



WHAT'S NEW IN HALF MOON BAY, CA *Spring 2022*

Located approximately 30 miles south of San Francisco, the Half Moon Bay Coastsides is a vibrant coastal getaway ideal for outdoor spring adventures. With a temperate climate averaging in the mid-60s, visitors can enjoy relaxing walks along gorgeous beaches, go whale watching, and even hold baby goats at Harley Farms.

Below is a summary of what's new 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.

TIS THE SEASON FOR...

Whale Watching: It's Gray Whale Season

The annual migration of the gray whale is currently underway, and Half Moon Bay is the perfect spot for witnessing the journey of these spectacular creatures. Beginning in January and running through the end of March, approximately 15,000 gray whales swim south from the icy waters of the Arctic to mate and nurse their young in the warm shallow lagoons along Magdalena Bay in Baja, California. The full round-trip migration from the Bering Sea to the Baja calving lagoons is approximately 10,000 miles, the longest known migration for any mammal. Gray whales move at a steady speed of about five miles per hour, and most can be spotted in an area that extends from the kelp beds (about 3/4 miles from the shoreline) out to the horizon. For those who like to plan ahead, March through early April is a great time to spot humpback whales as they begin moving closer to shore.

Here are local companies that offer whale-watching excursions:

- Mooch Better, (650) 888-5125
- Queen of Hearts, (510) 581-2628
- Riptide Sportfishing, (650) 728-8433

Baby Goats Arrive for Spring!

There's nothing quite so reminiscent of springtime than a field full of baby goats. Take an idyllic day trip to the town of Pescadero where visitors can explore the restored Victorian barns of Harley Farms Goat Dairy and the quaint cheese shop, featuring their international award-winning farmstead chevre and many more delectable cheeses. Take a behind-the-scenes tour and meet the baby goats that romp around the grounds, or simply pop in for picnic goodies. *For tour reservations, call (650) 879-0480 or visit www.harleyfarms.com. 205 North Street, Pescadero.*

Coastside Farmers' Market

April 2 – December 17

9 a.m. - 1 p.m. (Saturdays only)

The Coastside Farmers' Market is an award-winning community treasure that features the best of the Coastside's locally harvested produce, flowers, honey, fish, pastured poultry, grass-fed meats, artisan bakers, and food producers in a lovely outdoor setting with live music provided by Coastside resident musicians. *Shoreline Station, 225 Cabrillo Highway. Media Contact: Erin Tormey, farmersmarket@coastside.net.*

Learning to Surf!

Newly renamed Blue Swell Surf School is the only female-owned and operated surf school/camp on the San Mateo Coastside. Owner Ella Catalano-Dockins – just 20 years old - has been surfing for 10 years along the San Mateo Coastside. Book surf lessons (individual and group) plus walking tours of the famous surf spot Mavericks led by the producer of the film *Mavericks*. For more information visit <https://www.mavzexperience.com>.

– UPCOMING EVENTS –

April 7 - November 3

Make It Main Street (free!)

First Thursdays from 1 - 7 p.m.

“Make It Main Street” will feature a collaboration between artists, musicians, and performers to celebrate local arts and culture and to support the shops in downtown Half Moon Bay. Stretching along five blocks of Main Street will be a rotating array of musicians, artists, storytellers, and poets plus a woodworker, a letterpress artist, sculptor, a guitar-builder, and a glassblower. Mac Dutra Park sets the stage for local writers, poets, essayists, and storytellers to perform their works. Locally produced short films will be screened at the Oddfellows Hall throughout the evening. *Main Street in Downtown Half Moon Bay. For more information, contact makeitmainstreet@coastside.net.*

April 24

Coastal Wildflower Day and Earth Day Festival (free!)

10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Celebrate the area's abundant spring wildflowers at Coastal Wildflower Day at Half Moon Bay State Beach. This community festival celebrates coastal habitats, climate resiliency, and the power of community-based volunteer efforts. Featuring local artists, activities for kids and adults, guided walks, native plant sales, food trucks, live music and dance performances, and informative booths from community organizations. *Half Moon Bay State Beach (Francis Beach parking lot), 95 Kelly Avenue. Admission to the festival is free, but there is a \$10 fee for parking. Both beaches can also be accessed by walking or biking along the Coastside Trail. For more information, visit www.coastalwildflowerday.org*

May 15

Half Moon Bay Wine & Jazz Fest (new event!)

12 p.m. - 4 p.m.

