



visit California

2019 marks the year of the California Road Trip, as Visit California declares the state to be the Road Trip Republic: the world's preeminent destination for hitting the open road.

Home to some of the world's most renowned thoroughfares, including coastal Highway 1 and the terminus of historical Route 66, the majestic views and rich history found on these iconic trips draw thousands of visitors to the Golden State every year. In addition to these classic, "bucket list" trips, California offers travelers seemingly endless adventures. Visitors can explore the wild "Lost Coast" in the state's most northern counties, stargaze beneath dark skies on a road trip through the desert, walk amongst four types of volcanoes on a journey to Lassen Volcanic National Park, marvel at the untouched scenery of the Eastern Sierras along Route 395, and discover California's missions along the famous El Camino Real, spanning from San Diego to San Francisco.

The state's expansive coastline, ancient forests, rugged mountain ranges and vast deserts mean that there is something to fulfill everyone's road trip dreams. To help travelers plan their next adventure, Visit California just published "California Road Trips: 50 Life-Changing Adventures" and annually produces a free Road Trips guide showcasing travel tips, travel inspiration and must-see destinations.



CALIFORNIA

VISIT CALIFORNIA

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GEOGRAPHIC DESCRIPTION

California has a Mediterranean-type climate characterized by general sun and warmth with rain mainly in the winter. Climate varies greatly based on elevation and distance from the ocean. Rainfall varies from 80 inches in Del Norte County (North Coast) to as low as 3 inches in Imperial County (Desert).

There are five main climatic zones that exist in the state:

COASTAL: This area contains most of the state's population. The population varies greatly up and down the coast.

DESERT: Characterized by great variations in temperature, both daily and annual, along with very little rainfall.

FOOTHILL: 1,000 to 3,000 feet in elevation with climate similar to valley regions but with more rain and less fog.

MOUNTAIN: This is the sole region for heavy snow, accented with fairly cold winters and bright, sunny summers.

VALLEY: Characterized by high temperatures and low humidity in the summer and low temperatures and high humidity in the winter. Both the Sacramento and San Joaquin Valleys exhibit this type of climatology.



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TRANSPORTATION

California has four major gateways – Los Angeles International Airport (LAX), San Francisco International Airport (SFO), John Wayne Airport (SNA), San Diego International Airport (SAN) and over 140 other airports that support seasonal and year around flights.





NATIONAL MONUMENTS

Alcatraz Island
Cabrillo
California
Castle Mountains
Barstow, CA
César E. Chávez
Channel Islands
Death Valley
Devils Postpile
Eugene O'Neill
Fort Point

Point Reyes
Pony Express
Port Chicago Naval Magazine
Presidio of San Francisco
Redwood
Rosie the Riveter WWII Home Front
San Francisco Maritime
Santa Monica Mountains
Sequoia & Kings Canyon
Tule Lake
Whiskeytown
Yosemite

Golden Gate
John Muir
Joshua Tree
Juan Bautista de Anza
Lassen Volcanic
Lava Beds
Manzanar
Mojave
Muir Woods
Old Spanish
Pinnacles

CALIFORNIA TRIP IDEAS

California Road Trips: 50 Life-Changing Adventures is the ultimate source of information and inspiration for anybody considering a Golden State driving tour. The 100-page guide features 50 detailed itineraries that cover 14,929 miles of roadway and 154 days of driving – including coastal routes, desert highways, mountain passes, and much more. Each road trip is accompanied by a QR code that will direct consumers to the California Road Trips Republic digital hub on VisitCalifornia.com.

Abundance, variety and sustainability are key themes in this high-end publication. All told it features 634 points of interest, including insightful tips on 97 museums and roadside attractions; 92 culinary establishments; 54 hotels and other accommodations; and 36 state and national parks. VisitCalifornia.com/road-trips



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