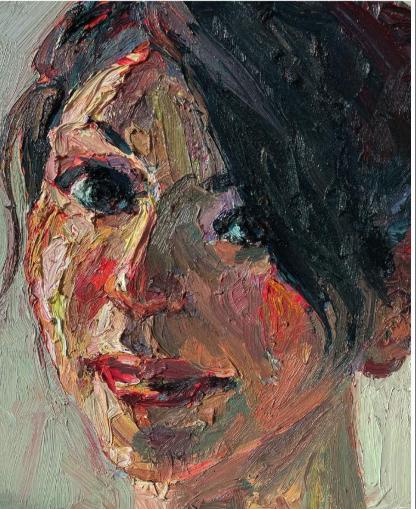
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ON THE COVER Along 17-Mile Drive near Seal Rock Creek Beach. Photograph by

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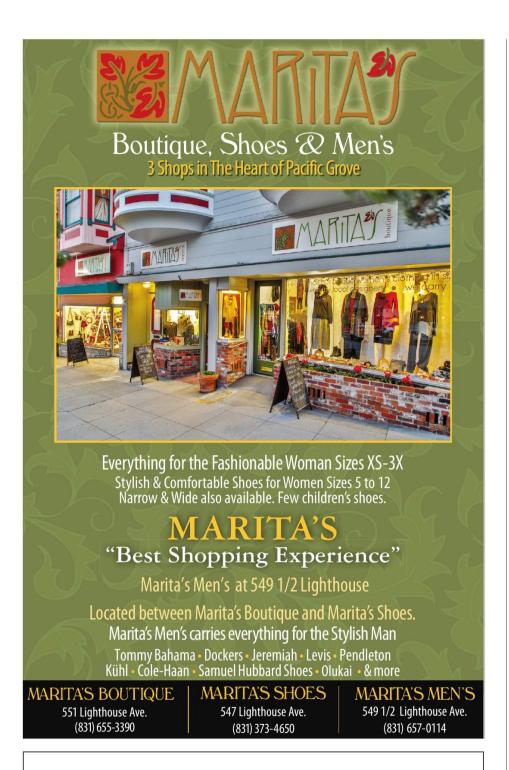
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GuestLife. MONTEREY BAY

◆ THE PENINSULA'S PRESTIGE MAGAZINE ◆

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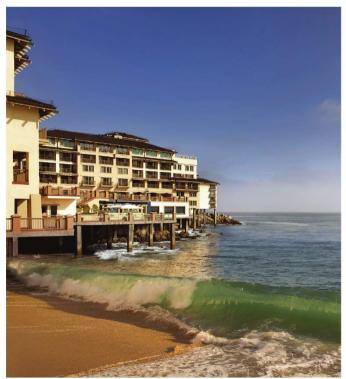
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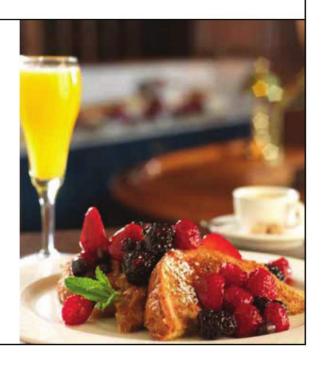
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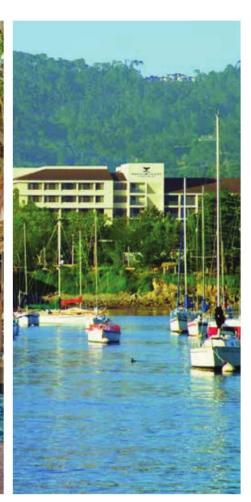
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HAPPY 250, MONTEREY

The first glints of gold come from over the Coast Range, illuminating emerald forest and grassland as they sweep to the water's edge and the cottony wisps of marine layer over Monterey Bay. Imagine marveling at this spectacular

coastline 250 years ago, when the only people who had gazed upon this stretch of land were native Rumsien Ohlone communities and Spanish explorers.

Here, on June 3, 1770, in the shade of a California live oak tree, Monterey was established as a Spanish settlement. It was the capital of Alta California under Spanish and Mexican rule, and it was in Monterey at Colton Hall where the state of California was born with the

signing of the state's first constitution in 1849.

Since then, the Monterey region has branched out, grown up, and stayed a special place in the hearts of many. It's where my parents honeymooned and my family has lived and vacationed.

As a child, I spent an abundance of hours at Asilomar Beach and Dennis the Menace Playground, wondered at the fall arrival of monarch butterflies to Pacific Grove, and pet countless dogs in Carmel-by-the-Sea. As an adult, I still pay attention to the dogs and butterflies, spend as much time out on the water as possible, and make room in my schedule for the region's wineries. And no matteryour interest, there's something for you

in the Monterey Bayarea. It's where people have been lured to enjoy music, art, theater, sport, leisure, and that wild landscape at the edge of the continent where the sun finally sets over the vast Pacific Ocean.

There are plenty of ways to get to know the region in this edition of GuestLife Monterey Bay, from outdoor experiences like hiking alone and with your furry best friend, to picnicking and discovering the sights along the Coastal Recreation Trail, to golfing and finding the most extreme adventures to get your adrenaline pumping. Find your favorite film locations from Big Little Lies, learn about wine or humpback whales, get

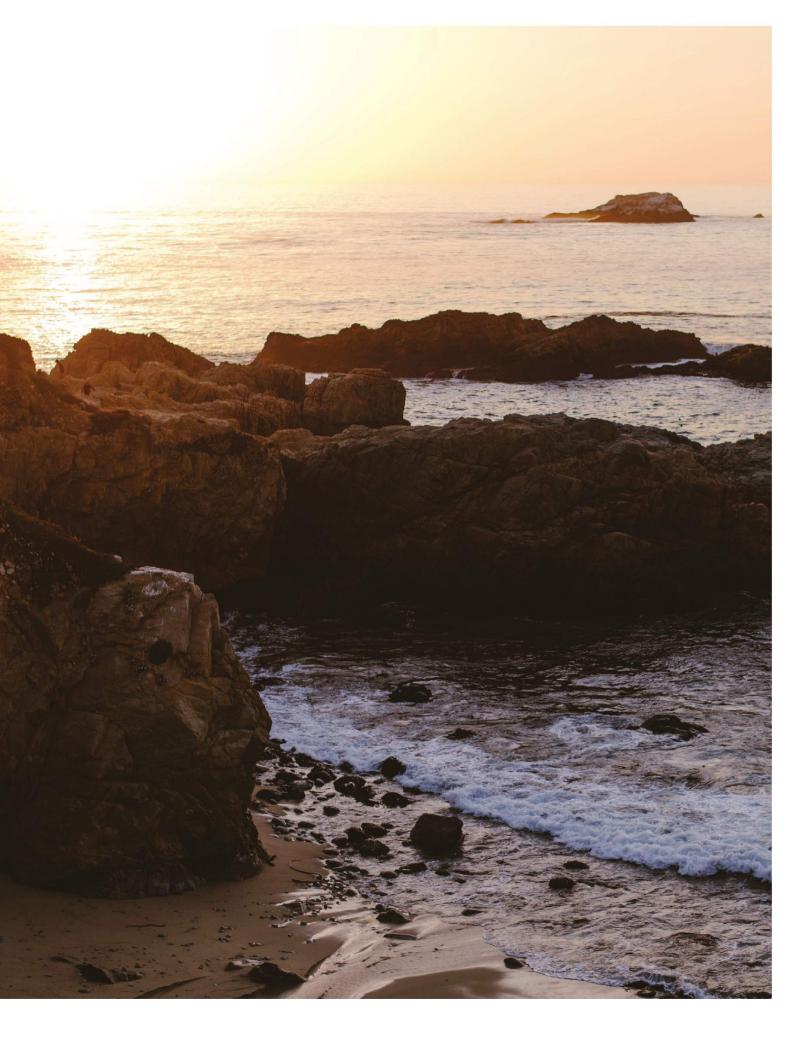
the best coffee in the area, or discover the restaurants and dishes that have a rich sense of place. Gettips from local tastemakers, as well as their favorite places and times to visit. And seek out the semi-precious treasure of Big Sur, beyond its breathtaking landscape.

