



RV COLLISION & SERVICE CENTER
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Living on the wild side

RV newsletter



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BIG SUR 5th Wheel Trailer Road Trip



Get set to wind through cascading cliffs, photograph sunsets, hike the lush redwood wilderness, and dine in top-notch seafood restaurants as you voyage down the Highway 1 through Big Sur California. Be sure to pack your camera and binoculars.

To get the full extent of this tour, I recommend taking a fifth wheel over an RV as there are many "off road" sites to explore that involve small winding roads. A fifth wheel has the advantage unhooking the trailer in an RV park and using the truck to further venture the nooks and crannies.

Monterey is a great place to start your Journey. Marina Dunes RV park is loaded with RV amenities and is just a short walk to Monterey beach front. Meet new friends in the clubhouse, play horse shoes, get a quick workout in the gym, or just kick-back on your own personal patio by an outside fireplace.

The kids will love watching divers

feed sevengill sharks at the Aquarium of the Bay. Explore the sea up-close and personal and find out what sea stars eat.

If you plan on Boondocking the trip make sure you dump your tank at Marina Dunes RV park for \$10 (free for guests)Before you leave. All dump stations in Big Sur are for registered guests only.

Now it is time to get started by heading down Highway 1 towards Carmel State Beach. You might want to skip this beach

as parking for an RV is a bit tricky.

As you wind your way past Point Lobos State Reserve and Garrapata State park, you come to a "must-dine" Rocky Point Restaurant (15.21 miles from Monterey). Open 8 am to 9 pm, offering breakfast lunch and diner. This restaurant sits on a cliff with spectacular views of the Pacific Ocean. On lookers have been known to spot otters, sea lions, spouting whales and pelicans. Enjoy a seafood fettuccine in pesto sauce, with Mondavi Carneros Pinot Noir, and a chocolate mouse tart for desert.

2.46 miles south you will cross over Bixby Creek Bridge. Built in 1932, this is one of the world's largest single-span concrete bridges.

Close all the windows, tighten the all external latches, as you are about to pass through hurricane point, the windiest part of the journey. Reduce speed considerably, to maintain steering control.

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Point Sur Light Station is the site of several disastrous ship wrecks before it was built in 1889. Sitting 361 feet above the surf, this light house warns ships of the dramatic meeting of sea and land below. Guided tours are available at www.pointsur.org.

At this point, you should be ready for a break from Navigating the winding roads, and Big Sur Campgrounds & Cabins is just the place. Tucked away in the redwoods along side the Big Sur river, this RV site offers water and electrical hook-ups. Central dump stations, WIFI, playgrounds and laundry facilities

are also available. Relax and sit around the campfire as you exchange traveling stories with fellow campers.

Stay a few days, as there are many activities in range. Hike the Pine Ridge Trail to Skyes Hot Springs, or unhitch your truck and drive down to Pfeiffer beach. This beach is famous for it's rock arch, plummeting waves and colorful sunsets. You can even rent inner tubes to drift down the Big Sur river.

Next on the agenda is Hearst Castle. This Massive mansion owned by newspaper owner William Randolph Hearst was built between 1919 and 1947. Filled with exquisite arts and antiques, this castle earns it's name "La Questa Encantada"- The enchanted hill. Mr. Hearst lived a lavish lifestyle in this castle, enjoying such luxuries as his own private zoo, temple gardens with enormous ornamental pools, and grand rooms that make the hilton look like maid quarters.

34.58 miles south takes you to Morro bay, where you can stay at Morro Dunes RV Park, a full hook-up RV site steps away from Atascadero Beach. Enjoy golf, kayaking, ocean swimming, shopping and more.



