

# Good Times Travel Monterey, Carmel, Redwoods & Rails

Featuring a Single-Hotel Stay in Monterey, 17-Mile Drive, Carmel, *Redwood Forest Steam Train*, *Coast Starlight* Train June 9-12, 2024 – 4 Day Tour

# **Tour Highlights**

- Enjoy a three-night hotel stay in the heart of Old Monterey at a bayfront, AAA Four Diamond hotel adjacent to Fisherman's Wharf
- Sit back and enjoy a relaxing, five-hour rail journey along California's spectacular coastline and through its fertile valleys aboard Amtrak's *Coast Starlight* train, featuring an observation car with windows that stretch up to the ceiling offering unparalleled and expansive views
- Join a local guide for an in-depth tour of the Monterey Peninsula highlighting Cannery Row, Pacific Grove, sights along picturesque 17-Mile Drive and time at leisure for exploration in the charming Carmel-by-the-Sea
- All aboard Roaring Camp Railroad's *Redwood Forest Steam Train* for a ride through a forest of towering coastal California Redwoods
- Visit the famed Monterey Bay Aquarium where you can get up-close with sea otters, penguins, sharks and jellies
- Enjoy time at leisure exploring downtown Santa Barbara, featuring a variety of restaurants, galleries and unique shops

# **Tour Inclusions**

- 3 Nights deluxe hotel accommodations
- 4 Meals 1 lunch, 3 breakfasts
- Services of a professional GTT tour director
- Comprehensive sightseeing with a local guide
- Admissions per the itinerary
- Transportation aboard a deluxe motorcoach and Amtrak's *Coast Starlight* Train
- Luggage handling throughout the tour

#### **Tour Prices**

Double Occupancy: \$1,299 per person Single Occupancy (no roommate): Add \$500











## Reservations



www.goodtimestravel.com

(714) 848-1255

17132 Magnolia St., Fountain Valley, CA 92708 California Seller of Travel License #: 2018390-40

## Accommodations

• Nights 1-3 **Portola Hotel & Spa** Monterey, CA

**Departure/Return Information** 

Join this tour from one of our convenient departure points available in these cities:

Fountain Valley
Laguna Hills
Long Beach

Approximate Departure Time: 7-9 a.m. Approximate Return Time: 6-8 p.m.

#### **Payment Information**

- Full payment due at time of booking
- Payment may be made by mailing a check to the above address or making a credit card payment at www.goodtimestravel.com

## **Cancellation/Travel Protection**

A travel protection policy (which includes cancellation protection and other benefits) is highly recommended and available through a third-party. A travel protection brochure will be provided with your payment receipt and invoice. Regardless of the reason, cancellations, credits and transfers of paid bookings require us to retain an administrative fee (ranging from \$50-\$500 depending on the date of cancellation) in addition to all non-recoverable fees paid to our tour suppliers on your behalf. Those guests who have purchased travel protection and must cancel for a covered reason, will be reimbursed by the travel protection company the balance of any non-refunded or credited monies (minus the premium itself). Visit www.goodtimestravel.com or see our tour catalog for our full cancellation policy and other terms and conditions.

#### Adjustments to the Itinerary

While we make every effort to operate our tours as advertised, should we be forced to adjust the itinerary prior to departure or while on tour, these changes will be communicated to you and only done when absolutely necessary.

# **Tour Pace & Activity Level**

ACTIVITY LEVEL



Visit our website for further explanation of what each of these designations means to assist you in determining which tour is right for you based on your physical abilities and the pacing you prefer.

#### Itinerary

The Monterey Peninsula is the embodiment of the quintessential California spirit – providing a sense of timelessness and re-connection. It's been described as "the greatest meeting of land and sea." For centuries, artists, poets, explorers and novelists have been drawn to the rugged beauty here – from the crashing surf to the towering redwoods and the unspoiled wildlife. We invite you on this memorable rail journey to discover with us the cypress groves, redwood forest, world-renowned aquarium and captivating charm that make the Monterey Peninsula so special.