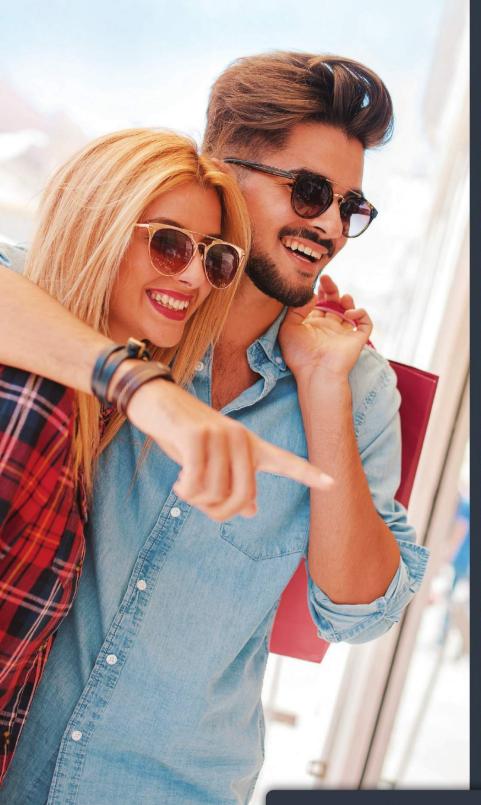
Our feature stories cover Monterey's 250th anniversary, the importance of the Pacific Ocean to the region, Jeannette Tuitle-Lewis' leadership of the Big Sur Land Trust and how it helps keep Big Sur unspoiled with its mission of preserving open space, and sculptor Steven Whyte's skill at depicting history in bronze.

Take your time to enjoy the wealth of Monterey Bay. Here's to another 250 years.

- Jill K. Robinson













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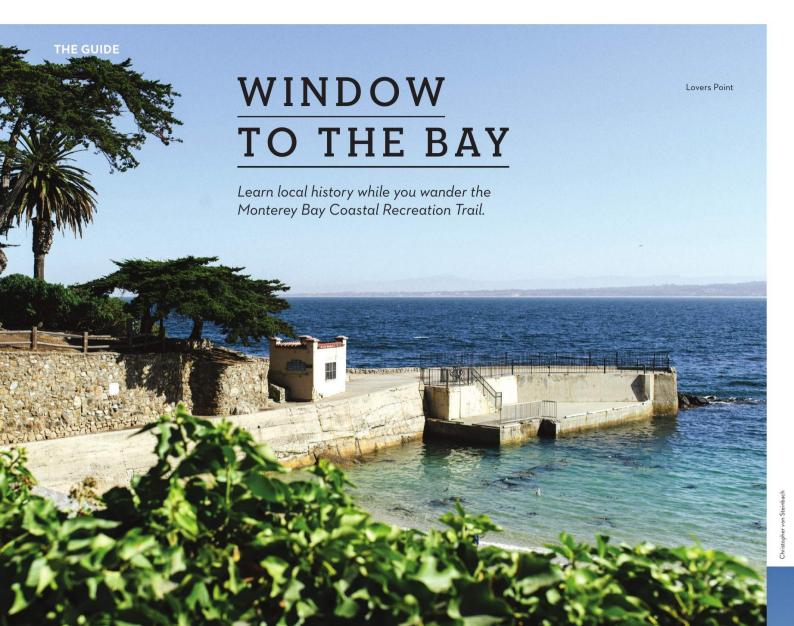
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THE GUIDE

Where to Eat, Drink, Play, and Explore in Monterey Bay

to stock up for a perfect picnic on the peninsula.



A rails-to-trails triumph, the Monterey Bay Coastal Recreation Trail runs for 18 miles — from Pacific Grove north to Castroville — following the former Southern Pacific Railroad line. Start your journey on foot or bike at Lovers Point in Pacific Grove, where the seascape meets the rocky shore and inspires visitors from around the world.

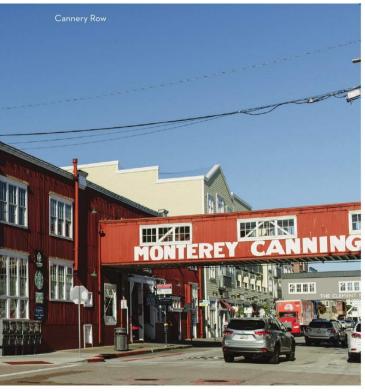
The trail enters Monterey and weaves between the historic buildings of Cannery Row. At Bruce Ariss Way, linger to view housing for Filipino, Japanese, and Spanish cannery laborers.

From men waiting for the morning's fishing boats to workers taking a music break to daily life along the canneries and railroad tracks, murals along the trail depict scenes from Cannery Row's industrial era.

As you leave Cannery Row and approach Old Fisherman's Wharf, a mural depicts the untouched landscape with a large California live oak first described in 1602 by the explorer Sebastián Vizcaíno (the tree lived until 1904). — Jill K. Robinson















ATTITUDE ADJUSTMENTS

Match your mood to these hikes, whether you want to soothe or sweat.

Monterey County is a hiker's paradise, with a head-spinning array of trails showing off stunning landscapes: scalloped beaches, coastal bluffs, and redwood groves, just to name a few. With so much to choose from, it can be hard to narrow it down. These hikes will suit your state of mind. — Blane Bachelor

AMBITIOUS

Ollason Peak, Toro Regional Park

You'll earn your views on this quad-busting, 8.3-mile loop to 1,800-foot Ollason Peak. Be prepared for some seriously steep sections (and likely some interactions with cows). Watch out for mountain bikers barreling downhill. There's a picnic table at the top to catch your breath and savor the expansive views of Salinas Valley.





LAZY

Skyline Trail, Jacks Peak Park

When you don't have the energy for a hardcore hike but still want to get outside, this 0.8-mile loop is just the spot. Amble through native Monterey pine and wildflowers, such as California poppy and Indian paintbrush, on your way to the 1,068-foot summit of Jacks Peak, where spectacular views of Monterey Bay unfold. Not bad for less than a mile of hiking.

REFLECTIVE

Andrew Molera Loop. Andrew Molera State Park

Ocean vistas and the steady crash of waves are universally soothing, and they take center stage on this 8.8-mile loop that links several trails, including the Bluffs, Panorama, and Ridge. Along the way, you'll soak up gorgeous views of the Big Sur lighthouse and the coast. Several spurs lead to remote beaches where you just might be the only one there.

SOCIAL

Point Lobos Loop Trail, Point Lobos State Nature Reserve

This 6.7-mile loop is one of the area's most beautiful trails, which means it's also one of the most popular, so you won't have it to yourself. Instead, embrace the spirit of sharing and grab your favorite hiking buddies to marvel over the majesty of this coastal beauty - from the eye-popping canvas of wildflowers to sea lions frolicking in the Pacific.







LISA MALDONADO BRADFORD California State Parks interpreter

Best season to visit? "The fall. From late August to late October, you get cool mornings and evenings and lovely, mid-70s days that tend to be clear and free of the gray marine layer.'

> Clockwise: Views of Point Lobos Loop Trail



ANATOMY OF A HUMPBACK

The superstars stand out among the crowd of whales that call Monterey Bay home.

FLUKE

In Monterey Bay, humpbacks often feed closer to shore, making it easy to spot those recognizable spouts from beaches, cliffs, and the decks at the Monterey Bay Aquarium. Like a fingerprint, the underside of every humpback's tail, or flukes, are unique. Oneof-a-kind, white markings are used to identify and track them.

DORSAL FIN

Nancy Black, a marine biologist and owner of Monterey Bay Whale Watch, says the creatures are easy to identify by their "dark color, small rounded dorsal fin, and distinct hump as they arch their back while diving."

PECTORAL FINS

About the size of a school bus, humpbacks have long pectoral fins, or flippers, which stretch a third of their body length.

MOUTH '

Monterey Bay is teeming with a variety of wildlife throughout the year, but humpback whales are especially fond of our nutrient-rich water, and generally make themselves at home from March to December.

BLOWHOLE

Blowholes allow whales to breathe at the surface of the water.

