

HALF MOON BAY

COASTSIDE CALIFORNIA

PUMPKINS ABOUND ALONG THE HALF MOON BAY COASTSIDE, CA
*Enjoy a World-Renowned Pumpkin Festival, Pumpkin Weigh-Off,
Plentiful Pumpkin Dishes, and Much More!*

HALF MOON BAY, CA –OCTOBER 1, 2019 - There is no better place to celebrate the wonders of the fall season than along the Half Moon Bay Coastsides. Fondly regarded as the pumpkin capital of the world, this beautiful coastal region, located 45 minutes south of San Francisco, produces more than 3,000 tons of pumpkins every year. Visitors will delight in the area's brilliant orange pick-your-own-pumpkins and scenic backdrop of rich fall colors. The local menus are brimming over with pumpkin-inspired delights such as pumpkin cheese, pumpkin gnocchi, and even pumpkin beer on tap!

Below is a summary of pumpkin-related events, dining experiences, spa treatments, and more along the Half Moon Bay Coastsides. To plan a trip, visit www.visithalfmoonbay.org for information on the region's cozy inns and luxury coastal resorts, renowned restaurants, farm visits, golfing, wine tasting, fishing, whale watching, surfing, and much more.

Special Note: All locations are in Half Moon Bay unless otherwise noted.

- PUMPKIN EVENTS -

12th Annual Hand-Blown Art Glass Pumpkin Patch

Oct. 5-6, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Half Moon Bay Art Glass will transform the grounds of La Nebbia Winery into a glistening glass pumpkin patch featuring the work of glass blower Douglass C. Brown. This artistic installation will feature hundreds of one-of-a-kind glass pumpkins available for purchase, each one personally handcrafted by Brown, who works year-round to create this spectacular display. La Nebbia Winery will be open for guests to partake in wine tasting and to purchase bottles of wine, while bocce ball courts offer fun for everyone. For those who wish to create their own piece of art, HMB Art Glass is offering several classes year around. Classes start as low as \$40 for kids (must be at least six years old). Ask for the "NewClient50" special rate for up to 50% off website pricing. *La Nebbia Winery, 12341 San Mateo Road on Hwy. 92, (650) 283-5626, www.hmbartglass.com.*

46th Annual Safeway World Championship Pumpkin Weigh-Off (free!)

Oct. 14, 7 a.m. - 11 a.m.

Pumpkin growers gather to compete for the heaviest pumpkin at the annual Safeway World Championship Pumpkin Weigh-Off in the World Pumpkin Capital of Half Moon Bay. In a pay-by-the-pound system, the winner will take home a hefty \$7 per pound for the champion mega-pumpkin. Defending Half Moon Bay champion Steve Daletas took home the top prize in 2018 with his 2,170-pound weigh-off champion mega-gourd that obliterated a formidable field of heavyweight contenders. A special \$30,000 bonus mega-prize will be awarded to any grower who breaks the world record (currently 2,624-pounds set in 2016 at a **weigh-off** in Germany). Beauty will share center stage with beefy brawn with a \$1,000 prize awarded to the "most

beautiful pumpkin” as judged by the audience based on color, shape, and size. The grand champion gourd (along with the top five overall) will be on display at the Half Moon Bay Art & Pumpkin Festival, October 19-20, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Main Street. *IDES Grounds, 735 Main Street, (650) 726-9652, www.miramarevents.com. Media Contact: Tim Beeman, (650) 726-3491, tim@miramarevents.com.*

49th Annual Half Moon Bay Art & Pumpkin Festival (free!)

Oct. 19 & 20, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Half Moon Bay celebrates its bountiful pumpkin season with a special weekend filled with four stages of blockbuster entertainment, the Great Pumpkin Parade, harvest-inspired crafts, and home-style foods. Farmer Mike will sculpt a monster pumpkin, plus there will be an opportunity to take photos with the grand champion mega-gourd, enter into pie-eating and costume contests, and so much more. With so much to see and do, visitors can use iPumpkin, the official mobile application of the Half Moon Bay Art & Pumpkin Festival, to navigate their way through the festival. *Main Street, (650) 726-9652, www.miramarevents.com. Media Contact: Tim Beeman, (650) 726-3491, tim@miramarevents.com.*