## Day 1 – Coastal Train Ride

We set out from our departure points this morning aboard a deluxe motorcoach and travel to downtown Los Angeles' Union Station to board Amtrak's *Coast Starlight* train for a memorable, five-hour rail journey along California's spectacular coastline and through its fertile valleys to San Luis Obispo. We'll travel along Point Conception and through Vandenberg Space Force Base where you'll see the launch complexes and beautiful undeveloped coastline which is only visible by train. We'll enjoy an included boxed lunch onboard along with a snack bar selling snacks and drinks. Enjoy the relaxing ride in your reclining seat or check out the view from the observation car featuring windows that stretch up to the ceiling offering unparalleled and expansive views. Upon arrival in San Luis Obispo, we'll reboard our motorcoach and continue north to the Monterey Peninsula. We'll enjoy a threenight stay at the *Portola Hotel & Spa*, a AAA Four Diamond bayfront hotel situated adjacent to Monterey's Fisherman's Wharf in Old Monterey. Enjoy the balance of the evening at leisure with dinner on your own at the hotel or a nearby restaurant. (Lunch)

# Day 2 – 17-Mile Drive, Carmel-by-the-Sea

Following an included breakfast, we'll join a local guide for a comprehensive area tour. Wrapped by the Pacific Ocean on three sides, the Monterey Peninsula is often described as "the greatest meeting of land and sea." For centuries, artists, poets, explorers and novelists have been drawn to the rugged beauty here – from the crashing surf to the towering redwoods to the unspoiled wildlife. On this in-depth driving tour, we'll travel through historic **Old Monterey, Cannery Row, Pacific Grove** and along the famed **17-Mile Drive**. One of the most picturesque drives in the world, 17-Mile Drive is an enchanting journey full of dramatic coastal cliffs, snow-white beaches and mystical forests. Along the way, we'll encounter such spectacular sights as **The Lone Cypress**, **Bird Rock**, celebrity homes and the world-renowned **Pebble Beach Golf Links**. Enjoy time at leisure for lunch on your own and browsing in the charming seaside town of **Carmel-by-the-Sea**. This town that deftly straddles the balance point of rich history and new wealth, features great restaurants, boutiques and galleries. We return to the hotel with the balance of the evening at leisure. (Breakfast)

## Day 3 – Redwoods, Monterey Bay Aquarium

After an included breakfast, we'll travel north to the Santa Cruz Mountains and arrive at **Roaring Camp**, resembling a 1880s logging town. Shop in the old-fashioned general store or explore vintage western structures, such as an opera house, depot and covered bridge. We'll board the *Redwood Forest Steam Train* and travel over trestles, through towering redwood groves and up a winding narrow-gauge grade to the summit of Bear Mountain as the conductor provides narration. Roaring Camp's steam engines date from 1890 and are among the oldest and most authentically preserved narrow-gauge steam engines providing regularly scheduled passenger service in America. We return to Monterey this afternoon with time at leisure to browse Monterey's historic Cannery Row and take advantage of included admission to the world-famous **Monterey Bay Aquarium**. The former sardine cannery located on the ocean's edge of Cannery Row boasts spectacular coastal views and sets the standard for aquariums around the world because of its immersive exhibits and ability to present marine life on a truly grand scale. Get up-close and personal with 35,000 sea creatures representing over 550 marine species including sea otters, penguins, sharks, jellies and thousands of other marine animals and plants. We return to the hotel with the balance of the evening at leisure. (Breakfast)

# Day 4 – Madonna Inn, Santa Barbara, Journey Home

Following an included breakfast, we'll travel south by motorcoach, making rest stops along the way. In San Luis Obispo we'll visit the eclectic and historic **Madonna Inn**. Opened for business in 1958, it quickly became a California landmark and its timeless elegance and whimsical décor continues to intrigue visitors more than 60 years later! Enjoy time at leisure here for browsing and lunch on your own this afternoon in **Santa Barbara**, the coastal city nicknamed "The American Riviera" for its Mediterranean climate, stunning scenery, distinctive architecture and relaxed atmosphere. Downtown Santa Barbara offers palm-lined thoroughfares where you'll be surrounded by shops, boutiques, tantalizing eateries and beautiful buildings. We return to our departure points this evening with many fond memories of our time relaxing on the train and enjoying a three-night stay in Monterey while exploring California's beautiful Central Coast and redwoods at a delightful time of year. (Breakfast)