TEETH

Instead of teeth, they have baleen playes made of keratin (like fingernails) that help filter krill and small fish from large gulps of water.

VENTRAL PLEATS

The grooves on their chin and throat, called ventral pleats, allow their mouth to enlarge when feeding.

WHALE WATCHING TIPS

- Dress in layers, It's often colder on the water. Wear sensible shoes.
- \bullet Wear sunscreen. Sunglasses will help with glare from the water.
- Binoculars can help spot whales in the distance. Bring a camera with a strap.

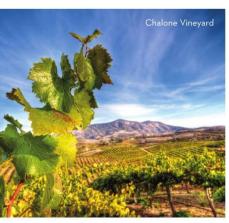
A WHALE OF A TIME

Missed the humpbacks? Don't worry. There are other amazing whales to see

- Orcas can be spotted year-round in Monterey Bay.
- Blue, fin, and minke whales show up during summer and fall.
- California gray whales pop up in the winter and spring.







1771

Year Franciscan friars, at the Spanish missions of Soledad and San Antonio, planted the first crop of Spanish Mission grapes

9

Smaller American Viticultural Areas (AVA) located within Monterey County

46,000

Acres of planted vineyards

349

Total vineyards in Monterey County

53

Different varietals used in local wine production

72

Bonded wineries in Monterey County

67

Tasting rooms to visit

9

Percentage that Monterey County represents in the state's total wine grape cultivation

1919

Year commercial wine production began in Monterey County, at Chalone Vineyard

4

Past consecutive Pinot Noir vintages that have rated highest of all California Pinot Noir regions (according to Wine Spectator)

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Brewing everything from espresso tonics to lavender lattes, start (or end) your day with a cup of joe from these creative coffee shops.

Whether it's a morning ritual, an afternoon caffeine kick, or a warm-up when the fog rolls in, coffee is not only a daily essential, it's also an experience in Monterey County, where these new favorites bring their A-game to each cuppa. — Kimberley Lovato

- Located in Seaside, urban edge and an onsite recording studio (open to all who dare) at Counterpoint Coffee make it a worthy destination. But the real show starts at the coffee bar, where a cast of talented baristas shake, blend, and pour to please the caffeine-driven clientele. The effervescent espresso tonics are a signature crowd pleaser. Nibble on pastries, cheese, and charcuterie or drop in for a sip of Monterey beer or biodynamic wines, including two on tap. 565 Broadway Ave., Seaside; facebook.com/counterpointcoffee
- The oh-so-Instagrammable **Captain + Stoker** gets its name from the positions on a tandem bike, and the décor follows suit with two-wheelers dangling from the ceiling. The airy space was once a German

- sausage shop, and the roll-up garage doors invite indoor-outdoor lingering and the wafting scent of heating beans from the 2.5-ton roaster. The single-origin coffee, espresso, iced mocha, and exceptional latte art don't disappoint. There are also café bites, including vegan options and an oft-lauded avocado toast, which you can eat at the community table. 398 E Franklin St., Monterey; captain and stoker.com
- Tucked inside the 2.5-acre historic Cooper Molera Adobe, the site of Monterey's settling, the cozy Alta Bakery & Café has some of the best fromscratch pastries and baked goods around, thanks to culinary director and pastry chef Ben Spungin. But for coffee and tea lovers, it's the changing monthly concoctions that lure you back. A lemon-poppyseed latte, lavender latte, and watermelon mint matcha recently made an appearance. Traditionalists, don't worry. Beloved drips, espressos, and Americanos are available to enjoy on an outdoor patio overlooking some of Monterey's most historic buildings. 502 Munras Ave., Monterey; altamonterey.com







BIG LITTLE LAND

Step into the scene at these local sites featured in the HBO series Big Little Lies.

The wind-swept beaches, rugged coastline, and moody landscapes of the Monterey Peninsula have as much of a starring role in the hit HBO series *Big Little Lies* as the A-list cast, which includes Reese Witherspoon, Nicole Kidman, Shailene Woodley, Zoë Kravitz, Laura Dern, and Meryl Streep. – *Blane Bachelor*

PALUCA TRATTORIA

This Italian favorite in Fisherman's Wharf is a popular spot for fans to grab a cuppa and served as the inspiration for the Blue Blues coffeeshop, where the ladies gathered throughout the first season. palucatrattoria.com



MONTEREY BAY AQUARIUM

Jane (Woodley) dives into a new job at this popular attraction in the second season, and falls for another aquarium employee. montereybayaquarium.org

LOVERS POINT PARK

The Pacific Grove park and the beach served as the backdrop for several scenes in the first season – from minor dust-ups to major drama – and returned in the second season as the location of the ladies' coffee klatch: the Blissful Drip Cafe, built on location by the production and donated to the town when filming wrapped. cityofpacificgrove.org





MONTEREY

Picnic Supplies

Compagno's Market and Deli Delicious hot and cold sandwiches and a big, quirky selection of beers and soft drinks. 2000 Prescott Ave., Monterey; compagnos.com

Picnic Spot San Carlos Beach Park

Lawns, picnic tables, and blissful views of Monterey Bay. Reeside Avenue and Cannery Row, Monterey

PACIFIC GROVE

Picnic Supplies Grove Market

Locals' fave in downtown, with to-go potpies, lasagna, and Monterey County wines. 242 Forest Ave., Pacific Grove; grovemarketgrocery.com

Picnic Spot

Lovers Point Park

Monterey cypresses and sweeping views make this the most romantic picnic spot in the world. 17th Street and Ocean View Boulevard, Pacific Grove

CARMEL AND PEBBLE BEACH

Picnic Supplies The Cheese Shop

From Cotswold to Emmentaler. there's a whole world of cheeses, plus crackers and wines in Carmel Plaza. Junipero Street, Carmel-By-The-Sea; thecheeseshopinc.com

Nielsen Brothers Market

Step beneath the greenand-white awning and head to the deli counter for tri-tip sandwiches and an enormous wine selection. 7th Avenue and San Carlos Street, Carmel-By-The-Sea; nielsenmarket.com

Picnic Spots Bird Rock

On a road rich in magnificent views, one of the best - with picnic tables, too. South of Pt. Joe, 17-Mile Drive



Carmel City Beach

Bring a blanket and picnic on the smooth white sand. Foot of Ocean Avenue, Carmel

CARMEL VALLEY

Picnic Supplies

Jerome's Carmel Valley Market Rustic-but-gourmet grocery off Carmel Valley Road with organic produce, sandwiches, and Carmel Valley wines. 2 Chambers Lane, Carmel Valley; jeromescarmelvalleymarket.com

Picnic Spot

Garland Ranch Regional Park

Cross the bridge over the burbling Carmel River and enter an idyllic world of oaks and wildflowers. Picnic on tables near the visitor center, or tuck lunch in a daypack and stroll the Lupine Loop. Carmel Valley





Whether pooches prefer sandy paws or grassy hillsides, Monterey Peninsula's dog-friendly spots are worth sniffing out. – Dana Rebmann

CARMEL BEACH

Dogs can romp off-leash at this seaside paradise. Poised pups wanting to make waves can hang 20 with a surfing lesson.

ASILOMAR STATE BEACH

Opt for the mile-long stretch of sand, the slightly shorter Asilomar Coast Trail – or both. Dogs must remain on leash at all times.

GARRAPATA STATE PARK

Near Big Sur, the beach at Garrapata State Park is open to dogs on leash. Spy nearby sea lions and otters from the sandy stretch.

GARLAND RANCH REGIONAL PARK

Specially designed water fountains help dogs (and humans) stay hydrated at this Carmel Valley hiking spot. Off-leash pups must be kept nearby, under voice control.

FORT ORD NATIONAL MONUMENT

The more than 86 miles of trails running through this former military base vary from easy to difficult, and are open to leashed dogs.







MUST-TASTE DELIGHTS

With the abundant Pacific Ocean within striking distance, mealtime is the best time in Monterey County.



