

EXPERIENCE THE SPECTACULAR SONOMA COAST!

For your enjoyment, we have compiled a list of our favorite activities, destinations and adventures in and around Bodega Bay. Our Front Desk agents will be happy to provide you with additional information, direction, hours of operation and maps or make reservations for you.

FOOD & WINE

WORLD-CLASS WINE TASTING With over 200 wineries, the Russian River Valley, Alexander Valley and Dry Creek Valley are remarkable wine areas that will delight both the novice and most experienced wine enthusiast. Three of our favorite local wineries are the Freestone Vineyards, Merry Edwards Winery and Lynmar Winery. Organized trips are available through local tour companies, and we are happy to give you recommendations for self guided tours. Just down the road from us is Gourmet Au Bay, where you can enjoy a wine flight served on a mini surfboard on their deck overlooking the Bay.

AN ARTISAN AMUSEMENT PARK The Barlow in Sebastopol brings together some of the best local wine makers, food producers and artisans, creating a space that offers a synergy amongst the makers of the regions finest products, as well as a direct connection between the consumer and the makers of local products. The Barlow also features a bocce ball court, restaurants and fire pits, creating an inviting environment to share food and enjoy art, wine and time together.

CHEESE TASTING Western Sonoma County and northern Marin Country are home to some of the nation's finest cheese makers. One of our favorites is the Cowgirl Creamery in Point Reyes Station. This attractive market features superb handmade cheeses and other natural foods. We also recommend a visit to the oldest cheese factory in America, the Marin French Cheese Company in Petaluma, where you can watch Brie and Camembert being made before your eyes. Or, simply enjoy our large selection of local cheeses at the Duck Club Restaurant.

FRESH BAKED GOODS The Wild Flour Bread Company is a unique bakery in Freestone that has become a local favorite. Using a wood-fired brick oven, they produce about 12 different breads that customers may sample, but we love their scones and sticky buns. Open Friday through Monday (707-874-2938).

OYSTER FARMING Experience sustainable aquaculture at Tomales Bay Oyster Company (415-663-1422) and the Hog Island Oyster Company (415-663-9218 ext. 255) in the town of Marshall along the beautiful Tomales Bay. Both companies sell oysters to go, or you can enjoy them in their picnic areas. We recommend calling in advance to reserve a picnic table.

LOCAL DINING The award-winning Duck Club Restaurant here at the Lodge highlights local and organic Sonoma Coastal cuisine. The restaurant is well known to visitors and locals for featuring sustainable, fresh seafood-- often from our local waters. Our Drake's Fireside Lounge is a great place to enjoy a local wine, cocktail and lighter dinner fare. The restaurant also makes excellent box lunches to-go for your special picnic or road trip.

DESTINATION DINING A variety of culinary experiences with a scenic drive includes Nick's Cove on Tomales Bay (415-663-1033), Rocker Oysterfellers in Valley Ford (707-876-1983), and the River's End Restaurant in Jenner (707-865-2484).

SCENIC & LOCAL INTEREST

HITCHCOCK'S THE BIRDS Alfred Hitchcock filmed his famous movie *The Birds* in the towns of Bodega Bay and the small village of Bodega. One of the movie's most famous scenes was filmed at the Potter Schoolhouse in Bodega. The schoolhouse is now privately owned. The Country Store across the street has some memorabilia on display and offers sandwiches, soups, salads and crab macaroni and cheese.

A COUNTRY DRIVE Take a drive through the rolling hills, apple orchards, redwood groves and old farm towns of western Sonoma County. One of our favorite loops goes through the frontier communities of Sebastopol ("Gravenstein Apple Capital of the World"), Graton (the southeastern-most extent of tsarist Russian colonialism in the early 1800's), Occidental (once a stop on the narrow-gauge North Pacific Railroad, it had six sawmills in 1877) and Freestone (named in 1853 after a local sandstone quarry). A wonderful place for lunch is the Willow Wood Market in Graton- try the fresh polenta!