Quick Resource Guide

Marina Dunes RV Park

831-384-6914

Aquarium of the Bay Tours

831-647-6886

Rocky Point Restaurant Menu

www.rocky-point.com/dinnrmen.html

Point Sur Light Station Tours

www.pointsur.org

Big Sur Campgrounds & Cabins

831-667-2322

Hearst Castle Tours

1800-444-4445

hearst.reserveamerica.com

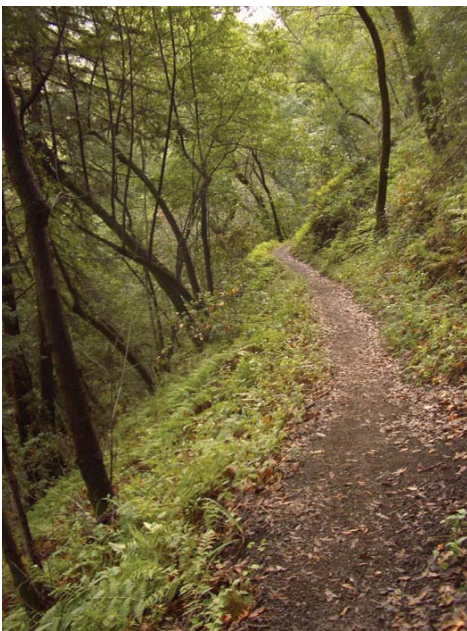
Morro Dunes RV Park

805-772-2722

Pine Ridge Trail at Big Sur

If the adventures spirit in you is calling out, Pine Ridge Trail is the perfect place to ditch your electronic world and head back to nature. This 23 mile trail is full of surprises, including amazing views, waterfalls, tent campsites, and hot springs.

This is a fairly rigorous trail, and depending on water levels, you may have to hike through a few river beds. Bring an extra pair of dry socks and pants, as well as a rope to hold on to. Watch out for the plants you rub against because Poison Ivy (3-leaf plant) is common in this area. If you are exposed to poison ivy, wash the area with rubbing alcohol, if you have it, or run it



through the creek with soap.

The dirt path winds through the seductive redwood forest, over creeks and pops-up on hills to expose the vast views of the pacific ocean and Ventana Double Cone. Keep your eyes open and your binoculars in hand, this is your chance to spot a California Condor, Peregrine Falcon, or Western Screech Owl. On a slighter chance, you might even see a bobcat, coyote or grey fox.

Pine Ridge trail then heads back into the trees to impress you with a gushing waterfall over the jagged, rocky river bed. Swimming pools beckon a dip to cool off.

Eventually, after 10 miles, you arrive at Sykes campground where you can set up camp and start cooking dinner on the fire. Remember to boil all

water before drinking. This kills any bacteria that might be in the water. Campground sites are dispersed on each side of the Big Sur River and you are allowed to have a campfire as long as you have a permit. This form can be downloaded at:

http://www.fs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_DOCUMENTS/stelprdb5346076.pdf.

After dinner you can relax in the 100° F bubbling hot springs, hopefully you packed a few beers to take the edge off your aching legs. Temperatures in this area are mild, but at night it can get chilly. Bring cool clothes for the day and warm ones for night.



Quick Check List

1. Rubbing alcohol for poison oak.
2. Rope to cross rivers
3. Change of dry socks and pants
4. Mini cooking stove and pan to boil water.
5. Camera and Binoculars to capture spectacular views and wild life.
6. Warm clothes for night time, and cool for the day
7. Fire permit from: http://www.fs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_DOCUMENTS/stelprdb5346076.pdf.
8. Trash bag to pack all your trash out.