Oysters

Salt Wood Kitchen and Oysterette delivers fresh organic coastal cuisine and seafood, including a steady rotation of the area's best in-season shuckers. saltwoodkitchenoysterette.com

Catch of the Day

The name of Wild Fish says it all. The restaurant specializes in seasonal fresh catch, such as petrale sole and rock cod. wild-fish.com

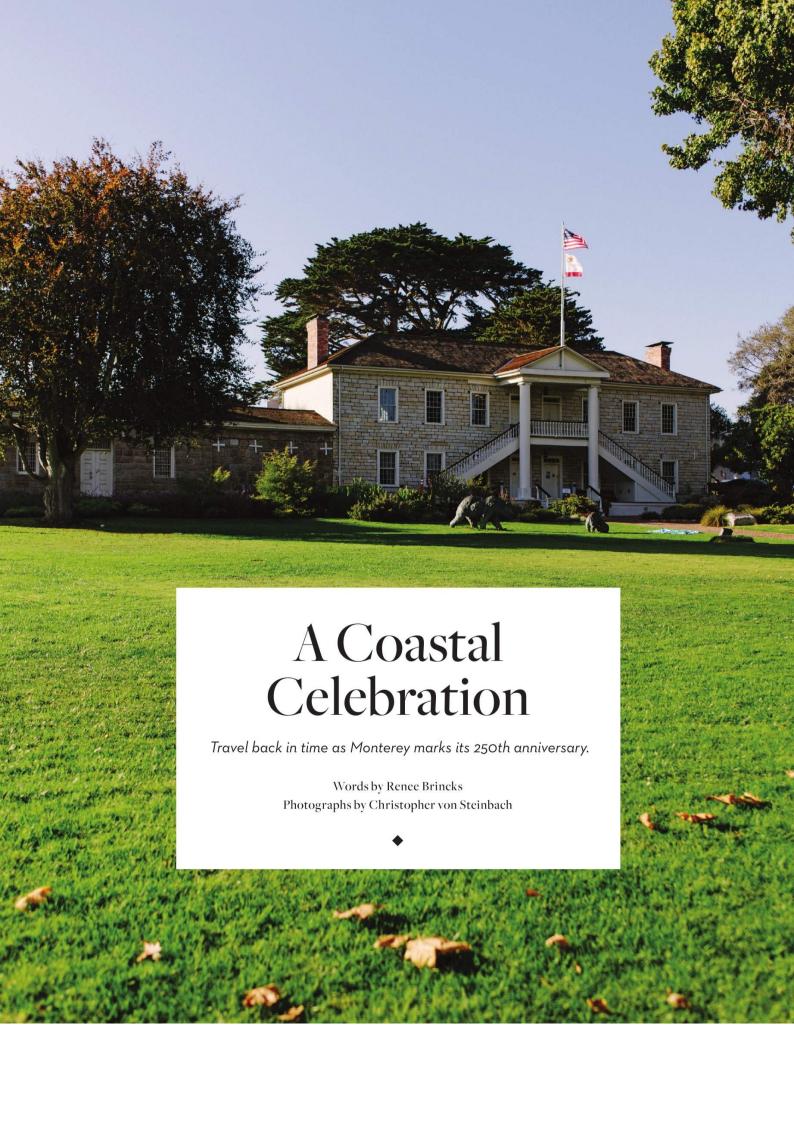
Calamari

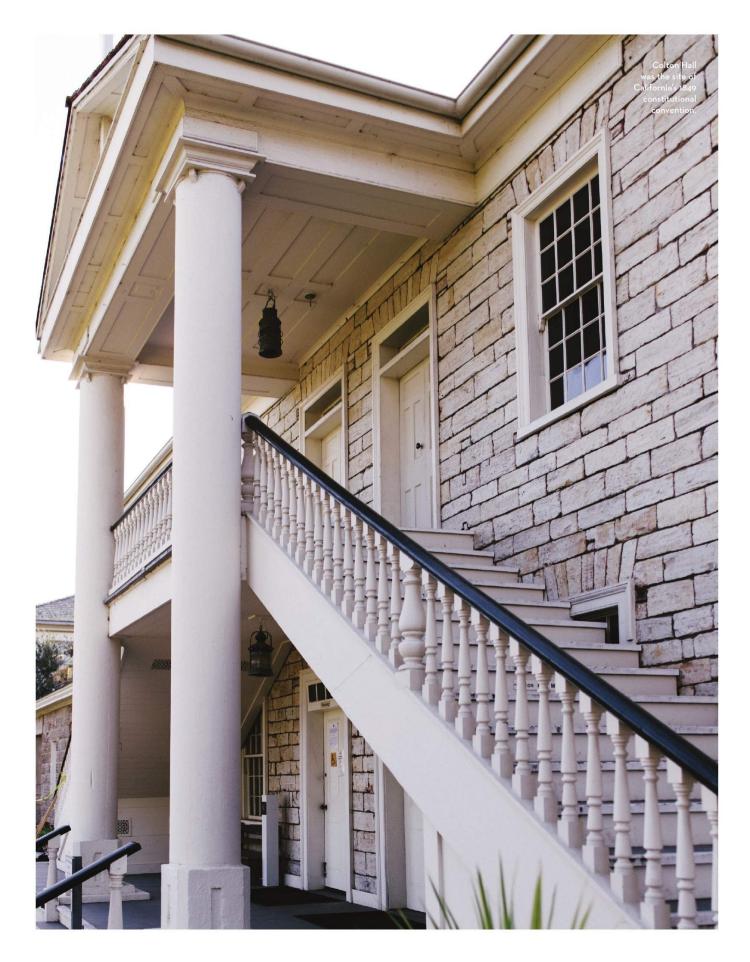
When in the "Calamari Capital of the World," head to Jacks Monterey where a tempurabattered version with white miso aïoli and chill-lime vinaigrette twists the classic. portolahotel.com

Abalone

Known more for its pearlescent inside shell than its edible meat, abalone is a local delicacy. Try it at Grasings where it's cooked doré style – browned with lemon, capers, and butter. grasings.com









Below, left and right: The Custom House is California's first state historic monument.



Six years before delegates signed the Declaration of Independence, Spanish explorers gathered under an oak tree overlooking Monterey Bay. On June 3, 1770, along the same sweep of scenic coast where native Rumsien Ohlone communities fished and foraged for food, the Europeans held a mass and claimed the land for Spain.

"That's the beginning of Monterey as we know it today," says Dennis Copeland, Monterey's museums and archives manager. "Since then, the city has always celebrated its anniversary in one way or another."

In 2020, Monterey marks its 250th anniversary with public art openings, theatrical performances, community picnics, and cultural events honoring the Rumsien people and subsequent settlers who shaped this city's grand history. Monterey served as the capital of California under Spanish and Mexican flags. Delegates later wrote the state's constitution here. California's first newspaper, theater, and public library all operated in Monterey, and many of the community's original adobes still welcome guests.

Several well-preserved adobes date back to the early 1800s, when Mexico gained independence from Spain. Monterey became a key commercial port under this new government, welcoming traders from France, Great Britain, and beyond. Merchants paid taxes at the Custom House, now a waterfront museum that explores Monterey's trading days.

"The Custom House is California's first state historic monument, and it really tells a story of transformation," Copeland says. "When the Mexican

government opened California to various foreign vessels, it made small-town Monterey more cosmopolitan. Some of those international traders and ship captains decided to stay here, and it created a true melting pot."

Commodore John Drake Sloat raised an American flag above Monterey's Custom House in 1846, claiming 600,000 square miles of land for the United States. The changeover paved the way for the California constitutional convention held in Monterey three years later.

The Custom House and Colton Hall, where delegates drew up plans for California statehood, are two highlights on Monterey's Path of History. Part of Monterey State Historic Park, the self-guided downtown walking tour spotlights 55 significant sites and buildings — from Mexican-era adobes, to a stretch of whalebone sidewalk, to the hotel where Robert Louis Stevenson wrote one of his books. Golden sidewalk plaques line the Path of History's meandering route, and California State Parks organizes guided walking tours of several featured



Right and below: Built in 1847, the Pacific House is now home to museums.

buildings (dates and times vary by the season). Visit the state parks website (parks.ca.gov) for tour times, along with self-guided walking tour maps and details about a related mobile phone tour.