HEAD UP THE COAST Drive up the rugged Sonoma Coast to the settlement of Fort Ross (the name derived from the word for Russia). The fort was established in 1812 by the Russian-American Company, a commercial hunting and trading company chartered by the tsarist government, as a vital trading outpost for their Alaskan operations.

THE SCENIC ROUTE HOME If you are driving south towards San Francisco, consider taking the spectacular route down Coast Highway One. This trip takes you through the interesting agricultural town of Tomales (settled in the 1850's, current population 250), down along beautiful Tomales Bay and through the towns of Marshall (home to great oyster and dairy farms) and Point Reyes Station (home to the 19th century railroad stop from Sausalito).

ACTIVITIES & ADVENTURES

KITE FLYING Bodega Bay is one of the great kite flying areas of the world. Visit Candy & Kites, just north on Coast Highway One, to gather supplies or purchase a one-of-a-kind kite and rediscover the joys of this simple, fun activity.

ZIP LINE THROUGH THE REDWOODS Sonoma Canopy Tours will take you soaring through the air amidst redwood trees and enjoy nature from a different perspective. This high-flying experience allows you to glide effortlessly through the forest and take in the beauty of the Northern California Coastal Redwoods. Your guides will also educate you on the uniqueness of the eco-system and share interesting facts about the forest.

KAYAKING, CANOEING & SURFING Bodega Bay is a water sports paradise. Bodega Bay Kayak provides kayak rentals and leads popular guided bay and ocean tours. Canoe season on the Russian River runs from April through October, and there are many canoe rental shops conveniently located along the river. For surfers, Doran Beach and Salmon Creek are well-known hot spots and surfboard rentals are available at the Surf Shack in Bodega Bay.

THE LINKS AT BODEGA HARBOUR The Links are perched along the dramatic coast just south of the Lodge. The course is breathtaking in its natural beauty and features an award-winning design by Robert Trent Jones, Jr. Allow us to make a tee time for you.

DEEP SEA FISHING Both Fish On Bait and Tackle and the Boathouse offer memorable charter fishing trips from Bodega Bay. Depending on the season, most trips are in pursuit of shark, Dungeness crab and rock cod.

BEACHES There are several remarkable beaches along the Sonoma Coast. Doran Park Beach (immediately in front of the Lodge) is a beautiful, three-mile stretch of sandy beach and is a great place to pack a picnic, fly a kite, search for sand dollars or enjoy a casual stroll. The Sonoma Coast State Park comprises a series of sandy beaches that extend 17 miles from Bodega Head to Vista Trail to the north and can be accessed from more than a dozen points along Coast Highway One. Our favorites include Salmon Creek and Goat Rock Beaches.

HIKING & WALKABOUTS

BODEGA HEAD Dramatic views and fantastic bird watching are found along the trail at Bodega Head—the rocky headland that forms the entrance to Bodega Harbor. A trip along the cliff is an easy 3-mile hike, and is a romantic location for a picnic. Spotting migrating gray and humpback whales is a popular activity here from January through May.

BODEGA DUNES A chunk of granite spearheading the tectonic migration northwest, Bodega Head is backed by massive sand dunes and the longest beach on the Sonoma County coast. The fun of hiking barefoot is enhanced by distant views north up the rugged coastline.

ARMSTRONG REDWOODS Enjoy a hike through the majestic redwoods of Armstrong Redwoods State Reserve in Guerneville. Visit the 1,400 year-old Colonel Armstrong Tree and the towering 310 foot tall Parson Jones Tree. These are some of the oldest trees in the world!

PT. REYES NATIONAL SEASHORE A nature-lover's stay is not complete without a visit to the Pt. Reyes National Seashore. It is home to more than 1,000 species of plants and animal. There are many exceptional hikes in the area, but our favorite is the three-mile hike (6 miles roundtrip) out to the tip of the Point which offers fantastic views of grazing elk and expansive vistas of the great Pacific Ocean.

THE BIRD WALK A fun hike that starts right here at the Lodge offers a 1-mile loop through a salt marsh that provides habitat for wildlife and birds, including Canada Geese, Snowy Egrets, White and Blue Heron, ducks and many others. Picnic sites and a toilet are provided.