Local Bay Area RV Dump Stations

Anthony Chabot Campground

9999 Redwood Road
Castro Valley, CA
510-544-3196
Cost: \$20 dump station only
7 am - 10 pm

Trailer Haven

2399 East 14th Street
San Leandro, CA
510-357-3235
Cost: \$10
9 am - 10 pm
7 days a week

Trailer Villa RV Park

3401 East Bayshore Road
Redwood City, CA
650-366-7880
Cost: \$20
24 hr automated machine

Half Moon Bay State Beach

95 Kelly Avenue
Half Moon Bay, CA
650 726-8819
Cost: \$10
8 am - sunset

San Francisco RV Resort

700 Palmetto
Avenue Pacifica CA
Redwood City, CA
650-366-7880
Cost: \$15
8 am - 5 pm

Alameda County Fairgrounds RV Camping

4501 Pleasanton Ave.
Pleasanton, CA
(925) 426-7600
Cost: \$25
8 am - 5 pm

Elks Lodge

375 North Pastoria Ave
Sunnyvale, CA
408-736-2763
Cost: \$5 members only
\$159 year membership

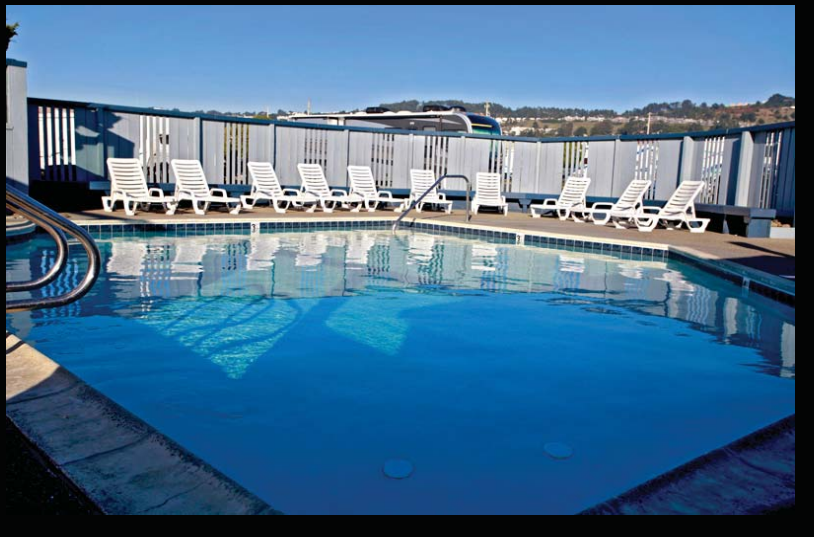


Good Sam Club
Members Receive
10% Off RV Services



RV CAMP SIGHTS IN THE SPOTLIGHT

SAN FRANCISCO RV RESORT



Watch the sea's wrath against the rocky shoreline, as you sit nestled safe in your RV with a hot cup of Joe. Since this park sits right up against the shoreline, the views are spectacular. Dream out into the blue heavens as it dips into the seas horizon.

Located in Pacifica this RV park is just 15 miles to San Francisco with all of it's attractions. Listen to hallowing stories of Al Capon living amongst the worst criminal inmates on the tour of Alcatraz, the old Federal Penitentiary. Peace out in the bohemium wonderland of the Haight district. See Nicole Kidman up-close and personal at the SF wax museum. Stroll along the Warf and stop for fresh clam chowder. See a wedding dress

made of toilet paper at the Ripley's beleive it or not museum. Wine and dine in the top notch restuarants and bars. Where else can you do all these great things all in one spot?

If you don't want to drive to the city, you can park your RV at the Colma BART Station (6 mile drive) and take the train in.

When you get back from Touring The City, you can relax in the hot tub, socialize in the clubhouse, or just watch the sun set from your RV.

SF RV Resort is a 162 site Park offering water, sewer, electric and cable TV hook-ups. Other

amenities include free WiFi, laundry room, clean restrooms and showers, propane and dump stations. Access is available to the clubhouse, TV room, kid's playground, heated outdoor pool and hot tub.



Pets are welcome and a grassy dog run is located on the North side of the park.

A small general store is located in the front office for conveniant snacks, drinks toiletries and supplies. Camelot fish and Chips, along with Starbucks and Pacifica Farmers Market are just North of the park with-in

walking distance.

Rates range from \$56 to \$78 a night. Weekly and Monthly rates are available. A 10% discount is given for AAA, AARP and Good Sam Club.

For more information visit www.sanfranciscoresort.com for reservations call 1-800-822-1250