The Path of History maps are also located at the Pacific House, a two-story adobe set steps away from the Custom House. This 1847 structure illustrates the engaging, and often surprising, histories of some of Monterey's most noteworthy sites. Originally built as a home for a local businessman, the Pacific House has since served as a hotel for sailors, a courtroom, a church, a ballroom, a newspaper office, and a law agency.

Today, first- and second-floor museums showcase indigenous artwork and articles from Monterey's Spanish and Mexican past. The adjacent Memory Garden, which once accommodated rowdy bullfights and bear fights, is now a fountain- and flower-filled refuge.

Two blocks away, the Old Whaling Station also started out as an adobe home. The Old Monterey Whaling Company moved its headquarters and employee housing into the building in 1855. These days, the Old Whaling Station opens mainly for special events. Outside, however, you'll find delicate, diamond-shaped sidewalk tiles crafted from whale vertebrae and set in place during the region's 19th-century whale-hunting heyday. Next door, displays in the First Brick House document Monterey history and architecture.











Above and below: John Steinbeck started writing The Pearl while living in the Lara-Soto Adobe in 1944.

Follow Pacific Street past Casa Serrano, an 1843 adobe that housed one of California's first schools, and turn right to reach the Lara-Soto Adobe. Currently part of the Middlebury Institute of International Studies at Monterey, this small Pierce Street building played an important role in literary history. Salinas-born novelist John Steinbeck bought the property in 1944. Though he stayed for less than a year with his wife and their young son, Steinbeck started writing *The Pearl* while living in the home.

Colton Hall occupies much of the next block. Like many of its early Monterey neighbors, the stately stone structure has a diverse past: It has held the county courthouse, the city police headquarters, a public school, and a hospital. Perhaps best known as the site of California's 1849 constitutional convention, the building buzzed with activity for six weeks as 48 delegates outlined the articles of statehood.

"The constitution created in Colton Hall brought together American Brits and the Californios, people of Spanish heritage who were born here, to became part of this new country. The document itself was bilingual — English and Spanish. The delegates made California a free state. They also gave women the right to own property, which was virtually unheard of in the United States at that time. It was a very progressive constitution," Copeland says.

During Monterey History Fest each October, a convention reenactment



Below and left: The Old Whaling Station was home to the Old Monterey Whaling Company in 1855.





takes place in the same room where representatives gathered for the convention. Throughout the year, the free Colton Hall Museum maintains exhibits that showcase those meetings, along with Golden State history and life in early Monterey.

A few blocks over, the 1830s-era Stevenson House once operated as The French Hotel. Its most famous guest, the author Robert Louis Stevenson, checked in for a few months in late 1879. In addition to romancing Fanny Osbourne, the woman he later married, Stevenson penned *The Old Pacific Capital* while based in the downtown adobe. A collection of his books and personal belongings headline current Stevenson House displays.

As Monterey commemorates its 250th anniversary, the city is also celebrating the renewal of a major Path of History destination. Anchoring one end of Alvarado Street since the 1820s, the 2.5-acre Cooper-Molera Adobe complex is a throwback to Monterey's early Mexican port city days. Three generations of the Cooper and Molera families occupied the campus, which includes two original adobe homes, an adobe warehouse, a corner store, and wooden barns surrounded by a rustic wall.

A recent National Trust for Historic Preservation-led renovation restored the campus' Cooper and Diaz adobes and refreshed exhibits in the two museum spaces. Crews rebuilt the surrounding gardens, now bright with native plants and flowers. The refurbished Cooper-Molera store houses Alta, a chic bakery

with house-made pastries, breads, and lunch items. Chef Ben Spungin worked at Post Ranch Inn in Big Sur and Carmel Valley's Bernardus Lodge before opening the popular cafe.

This year, the property's former warehouse will reopen as Cella, a restaurant with garden seating and a menu that features local ingredients.

"Cooper-Molera is a good example of adaptive reuse in a historic site," Copeland says. "It's home to an intriguing blend of history and heritage, local foods, and some major events and celebrations."

While major events that celebrate Monterey's own anniversary will end in late 2020, cultural leaders are planning Path of History updates that include new signage and an expanded route featuring additional structures. It's all part of a continued effort to honor and highlight the city's past for present-day audiences.

"It's quite a tapestry that we can share with people here," Copeland says, "in terms of both the absolute beauty of this place and Monterey's rich heritage."

MONTEREY

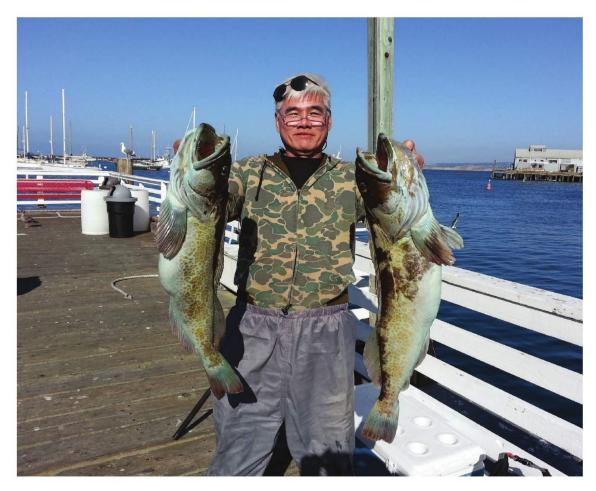
Heed the call of the waves and venture beyond the beach

BAY

WORDS BY JILL K. ROBINSON

H20





Lingcod caught at Old Fisherman's Wharf. Opposite: Students at Carmel Surf Lessons.

Stand on any beach or bluff in Monterey Bay and look out across the water to the vast Pacific Ocean. The seascape here is an essential part of the culture and has inspired art, poetry, stories, songs, and films. It influences the weather, romance, local wine, and what shows up on the dinner table. One of the best places to become intimately familiar with its importance is out there among the liquid swell.

Monterey Bay falls within the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary, a federally protected marine area off California's central coast. At a shoreline length of 276 miles, extending an average distance of 30 miles offshore, and 12,713 feet deep at its deepest point — it's one of our nation's largest marine sanctuaries, even larger than Yellowstone National Park.

You don't need to dive in that deep to enjoy the wealth of Monterey's water-based activities, and regardless of where you fall on the adventure spectrum, there are plenty of options that match your definition of adventure.

FISHING

Whether you're fishing from shore, a pier, or on a charter fishing trip, the year-round diversity of fish makes Monterey Bay full of adventure. With companies that charter daily fishing trips from Old Fisherman's Wharf, a day on the water can be as easy as showing up on time and buying your ticket. Depending on the season, fisherfolks may catch rockfish, lingcod, halibut, salmon, Dungeness crab, or sand dabs. Head out with outfitters like **J&M Sport Fishing** or **Chris'**

Fishing Trips, and the pros on board can walk you through the best practices for being a successful angler. A handful of state parks and beaches in Monterey Bay allow saltwater fishing, and both sandy and rocky beaches are ideal for catching different types of fish. Don't forget to get a license, unless you're fishing from a public pier or public wharf, which doesn't require one.