- PUMPKIN PATCHES -

Pick-Your-Own Pumpkin Patches

An autumn visit to the pumpkin fields around Half Moon Bay is a popular annual tradition for many families. Spread out along Highway 92 (San Mateo Road) and Cabrillo Highway (Rt. 1), visitors will discover pumpkins in a wide variety of colors, shapes, and sizes in a beautiful rural setting. Below is a selection of local pumpkin farms open to visitors:

- **4-C's Pumpkin Patch** - visitors can select from rows of pumpkins while also enjoying pony rides, train rides, slides, and a petting zoo. *12731 San Mateo Rd., (Hwy 92), (650) 726-9614.*
- **Arata Pumpkin Farm** – in addition to pumpkins, this family-friendly farm features pony rides, a haunted barn, petting zoo, a hay maze, and more. *185 Verde Road, (650) 726-7548, www.aratapumpkinfarm.com.*
- **Farmer John's Pumpkin Farm** - life-long farmers Farmer John and his wife Eda grow more than 60 varieties of pumpkins and squash. Visitors can also check out an authentic Native American teepee and take a ride on a vintage tractor. *800 N. Cabrillo Highway, (650) 726-4980, www.farmerjohnspumpkins.com.*
- **Lemos Family Farm** - this family farm specializes in year-round activities for children such as pony rides, train rides, a petting zoo, bounce houses, and more. During September and October, the farm turns into “Halloween Palooza” with a haunted house, the Ghost Train, and of course, lots of pumpkins! *12320 San Mateo Road, (650) 726-2342, www.lemosfarm.com.*
- **Pastorino Farms** – During the month of October, Pastorino's transforms into a seasonal pumpkin farm with hayrides, train rides, ponies, pet and feed farm animals, giant slides, and jumpers. On the weekends, enjoy a haunted house and face painting. *12391 San Mateo Road, (650) 726-6440, www.pastorinofarms.com.*

- **Repetto's** - Find great prices on pumpkins plus a not-to-miss corn maze, which spans over an acre. *12592 San Mateo Road, (650) 726-6414.*
- **Tom & Pete's Produce** - celebrating more than 50 years since its inception in 1964, guests can visit this landmark produce stand to purchase pumpkins throughout the month of October. *270 Main Street, (650) 726-7500.*

- CULINARY DELIGHTS -

Pumpkin Cheese, Butter, and Truffles, Oh My!

Now through the holidays, Harley Farms, home to award-winning goat cheese, is offering their seasonal Pumpkin-Spice Fromage Blanc, a deliciously creamy and light cheese with a subtle pumpkin tang. This delectable treat, along with pumpkin butter and pumpkin truffles, will be freshly made, so buy a little extra for seasonal gifts. *205 North Street, Pescadero, (650) 879-0480, www.harleyfarms.com.*

Seaside Pumpkin Specials

Sam's Chowder House is cooking up a variety of festive specials this pumpkin season including pumpkin gnocchi with brown butter and sage, lobster bisque with red kuri pumpkin, lemongrass and ginger, and pumpkin crème brûlée. Plus, guests can look forward to daily pumpkin specials throughout October. *4210 Cabrillo Hwy N, (650) 712-0245, www.samschowderhouse.com.*

Pumpkin Dishes (All Month Long!)

October 1-31

Head to Half Moon Bay Brewing Company for a special pumpkin menu that pairs perfectly with the Brewing Co.'s renowned Pumpkin Harvest Ale and barrel-aged limited release beers. Enjoy pumpkin soup, pumpkin cheesecake, and other specials made from local squashes. *390 Capistrano Road, (650) 728-2739, www.hmbbrewingco.com. Media Contact: Molly Hass, molly@hmbbrewingco.com, 650-728-2739 ext. 203.*

Pumpkin Macaron-Making Class

Oct. 4 from 11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

In this interactive hands-on class, The Ritz-Carlton, Half Moon Bay Pastry Chef Aurélien Revil Signorat will teach the art of making the perfect macaron for fall. Students will also get to take home some of their delicious creations. Open to Marriott Bonvoy Elite members only. Advance reservations are required and can be made by calling (650) 712-7686. *One Miramontes Point Road, (650) 712-7000, www.ritzcarlton.com. Media Contact: Shelly Auyeung (650) 712-7007, shelly.auyeung@ritzcarlton.com.*

Harvest Dinner

October 9 at 6 p.m.

