

MENDOCINO

❖ VISITORS ❖

[Home](#)

[Blog](#)

[Touring](#)

[Visitors Guide](#)

[Event Calendar](#)

[Annual Events](#)

[Contact](#)

Blog



The Top 5 Things To Do In Mendocino

On 07 Jun, 2017 By editor

Recent blog posts

[The Top 5 Things To Do In Mendocino](#)

[Mendocino's South Coast - Beauty, Tranquility and Hidden Gems](#)

[Mendocino's North Coast - Something For Everyone!](#)

[Step Outside Sonoma And Napa To Explore Mendocino's Wine Country](#)

[The Best Ocean Views In Mendocino](#)

[Relax And Stroll Through This Ocean Front Botanical Garden Year-Round](#)

[Plan a Romantic, Valentine's Day Weekend in Mendocino](#)

[View the Annual Whale Migration off the Mendocino Coast](#)

[Plan your Wellness Retreat on California's Mendocino Coast](#)

[Our Favorite Lodging - Your Home Away From Home](#)

[More](#)

From waves crashing against breathtaking cliffs and harbor seals sunning themselves to tide pools and secluded coves, craft the perfect trip to the coast with the top 5 Things To Do In Mendocino.

1. Enjoy the majestic coastal views of the Pacific Ocean

- Watch the [yearly whale migration](#), November through May.
- Check the [Tide Chart](#) and visit the most interesting beaches like [Bowling Ball Beach](#), [Navarro Beach](#) (a driftwood haven) and the [Pudding Creek Trestle](#).
- Hike part of the 20 mile span of five uplifted ocean terraces at [The Jug Handle Ecological Staircase](#)
- Tour 47, ocean-front acres of the [Mendocino Coast Botanical Gardens](#), wandering through canyons, wetlands, coastal bluffs and a closed-cone pine forest among thousands of beautiful floral varieties.
- [Dive in deep; order a copy of "Shaping the Sonoma-Mendocino Coast...Exploring the Coastal Geology of Northern California" by Thomas Cochrane for an 85-mile Road Log of 150 stops along a self-guided tour including dining, camping, hiking and picnic sites while studying how the coast came to be.](#)

2. Taste your way through Anderson Valley Wine Country & Local Breweries

Sample some of the country's best beer at a brewery that also gives back. [North Coast Brewing Company](#), a Certified B Corporation, donates to the Thelonious Monk Institute of Jazz and marine mammal rescue (among many other avenues) with proceeds from beer sales. Top it all off with a night off world-class [jazz in the brewery's Sequoia Room](#), where the music will remind you of all the beautiful people in this world; some are making music, some are making beer.

Drive from the coast to wine country through majestic redwood groves on this suggested [route](#) and taste your way through the vineyards of Anderson Valley. Great small towns like [Ukiah](#), [Boonville](#), [Philo](#), [Willits](#) and [Hopland](#) are packed with [dining and shopping between vineyards](#).

Switch it up and stop by [Anderson Valley Brewing Company](#) for a variety of tasty brews. Get crazy with their gose style and Wild Turkey Bourbon barrel-aged beers.

3. Get up close and personal with the great outdoors

- Take to the water on a guided sea kayak tour for all levels with [Kayak Mendocino](#) or rent a stand up paddleboard on the Big River Estuary from [Catch A Canoe & Bicycle Too](#).

- Horseback ride on the beaches of MacKerricher State Park Ride or customize a week-long excursion led by [Ricochet Ridge Ranch](#). New riders will feel safely guided and advanced riders can deepen their skills while enjoying some of the greatest horses around.

4. Let your taste buds be your guide; eat your way through Mendocino county.

Whether your travels take you to the [South Coast](#), [North Coast](#), [Wine Country](#) or a driving trip of the Mendocino County loop click on these links to learn about our favorite dining in each region.

Sticking to a specific diet or honoring your healthy lifestyle on vacation? These are our go-to spots for farm-to-table, organic, gluten free and vegan options that don't skimp on flavor:

- [GoodLife Cafe and Bakery](#) is a healthy, hearty breakfast and lunch to enjoy in their local art-adorned cafe or to-go. The free-range chicken curry, bulk quinoa and veggies made for an excellent picnic lunch.

- [Ravens Restaurant](#) A local, organic, conscious fine dining at the Stanford Inn Eco-Resort.

- [Flow Restaurant and Lounge](#) offers fresh, local, organic and wholesome with gorgeous ocean views.

- [Cafe One](#), look for the organic flag waving outside. We love the gluten free pancakes and huevos rancheros.

5. Create a cozy stay-cation in one of our favorite homes away from home

[The Stanford Inn Eco Spa](#) and [The Inn at Newport Ranch](#) are an indulgent, all-inclusive experience! Tailor your trip with their ample on-site activities or just relax and enjoy the view.

Looking to rough it in the most comfortable way possible? [Glamping at The Mendocino Grove](#) is for you! Choose from Airstream trailers to canvas tents packed with old world charm; the decor is reminiscent of your favorite Pinterest or Instagram pages.

For large groups or those looking to truly detach, [Mendocino Coast Reservations](#) manages [houses](#) and [studios](#) on the remote bluff of the Point Cabrillo Lighthouse. With very little internet access, detach and play by running around under the stars at night and strolling to the lighthouse bluff in the morning. The secluded Caspar Beach and kayak rental is right down the road.

More of our favorite lodging: <http://mendocinovisitors.com/blog/our-favorite-lodging-your-home-away-home>