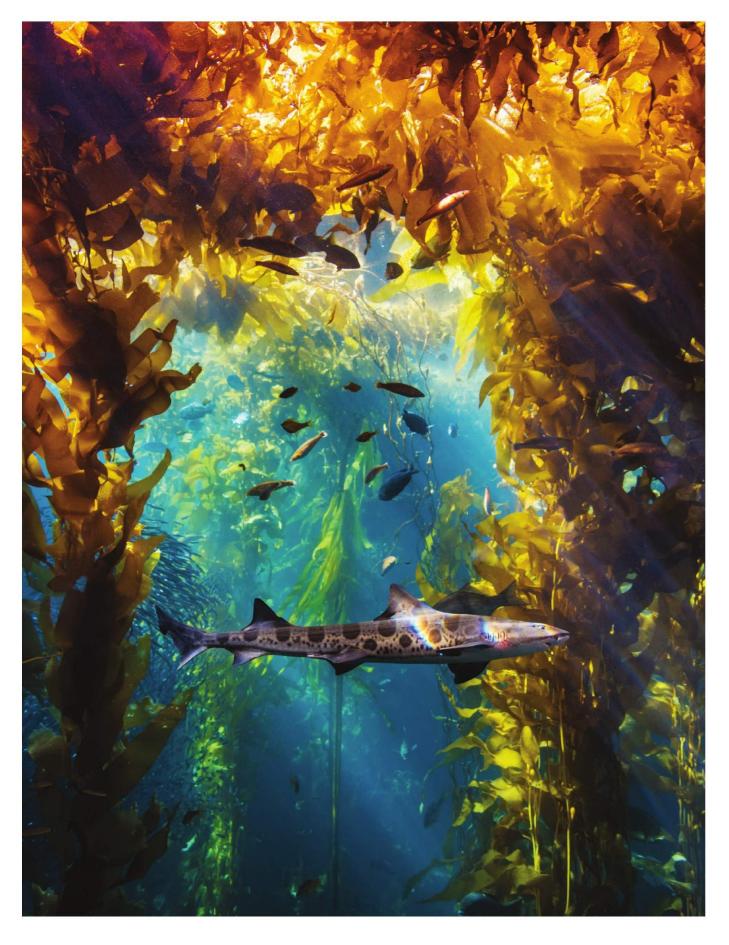
SURFING

California takes its surf culture seriously, but having fun is always the first goal for the sport. If you're a newbie, consider taking a class like those offered by Monterey Bay Surf Lessons and Carmel Surf Lessons, where you'll get the scoop on necessary techniques. If you're an experienced surfer and want to head out on your own, get rental gear and local lore at On the Beach Surf Shop, where surfers on staff can also help you determine the right break for you. The shallow waters near Del Monte Beach are sweet for beginner shortboarders, advanced riders flock to spots from Lovers Point to Big Sur, and Asilomar

YOU DON'T NEED TO DIVE IN THAT DEEP TO ENJOY THE WEALTH OF MONTEREY'S WATER-BASED ACTIVITIES.









Opposite: Monterey Bay Aquarium's Kelp Forest exhibit. Left: Stand-up paddle boarders at McAbee Beach on Cannery Row. Right: A group from Breakwater Scuba at San Carlos Beach.



State Beach and Carmel Beach are best when waves are lower than waist high (and less likely to have powerful riptides). No need to be aggro in the lineup — there are enough waves for everyone.

KAYAKING AND PADDLE BOARDING

When it comes to the best ways to be close to the water, spy wildlife, and get a little exercise, kayaking and stand-up paddling (SUP) always come out on top. If you're lucky, you may see harbor seals, sealions, and sea otters, as well as brown pelicans, cormorants, jellies, and sea stars. Outfitters like **Monterey Bay Kayaks** and **Adventures by the Sea** let you choose whether you want to go it alone with rental gear, or get a tour with guides leading the way who share insights on the area and its marine life. Available classes help newbies learn the ropes, but aren't necessary unless you prefer to take your time ramping up, or want to eventually venture out into more challenging conditions. When you're out on the water, gaze down into the kelp forest to get a sense of the tranquility below.

SAILING

Imagine a sunset sail where you spy whale spouts while the golden light falls on the Monterey coastline. For many, the romance of the sea is all about sailing, especially when you can pick a destination that's as beautiful as Monterey Bay. The fastest path to getting out on the water is with companies like Sail Monterey, known for its popular sunset cruises complete with snacks, wine, and cozy blankets for breezy, cool nights. Daytime two-hour voyages explore the bay in search of spectacular views and fascinating marine life. And a private cruise for a small group is perfect for families or your closest friends. Monterey

Sailing & Boat Charters is another outfitter that offers private sailing charters of two to four hours that range from Cannery Row to Lovers Point, and farther out to Carmel and where the bay meets the Pacific Ocean.

DIVING

There always seem to be crowds around the windows of the Kelp Forest exhibit at the Monterey Bay Aquarium, all mesmerized by the towering strands of kelp reaching into the sunlight. Monterey Bay beckons to divers from around the world to experience this feeling from below the surface, complete with the possibility of getting close to anemones, nudibranchs, wolfeels, harbor seals, and sea lions in their element — without glass between you. Dive shops like Breakwater Scuba, Bamboo Reef Dive Center, Aquarius Dive Shop, and Dive to Survive Scuba offer tours from San Carlos Beach to Point Lobos, as well as courses to get started or improve your existing skills. If you're traveling with dive buddies and want to explore on your own, all four shops also stock rental gear and plenty of advice. Once you've gone beneath the waves, you'll wonder what you're missing when you're on the surface.

At the Big Sur Land Trust, Jeannette Tuitele-Lewis helps protect the most beautiful coast in the world.

ig Sur is an incredibly iconic region," Jeannette Tuitele-Lewis says. "Amazing and beautiful. We're so lucky here."

Anybody who has experienced $Big\,Sur\,will\,agree.\,Stretching\,south\,from\,Monterey$ for more than 70 miles, Big Sur's cliffs and coves $and\, crashing\, waves, its\, wildflower-dotted\, hillsides$ and redwood canyons combine to create the most beautiful coastline in the world.

As CEO and president of the Big Sur Land Trust, Tuitele-Lewis has helped to keep Big Sur unspoiled. Since its founding in 1978, the trust has saved 40,000 acres of Big Sur from the overdevelopment that has marred other popular coasts, from Miami Beach to Waikiki.

"We're a nonprofit conservation organization," Tuitele-Lewis says in in her office in Monterey's historic Gabriel de la Torre Adobe. "We work Words by Peter Fish





"I'VE ALWAYS BEEN INTERESTED IN THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN PEOPLE AND THEIR ENVIRONMENT."

- JEANNETTE TUITELE-LEWIS





Above: Jeannette Tuitele-Lewis, president and CEO of Big Sur Land Trust.

to conserve land for open space, for wildlife habitat, to maintain working landscapes like farming and ranching." To do that, the trust buys private lands (from willing sellers) then transfers them to state, regional park, or other agencies so the public can enjoy them.

"We work quietly in the background," Tuitele-Lewis explains. "People sort of know what we do, but they don't always have the full sense." There's ample evidence of the trust's work — swaths of coast and mountains that remain undeveloped — along Highway 1 through Big Sur.

One of the trust's biggest successes is open to the public now. The Lobos-Corona Parklands project, the largest conservation effort in Monterey County history, takes in 10,000 acres that extend from the Carmel River south into the rugged Santa Lucia Mountains. Working with other agencies, including the Monterey Peninsula Regional Park District, the trust helped acquire these ecologically rich acres and is now in the process of opening much of them to the public. Almost half the land has been set aside as Palo Corona Regional Park (pictured on previous page). Trail access from Carmel Valley opened last year, and additional access is expected to open this year.

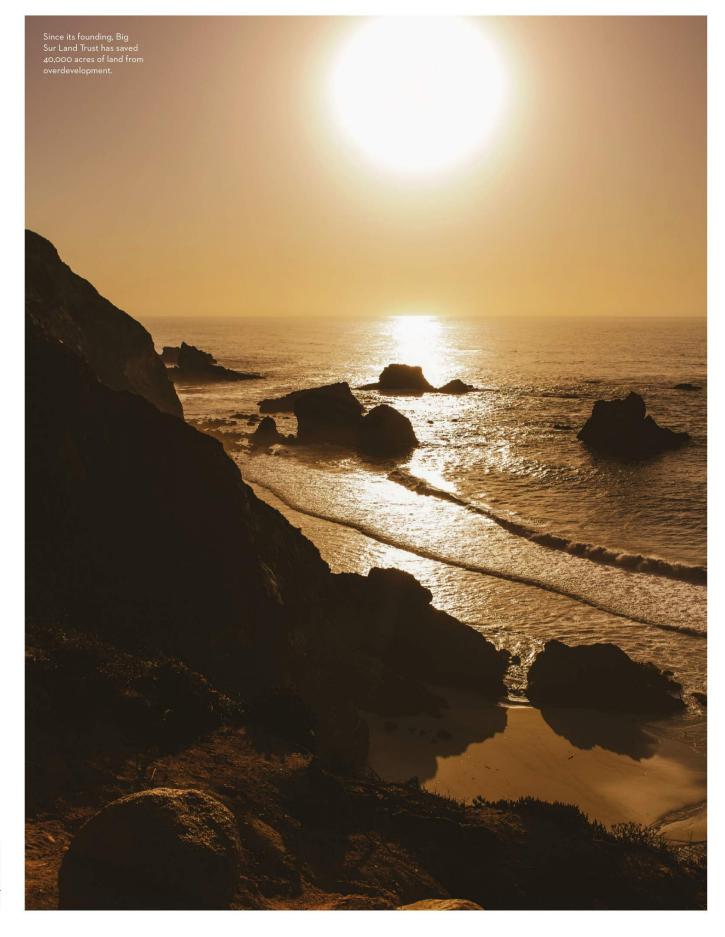
The trust's environmental mission extends beyond preserving open space. Tuitele-Lewis, who became the CEO and president in 2014, is especially proud of their educational programs. "We have three-day camp experiences where youth get out into nature," she says. "This year, we had 150 students." All the children are from Monterey County, she explains, but many haven't had opportunities to explore their own natural backyard. "We want kids to realize their connection with nature. Because you only protect

what you love."

