

# Horsing Around on the NorCal Coast

### CAN'T GET TO THE SIERRAS? CHECK OUT ONE OF THESE OCEANFRONT TRAIL RIDES IN THE BAY AREA

By Willow Taylor Chiang Yang | Photos by Lori Eanes

#### **SEA HORSE RANCH** — Half Moon Bay

Following along the Coastal Equestrian Trail and Poplar Beach, Sea Horse Ranch's excursions highlight the scenic bluffs, ocean winds, and light forest of the coastline south of San Francisco. While they have options for trail rides only, their most popular excursion—the 1.5-hour ride—takes the group on both trail and beach. The ranch provides rides from 1 to 2 hours long for both first-time and veteran riders. Online reservations required. *Pricing starts at \$70 for 1-hour rides on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Ages 7+.* 

#### **FIVE BROOKS RANCH** — Point Reves

A couple hours farther up the coastline, the 120-mile Five Brooks Ranch allows riders to explore the Point Reyes National Seashore Park, a protected expanse of coastline that includes rocky highlands, forested wilderness, and beaches. They specialize in guided trail rides that include talks about the park's historical and ecological significance. The many options Five Brooks provides—from lazy rides under the forest canopy to intense climbs that open up to breathtaking views—ensure that there's something for everyone. *Pricing starts at \$50 for a 1-hour group ride along Stewart Trail. Ages 6+.* 

#### PEBBLE BEACH EQUESTRIAN CENTER — Pebble Beach

A bit farther afield, about a two-hour drive from San Francisco, the Pebble Beach Equestrian Center (part of the larger Pebble Beach Resorts) has been around since 1924. Since then, the place has gone through numerous changes, but throughout they've provided a space for kids and adults alike to interact with horses and the "equestrian arts." The center now has over 27 miles of





## Perfect Days by the Bay

FOLLOW OUR TRIED-AND-TRUE ITINERARIES FOR SEEING THE BEST OF SAN FRANCISCO AND THE BAY AREA. MAKE A FEW STOPS, TRY 'EM ALL, OR LEAVE A FEW HOURS FOR LENGTHIER EXCURSIONS

By Maryann Jones Thompson

\* Optional, longer excursions

#### THE CLASSIC SIGHTSEER

Walk and ride to SF's most famous spots.

Ferry Building & Farmer's Market \*Alcatraz

Muni F-line vintage street car \*Exploratorium

Sea lions at Pier 39

Boudin's for clam chowder &

sourdough \*Musée Méchanique

\*Bay cruise

Hyde Street Pier

Aquatic Park

Ghiradelli Square for sundaes

19 Polk St. bus north to California St.

California St. cable car

Dragon Gate & Chinatown

\*Union Square

Dinner at Trattoria Contadina, Wayfare Tavern, or China Live

City Lights Bookstore

Cafe Trieste for coffee & cannoli



Pick up friends at SFO and see SF's unique neighborhoods.

Balmy Alley & Precita Eyes for murals

La Taqueria for a classic SFstyle burrito

\*Mission & Valencia Streets shop & stroll

Bi-Rite for ice cream

Dolores Park

Mission Dolores

Castro Street \*GLBT Historical Society

\*Corona Heights hike & Randall Museum

\*Haight-Ashbury (shopping, snacks & Amoeba Music)

Painted Ladies Victorians & Alamo Square

\*Hayes Valley shops & dinner at Chez Maman

\*SF Symphony, Ballet, or Opera

\*Japantown Mall shops, movies, & Dragon Breath

\*The Fillmore



Pack food and drink for a daylong trek of vistas.

Crissy Field Presidio Main Post Fort Point \*Walk on the Golden Gate Batteries & Golden Gate

Overlook

\*Batteries to Bluffs Trail \*Baker or China Beach

Lincoln Park Steps

Eagle's Point Overlook \*"The Thinker" & Legion of Honor

\*Lands End Trail Sutro Baths



#### THE GOLDEN GATE PARK-ER

Hang all day at the best park in The West.

Koret Playground Conservatory of Flowers SkyStar Wheel or Hamon **Observation Tower** \*Academy of Sciences or De Young Museum Japanese Tea Garden Rent bikes Stow Lake pedal boats Bike to the Bison & Dutch

Windmill

\*Ocean Beach

Beach/Park Chalet frescoes & food Great Walkway sunset stroll



#### THE SOMA EXPLORER

Discover the newest, sportiest side of The City in Mission Bay and Dogpatch.

Salesforce Park SFMOMA MLK Jr. Memorial fountains Lunch at Super Duper Burgers 'Westfield SF Center mall 'Stagecoach Greens mini golf Crane Cove Park Dinner at Mission Cliffs or The Ramp

\*Treasure Island for sunset

\*SF Giants or Warriors game



#### THE MARIN GREATEST HITTER

Head north for a driving tour of views, redwoods, and saltwater.

Moore Road Pier at Fort Baker \*Bay Area Discovery Museum Baker-Barry Tunnel to Headlands \*Slacker Hill hike

\*Slacker Hill hike Marin Headlands views Lunch & shopping in Sausalito Houseboat walk

\*Sea Trek paddleboard or kayak

\*Muir Woods

\*Angel Island

Dinner at Sam's Anchor Cafe, The Junction, or Salito's Crab House



**THE WILD WEST MARIN-ER**Go deeper into the wilderness
and deliciousness of West Marin.

Samuel P. Taylor redwoods & creek

Point Reyes Station & Cowgirl Creamery lunch & shops

\*Point Reyes National Park \*Tomales Bay kayaking

\*Five Brooks Ranch horseback ride

Hog Island or Marshall Store for oysters

Dillon Beach sunset

Dinner & music at Nick's Cove, Lagunitas, or Terrapin Crossroads



#### THE BERKELEY LOVER

Cross the Bay Bridge to the home of UC Berkeley and "good trouble."

'Tilden Park hiking, carousel, tot train & Little Farm
'Lawrence Hall of Science
Lunch at Picante or in the
Gourmet Ghetto
UC Berkeley campus & Campanile
'Habitot Children's Museum

\*Habitot Children's Museum Berkeley Skate Park Adventure Playground & zipline

San Francisco Bay Trail for sunset

Dinner at The Cheese Board Collective or The King's Feet \*Freight & Salvage or Cornerstone for beverages & live music



#### THE HALF MOON BAY CRUISER

Journey south to the peninsula coast for some salty action.

\*Sea Horse Ranch beach ride Lemos Farm barnyard animals & goat yoga

\*Maverick's surf check Lunch at Pillar Point Harbor \*Half Moon Bay State Beach Fog Town Toys & Main Street shops

Dinner at Sam's Chowder House or Half Moon Bay Brewerv

Moss Beach Distillery for sunset & Blue Lady ghost



#### THE OLD SONOMA MISSION-ER

Pop up to the closest, kid-friendliest corner of Wine Country.

Traintown
Sonoma Plaza lunch & shops
Sonoma Mission
Gundlach Bundschu or Buena
Vista Winery tasting
\*Glen Ellen & Jack London
State Park
Dinner at Tortilleria Jalisco or
Taqueria la Hacienda

