

# HALF MOON BAY

COASTSIDE CALIFORNIA

**PUMPKINS ABOUND ALONG THE HALF MOON BAY COASTSIDE, CA**  
*Enjoy The Great Pumpkin Weigh-Off, Pumpkin Patches, Pumpkin Dishes, and Much More!*

**HALF MOON BAY, CA –SEPTEMBER 28, 2020** - 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!

All businesses have health and safety protocols in place according to the guidelines of the San Mateo County Health Department. Visitors are permitted to safely enjoy restaurants, shops, and outside recreation. The listings below indicate services available at each restaurant, but due to the rapidly changing situation, please confirm with individual restaurants before making plans. For more information on what travelers can expect when visiting the Half Moon Bay Coastsides, [click here](#) or call (650) 726-8380.

Below is a summary of everything pumpkin-related along the Half Moon Bay Coastsides. To plan a trip, visit [www.visithalfmoonbay.org](http://www.visithalfmoonbay.org) for information on the region's cozy inns and luxury coastal resorts, renowned restaurants, farm visits, golf, wine tasting, fishing, whale watching, surfing, and much more.

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

## **- PUMPKIN EVENTS -**

### **The Great Pumpkin Getaway**

***October 1-31, 2020***

Throughout the month of October, guests who stay at any of these 11 hotels – Beach House Half Moon Bay, Half Moon Bay Inn, Half Moon Bay Lodge, Harbor View Inn, Inn at Mavericks, Mill Rose Inn, Nantucket Whale Inn, Ocean View Inn, Oceano Hotel & Spa, or The Ritz-Carlton, Half Moon Bay, Zaballa House - will receive a complimentary bottle wine from Half Moon Bay Winery, the official winery of Pumpkin Festival, plus a 15% discount on the purchase of the first pumpkin at Arata's Pumpkin Farm, Lemos Farm, and Farmer John's. *One bottle of wine and discount voucher per stay. The wine and voucher will be provided at check in. Guests must mention "The Great Pumpkin Promotion" upon check in. For reservations, visit [www.visithalfmoonbay.org/pumpkin2020](http://www.visithalfmoonbay.org/pumpkin2020).*

### **13th Annual Hand-Blown Art Glass Pumpkin Patch**

***Oct. 10-11, 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. 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). *La Nebbia Winery, 12341 San Mateo Road on Hwy. 92, (650) 283-5626, [www.hmbartglass.com](http://www.hmbartglass.com).*

**47th Annual Safeway World Championship Pumpkin Weigh-Off - LIVE STREAM ONLY**  
**Oct. 12, 7 a.m. - 11 a.m.**

Pumpkin growers will 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. Due to the COVID pandemic, the weigh-off will not be allowing spectators/the general public to attend the event. Instead, it'll be live-streamed on [Facebook here](#). In a pay-by-the-pound system, the winner will take home a hefty \$7 per pound for the champion mega-pumpkin. The Safeway World Championship Pumpkin Weigh-Off is offering a special \$30,000 mega-prize for the world record breaking pumpkin (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." *The event will be held at Long Branch Farms, 321 Verde Road. For more information, visit <https://weighoff.miramarevents.com/>. Media Contact: Tim Beeman, (415) 999-2428, [tim@miramarevents.com](mailto: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. *All farms will require social distancing and mandatory wearing of masks. Please contact each one individually for additional visitor regulations during COVID.*

- **Arata's Pumpkin Farm** – in addition to pumpkins, this family-friendly farm features pony rides, petting zoo, a hay maze, and more. Playland will be closed this year. Parking is \$20 per car; \$10 will be refunded with the purchase of a pumpkin. *185 Verde Road, (650) 726-7548, [www.aratapumpkinfarm.com](http://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](http://www.farmerjohnspumpkins.com).*
- **Lemos 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! *Tickets (\$7.50 - \$22.50) must be purchased in advance via the website. 12320 San Mateo Road, (650) 726-2342, [www.lemosfarm.com](http://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](http://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**

Now through the holidays, Harley Farms, home to award-winning goat cheese, is offering its seasonal Pumpkin-Spice Fromage Blanc, a deliciously creamy and light cheese with a subtle pumpkin tang. *Open daily from 11am - 4pm. Tours can be reserved online. NEW: picnics in the secret garden. Check the website for reservations. 205 North Street, Pescadero, (650) 879-0480, [www.harleyfarms.com](http://www.harleyfarms.com).*

### **It's Pumpkin – Italia Style!**

Located on Main Street, It's Italia is a traditional trattoria specializing in gourmet pizzas, house made pastas, creative salads, along with seafood and meat selections from their rotisserie and mesquite grill. Commemorating the tastes of fall, special menu items include: housemade pumpkin ravioli in a butter sage sauce; "Highway 92 Pizza" with shaved Sugar Pie Pumpkins, cider caramelized onions, Daddy's slow cooked honey mustard bacon, cheeses and fresh herbs; "Farmer John's Pumpkin Festival Salad" featuring Farmer John's Red Apple Blossom Pumpkins and Butternut Squash, baby greens, smoked gouda, avocado, toasted pumpkin seeds, and a nutmeg honey mustard vinaigrette; Maile's Butter Crust Pumpkin Pie; and "The Cannabis Wish Pizza" with six cheeses, toasted hemp seeds, radicchio and arugula. *Open for outdoor dining and takeout. 401 Main Street, (650) 726-4444, [www.itsitaliarestaurant.com](http://www.itsitaliarestaurant.com).*

### **Seaside Pumpkin Specials**

Sam's Chowder House is cooking up a variety of festive specials this pumpkin season including house-made pumpkin gnocchi with brown butter and sage, savory lobster bisque with red kuri pumpkin, and delicious pumpkin ice cream. Plus, guests can look forward to a pumpkin cocktail special throughout October. *Open for outdoor dining and takeout. 4210 Cabrillo Hwy N, (650) 712-0245, [www.samschowderhouse.com](http://www.samschowderhouse.com).*

### **Pumpkin Delights**

#### ***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. *Open for outdoor dining and takeout/delivery. 390 Capistrano Road, (650) 728-2739, [www.hmbbrewingco.com](http://www.hmbbrewingco.com). Media Contact: Laura Acton, [laura@hmbbrewingco.com](mailto:laura@hmbbrewingco.com).*

## **- BREW, & COCKTAIL NEWS -**

### **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. *Open for outdoor dining and takeout/delivery. 390 Capistrano Road, (650) 728-2739, [www.hmbbrewingco.com](http://www.hmbbrewingco.com). Media Contact: Laura Acton, [laura@hmbbrewingco.com](mailto:laura@hmbbrewingco.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](http://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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