That's a lesson Tuitele-Lewis drew from her own life. With a father in the Navy, she "grew up all over," she says. She spent her early childhood in Guam. She recalls, "I spent my days searching for shells on the beach." Her family moved to Northern California, but she returned to island life when she attended the University of Hawaii, earning a degree in botany. She then spent time in American Samoa, where her father was from, studying ethnobotany and working with traditional healers. "I've always been interested in the relationship between people and their environment."

Tuitele-Lewis learned about land trusts when earning a master's in forest science at Oregon State University. "I had been doing a lot of technical scientific work," she remembers. "I missed the people aspect of the work. For me, that is where I feel I am at my best, when I'm able to make the connection between land and people and tell the story." She adds, "The outdoors was where I could feel I could be myself. The land saved me. And now I get to save the land."

For more information, visit $\emph{bigsurlandtrust.org}.$







MONUMENTAL **TALENT**

Sculptor Steven Whyte receives awards (and hate mail) for depicting history in bronze.

WORDS BY TOVIN LAPAN PHOTOGRAPHS BY CHRISTOPHER VON STEINBACH



In the classroom, Steven Whyte could barely see the board or get through reading without muddling the words. The Carmel-by-the-Sea-based sculptor is shortsighted and severely dyslexic, something he easily admits now but never confessed to teachers as he scuffled through grade school in England.

"Plus, my parents were in the air force, so we were moving every two or three years," he says. "The only class that stayed with me was art. It's up close, no reading. It was something I could get the right kind of attention for."

In his last year before college, he took a ceramics class and it was "love at first touch." His academic roadblocks crumbled away as his eye for detail shined.

Whyte became the first undergraduate accepted to the prestigious Sir Henry Doulton School of Sculpture. He focused on the human form, and his talent for capturing nuances of appearance while also evoking the character and personality of the subject soon drew attention and commissions, such as one for the Speaker of the House of Commons.

In 1999, Whyte arrived in Monterey after deciding to move across the Atlantic and touring several artist towns. "I liked the history of Carmel and particularly the weather," he says. "Every day in Carmel is like a summer's day in the U.K."

Whyte eventually landed in a studio on Cannery Row before moving his shop to Carmel in 2007. He now counts numerous public commissions and large-scale monuments among his portfolio. In 2019, he completed a bust of President Jimmy Carter for his presidential library, and he has crafted bronze versions of Clint Eastwood, Martin Luther King Jr.,

 $Abraham Lincoln, Bob Hope, and Tufts University masc ot Jumbo the elephant. \\ Some of his work lives in the Smithsonian Institute's permanent collection.$

Each piece starts with meticulous research. If Whyte can't study the actual subject, he uses similar sized models and photographs. Before adding clothing and accessories, he depicts the subjects nude. "It makes it look like a man in a suit rather than a suit with a head coming out of it," he says.

The process involves numerous steps from Whyte's studio to the foundry and back again, beginning with a clay sculpture. Next is a silicone mold of the clay, followed by a hollow wax casting of that mold. The wax is dipped in ceramic and allowed to dry multiple times before 2,200—degree molten bronze is poured inside. The ceramic cast is then blasted off, and the bronze sculpture is sent to Whyte's hand-picked metal working shop for finishing details, before the final patina is applied.

Whyte says his most complex work to date is a tribute to Texas A&M University's *War Hymn*. The final piece — a 40-foot-long chain of a dozen students with arms linked together — weighs 20,000 pounds. More recently, Whyte completed *The Column of Strength*, the San Francisco memorial to

World War II-era comfort women and a sister installation for Seoul, Korea. Whyte weathered hate mail and a campaign to kill the project, but he's still actively seeking social justice work.

"As news and news stories become even more temporary, it's important these aspects of history are remembered," he says. "Hopefully, I sculpt things that affect the emotions of the people standing there learning about it, as well as the emotions of the people who lived it."

The gallery in the heart of Carmel village is open every day but Tuesday and houses a collection of Whyte's works in addition to a display explaining the sculpting process. To get a closer look at Whyte's method, he also welcomes visitors to his studio in The Barnyard.

Below: Whyte works on a sculpture of Bing Crosby. Oppposite page: Mourning Figure.