Half Moon Bay Brewing Company's annual Harvest Dinner is back by popular demand! Celebrating the abundance of the outstanding farms and breweries on the San Mateo County coast, the feast will be prepared by HMB Brewing's talented culinary team and feature produce exclusively from local Ouroboros Farms, Brewmaster James Costa's hand-crafted Pumpkin Harvest Ale, and Hatcher Winery Wine. Tickets are \$80. *Mavericks Event Center, 107 Broadway Avenue. Media Contact: Molly Hass, molly@hmbbrewingco.com, 650-728-2739 ext. 203.*

Pumpkin Afternoon Tea

October 1-31

Mon –Thurs; 3–5 p.m.

To fully embrace the great gourd, the culinary team at The Ritz-Carlton, Half Moon Bay will offer a special pumpkin-themed afternoon tea experience in the ocean-view Conservatory restaurant. The service will feature a variety of savory finger sandwiches such as egg and mayonnaise with pumpkin seeds and chives and Waldorf organic chicken salad on brioche. Alongside tea sandwiches, sweet delights include pumpkin and spice scones, cranberry eggnog tartlet, and more. The resort will donate \$10 for every pumpkin afternoon tea reservation to the Boys & Girls Club of the Coastsides. Pricing is \$99 for adults and \$45 for children ages 12 and under. Advance reservations are required and can be placed via [TOCK](#) or by calling (650) 712-7000. *One Miramontes Point Road, (650) 712 7000, www.ritzcarlton.com. Media Contact: Shelly Auyeung (650) 712-7007, shelly.ayeung@ritzcarlton.com.*

- BREW, & COCKTAIL NEWS -

Spiked Pumpkins!

Moss Beach Distillery is spicing up its pumpkin drinks this fall season. In partnership with Half Moon Bay Distillery, try the popular Pumpkin Spice Martini made with Half Moon Bay Distillery's Purissima vodka, pumpkin spice liqueur, and Irish cream served up in a martini glass with a cinnamon-sugar rim. This sweet twist on pumpkins will also be served as a delicious pumpkin cheesecake dessert. *140 Beach Way, Moss Beach, CA 94038, (650) 728-5595, www.mossbeachdistillery.com.*

Pumpkins are Brewing

A beloved destination known for its award-winning handcrafted beer, sustainable coastal cuisine, and scenic outdoor patio, Half Moon Bay Brewing Company is offering its popular Pumpkin Harvest Ale. This full-bodied Amber Ale is made with locally grown Sugar Pie pumpkins roasted with a secret blend of spices added to the brew kettle, resulting in a subtle pumpkin pie spice flavor balanced by a biscuity maltiness. 6.3% ABV. Available on tap and in 22 oz. bottles at HMB Brewing Co., along with retailers throughout the Bay Area. *390 Capistrano Road, (650) 728-2739, www.hmbbrewingco.com; Media Contact: Molly Hass, molly@hmbbrewingco.com, 650-728-2739 ext. 203.*

- SPA NEWS -

Pumpkin Facial

This signature treatment at The Ritz-Carlton, Half Moon Bay Spa utilizes a nourishing pumpkin enzyme masque from a 100% natural plant-based line high in beta carotene and vitamins A and C. Enjoy the ultimate skin care experience that leaves skin smooth, plump and hydrated. \$285 for 80 minutes. Available Oct. 1 – Nov. 30, 2019. *One Miramontes Point Road, (650) 712 7000, www.ritzcarlton.com. Media Contact: Shelly Auyeung (650) 712-7007, shelly.ayeung@ritzcarlton.com.*

About the Half Moon Bay Coastsides

The Half Moon Bay Coastsides is a charming seaside respite located 45 minutes south of San Francisco. Nestled between the Santa Cruz Mountains and the Pacific Ocean, this breathtaking region consists of four distinct areas - the North Coast, Half Moon Bay, the South Coast and the Redwood Region. Featuring the best of Northern California all in one place, visitors will enjoy

miles of white sandy beaches, redwood forests, a historic downtown filled with local artisan shops, beautiful state parks, fields of wildflowers, and trails along ocean bluffs and mountain ridges as far as the eye can see. A sampling of activities includes horseback riding on the beach, farm fresh dining, shopping, biking, hiking and world-class golfing and surfing.

For more information on visiting Half Moon Bay, visit www.visithalfmoonbay.org or call (650) 726-8380. Like our [Facebook](#) page and follow us on [Twitter](#) @visithmb and [Instagram](#) @visithalfmoonbay.

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