Taste wines from more than 50 California vintners along three blocks of Half Moon Bay's historic Main Street. Enjoy cuisine (available for purchase) from local restaurants and food

purveyors while watching performances from Bay Area jazz greats including headliner Paula West, Marcus Shelby, and the Bobby Hutcherson Tribute Band. For an elevated experience, purchase a VIP ticket to enjoy the Bubble Lounge at It's Italia. At this beautiful Italian Villa-style restaurant with a fireplace courtyard, indulge in sparkling wine tasting paired with appetizers, local artisanal fare, as well as Italian sparkling waters, espresso, sweets, and access to the no-host bar for cocktails and spirits. *Downtown Half Moon Bay. General admission tickets are \$75 or \$100 at the door. Tickets to the VIP Bubble Lounge are \$225 and limited to 200 attendees (includes general admission to the event). For tickets and more information, visit www.hmbwineandjazzfest.com.*

– CULINARY NEWS –

Pilot Light Café Has Landed

The Half Moon Bay Airport welcomed Pilot Light Cafe in late January, featuring a casual menu of daytime options. Open for breakfast and lunch, menu highlights include avocado toast, smashburgers, and the signature dish - a golden Dutch baby pancake covered with fresh fruit. Diners will not only be treated to excellent food but also to up close views of the runway to watch planes take off and land. Grab a table on the spacious dog-friendly patio for the best views. *Half Moon Bay Airport, 9850 Cabrillo Highway North, (650) 402-0575.*

Five Star Gelato

Gulino Gelato has moved into a new (and much larger) location on Main Street. Their renowned house made gelato served in housemade waffle cones is a must-try in Half Moon Bay. There are a selection of rotating flavors each day - those lucky enough may get to try their signature strawberry basil or pistachio (made from organic nuts from a nearby farm). Be sure add a dollop of whipped cream, handmade with a machine imported from Italy. Recently added is a selection of crepes and bubble waffles. A lover of gelato since his childhood summer vacations in Italy, owner Jean-Paul Guilino learned the art of the craft by training under a French chef at a culinary school in Bologna. For those on the go, they're now selling pints. *330 Main Street.*

Keith's Chicken-N-Waffles

Half Moon Bay will soon welcome Keith's Chicken-N-Waffles! At his second location in the Bay Area, owner Keith Richardson plans serve breakfast and lunch with his signature fried chicken and waffles alongside new items including country-style breakfast with biscuits and gravy, shrimp and grits, steak and eggs. There will also be kid-friendly options such as chicken tenders and little burgers. To perfect his recipes, Richardson has taken inspiration from his family's recipes and southern culinary traditions as he traveled across the U.S. in pursuit of the best chicken and waffles. *328 Main Street, (650) 729-3074.*

Roman-Style Pizza Comes to the Coastsides

Chef/Owner Mike McGrath is preparing to open Panificio this spring. McGrath has spent a great deal of time in Italy learning the nuances of pizza making, even becoming an Italian-trained Pizzaiolo. This artisan pizza/deli/bakery will blend Roman tradition with the Coastsides' local bounty. Menu highlights include pizza al taglio (square pizza), pizza tonda (ultra-thin crust), and pizza alla pala (long oval flatbread served on a wooden paddle). Italian salads, soups, and sweets will play a supporting role. An array of non-alcoholic beverages will be available. Open for lunch and dinner. *101 Main Street, Suite 1A, (530) 503-7569.*

Chocolate Exploration Weekend

Join Ritz-Carlton, Half Moon Bay Pastry Chef and award-winning chocolatier Adam Thomas for "Chocolate Exploration Weekend" on April 1-3. This three-day culinary extravaganza will feature a series of delicious events celebrating cacao with curated food and beverage

experiences. Events include a chocolate afternoon tea, a chocolate-themed brunch, and a seven-course dinner. *One Miramontes Point Road, (650) 712-7000. For pricing and reservations, visit www.ritzcarlton.com/HMB.*

- SHOPPING -

Alma & Bee

The shopping along Main Street just keeps getting better! Newly opened Alma & Bee features a carefully curated collection of unique goods and accessories such as jewelry, clothing, and beauty items. Founded out of the love for high-quality goods and eco-ethical practices, items support U.S. artisans, and most are made in California. Apparel is sustainable, handbags are vegan, and self-care products are natural and cruelty free. *345 Main Street, (650) 729-3100.*

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About the Half Moon Bay Coastside

The Half Moon Bay Coastside is a charming seaside respite located approximately 35 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, download Half Moon Bay's free app iCoastside or call (650) 726-8380. For the latest news on the area, visit www.visithalfmoonbay.org/articles, join us on Facebook @VisitHalfMoonBay, follow us on Instagram @visithalfmoonbay and Twitter @VisitHMB, plus check us out on YouTube www.youtube.com/user/visithmb.

Media Contact:

Kelly Chamberlin
Chamberlin Public Relations
(415) 336-4332
kelly@chamberlinpr.com