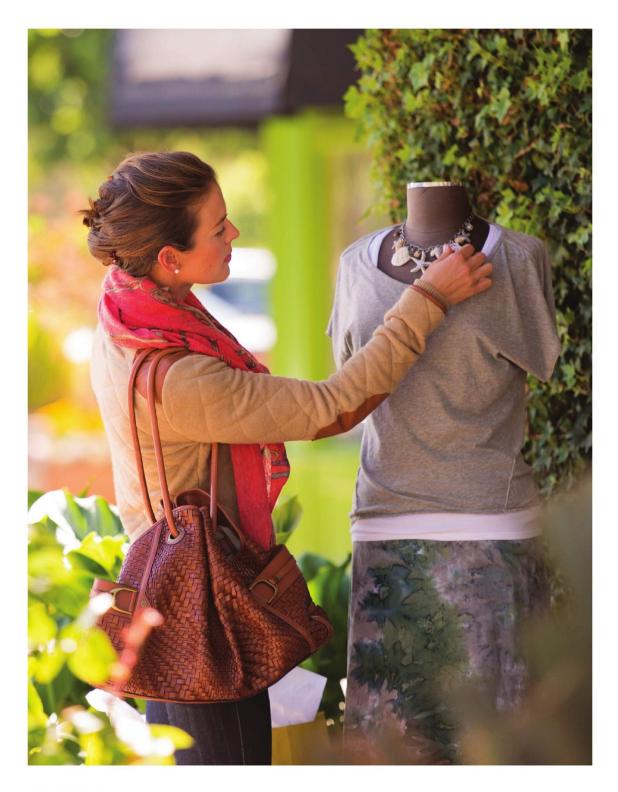
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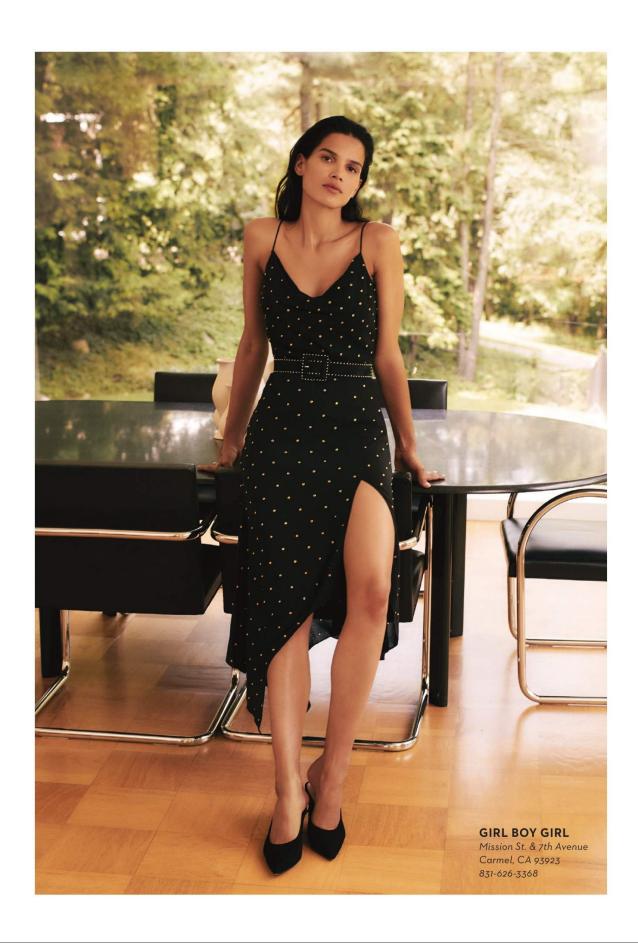
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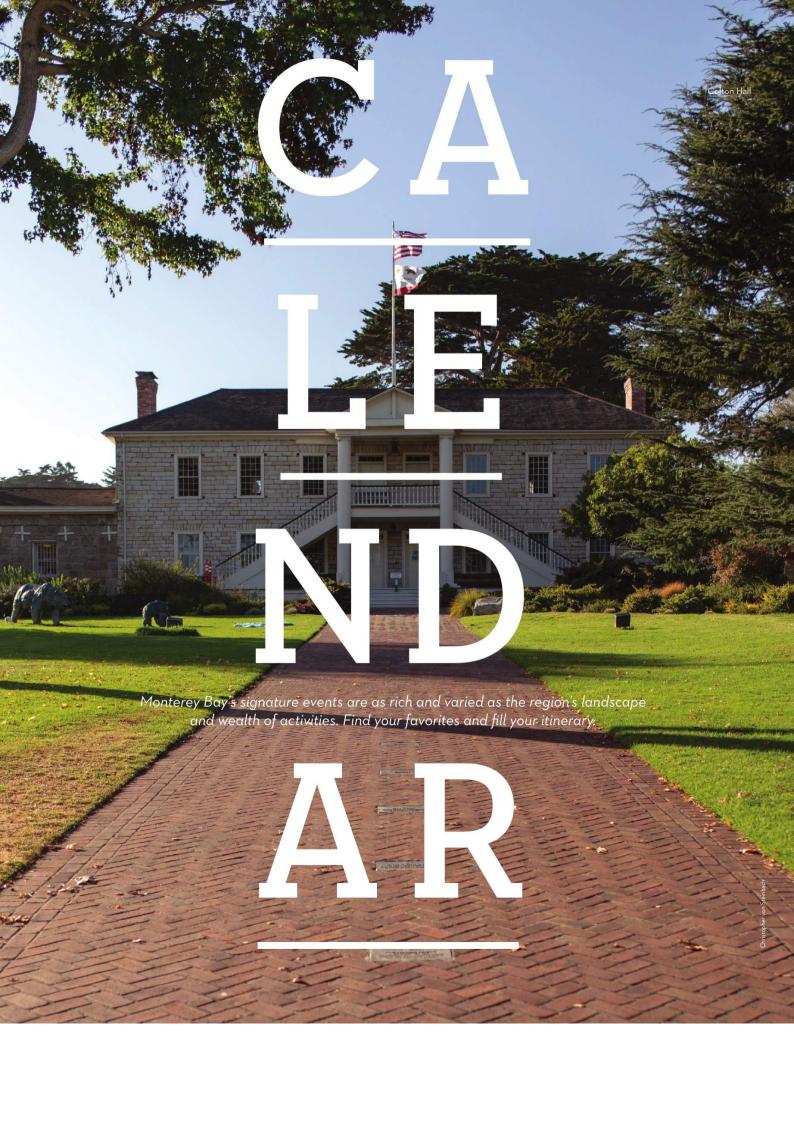
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4/26

Big Sur International Marathon bigsurmarathon.org

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5/2

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Ferrari Challenge North America races.ferrari.com

5/15-17

Carmel Art Festival carmelartfestivalcalifornia.com

5/22-24

California Roots Music & Arts Festival californiarootsfestival.com

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6/6-7

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6/13-14

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Monterey Beer Festival monterey beer festival.com

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Feast of Lanterns feast-of-lanterns.org

7/26

Moss Landing Antique Street Fair mosslandingchamber.com

7/31, 8/1-2 Steinbeck Festival steinbeck.org

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8/1-2

Scottish Games & Celtic Festival montereyscotgames.com

8/7-16

Monterey Car Week seemonterey.com

8/8

Salinas Valley Food & Wine salinasvalleyfoodandwine.com

8/13-16

Rolex Monterey Motorsports Reunion weathertechraceway.com

8/16

Pebble Beach Concours d'Elegance pebblebeachconcours.net

8/21-23

Sand City West End Celebration westendcelebration.com

SEPTEMBER

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Monterey County Fair montereycountyfair.com

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Festa Italia festaitaliamonterey.org

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Monterey Greek Festival mbgreekfestival.com

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OCTOBER

10/1

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10/3

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10/10-11

Monterey Bay Triathlon montereytri.com

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11/5-7

Big Sur Food and Wine bigsurfoodandwine.org

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11/19

Monterey Bay Half Marathon montereybayhalfmarathon.org

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12/1-

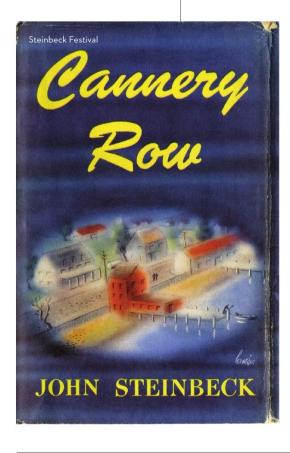
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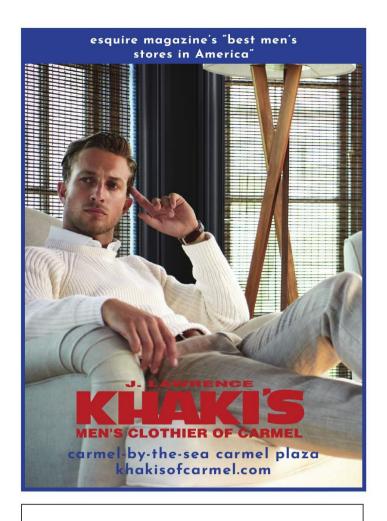
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Left: Seed Sprout in two-tone Big Sur jade. Right: Sea Unicorn in Big Sur blue jade.

SEMI-PRECIOUS BIG SUR

The wild coast holds a cache of blue-green beauty.

Big Sur's rugged beauty inspired painter Francis McComas to call it "the greatest meeting of land and water in the world." It's also home to nephrite jade, found in a concentrated deposit along parts of Big Sur's south coast. Some of the jade can be spied on land, but the greatest treasure is underwater — and there are rules about collecting it that include weight limits and the types of tools allowed.

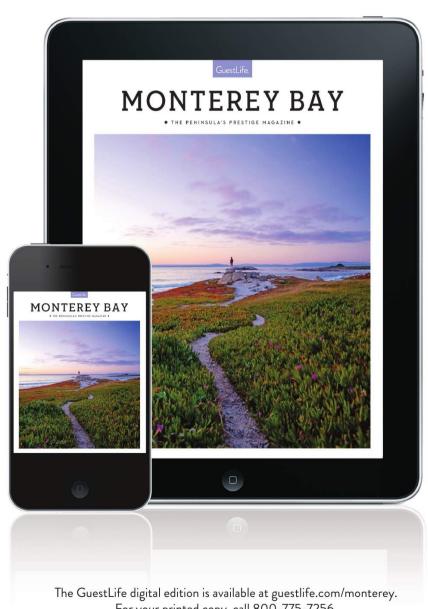
While stumbling across a jade stone on the beach is a rock hound's dream, consider a specimen carved by world-renowned artist Matthew Glasby, who creates jewelry, spectacular woven designs, and fantastical creatures that look as if they could come alive in an instant. At the annual Big Sur Jade Festival, one of the largest lapidary shows of its type in the world held each October, discover even more artists and a wealth of stones that range in size from tiny to tremendous. —Jill K. Robinson





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