

Sunset

WEEKEND TRIPS

62

Fall getaways
around
the West

GO

Road trips to
the coast,
mountains
or desert

STAY

Seaside inns,
quiet B&Bs,
city hotels

DO

Amazing
hikes,
cool shopping,
great food


AVENUE
OF THE GIANTS
Humboldt
County, CA
P. 46

Display until October 9, 2015
SUNSET.COM

\$11.99

56



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Sunset pockets



Steps leading down to Cambria's Moonstone Beach.

at Mozzi's Saloon, which traces its roots in Cambria to 1866. Don't leave without trying a pint of local Tap It Brewing IPA. mozzissaloon.com.

BEST KAYAK SHOP

Sea for Yourself Kayak Outfitters offers rentals and guided trips in San Simeon Cove. *Rentals \$10/hour, tours \$50; kayakcambria.com.*

BEST BREAKFAST JOINT

At Creekside Garden Cafe, the

a.m. menu is imaginative, with linguïça-stuffed omelets, apricot French toast, puffy Danish-style *aebleskiver* pancakes, and huevos rancheros. \$; creeksidegardencafe.com.

BEST SHOPPING

The selection of furnishings at Home Arts may run from mirrors framed in recycled copper to slightly surreal bird paintings by California artist Matt Adrian. home-arts.com.

BEST BEACHSIDE LODGING

The three rooms at Moonstone Cottages have hardwood floors, fireplaces, ocean views, and breakfast brought to the door. *From \$209; cambriainns.com.*

BEST LOCAL SECRET

Stretching along a mile of coastal bluffs, the Fiscalini Ranch Preserve is laced with trails. ffrpcambria.org.

BEST EVENT

Sunset's own Savor the Central Coast, a celebration of area brewers, chefs, vintners, and food producers, is like the magazine, come to life. *From \$85; Sep 24-27; main event at Santa Margarita Ranch; savorcentralcoast.com.*

CANNON BEACH, OR

Cannon Beach has long been popular with Portlanders, especially in July and August, when Oregon's ubiquitous rain clouds make way for what Northwesters charitably call "sun breaks." This endearing coastal town has fantastic restaurants and art galleries and is a short jaunt from miles of forested trails. And while summer crowds begin to dissipate after Labor Day, September's balmy weekends continue to attract urbanites determined to make the most of Oregon's last traces of summer weather. It's a good idea to book accommodations well in advance, particularly if you're visiting on a weekend, when it's not unheard of for the whole town to run out of rooms. —Margot Bigg

BEST BEACHCOMBING

If you're searching for sand dollars or want to see tidepools full of sea stars and anemones, head to iconic Haystack Rock at low tide. friendsofhaystackrock.org.

BEST SEAFOOD

A casual alternative to Cannon Beach's snazzier dining options, the Ecola Seafoods Restaurant & Market is the only strictly seafood spot in town, and the fish is as fresh as you'd expect from a place owned and operated by fishermen. \$\$; ecolaseafoods.com.

BEST NEW RESTAURANT

About 2 miles from the busy town center, Sea Level Bakery + Coffee serves French pastries and breads, all baked in-house. \$; sealevelbakery.com.

BEST SURF SHOP

With a welcoming staff and a sizable selection of wetsuits and

gear for sale and rent, Cleanline Surf is the ideal place to stop before hitting the waves. cleanlinesurf.com.

BEST BREAKFAST JOINT
Local takes on classic breakfasts dominate the morning menu at the Wayfarer; think waffles topped with marionberry-hazelnut butter, or eggs scrambled with the coast's own Tillamook cheddar cheese. \$\$; wayfarer-restaurant.com.

BEST SHOPPING
Lovers of curios will adore Found, a cozy boutique selling local crafts, antique furniture, and upcycled creations that incorporate beach materials such as sea glass. (503) 436-1812.

BEST BEACHSIDE LODGING
Cannon Beach's most lavish hotel, Stephanie Inn has spacious rooms with gas fireplaces, jacuzzis, and stellar views of Haystack Rock. From \$429; stephanieinn.com.

BEST LOCAL SECRET
Ideally, Hug Point state beach, 4 miles from downtown, should be visited when the tide is out and the ocean retreats to expose a small waterfall. oregonstateparks.org.

BEST EVENT
Every September, the owners of the town's historic cottages open their homes to visitors as part of the local history center's Cottage & Garden Tour. \$30; Sep 12-13; cbhistory.org/cottage-tour.php.

LONG BEACH PENINSULA, WA

After Labor Day, the beach dwellers and kite fliers who fill the Long Beach Peninsula during the summer are replaced by fall migrants—sanderlings, dunlin, and other shorebirds that touch down on their way south. The birds seem to appreciate the warm weather that lingers into September most years. You'll find the shirtsleeve

temps encourage long walks on the 28-mile beach. At Cape Disappointment, visit the Confluence Project's *Fish-Cleaning Table*, designed by Maya Lin. —Crai S. Bower

BEST BEACHCOMBING
At Beards Hollow Beach, you'll find parking as well as tidepools for those who hike the mile-long Westwind Trail from North Head Lighthouse. \$10/vehicle; funbeach.com/overlook.

BEST SEAFOOD
Pause at OleBob's Galley Cafe in Ilwaco for fresh clam chowder and a crab melt en route to Cape Disappointment and the Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center. \$\$; olebobs.com.

BEST NEW RESTAURANT
Pickled Fish, which opened in 2012, melds urban culinary trends with coastal riches. Dive into Dungeness crab mac 'n' cheese followed by Willapa Bay oysters and chips. \$\$; pickledfishrestaurant.com.



At Pickled Fish, a beach treat is Dungeness crab mac 'n' cheese.

BEST SURF SHOP
Grab a board at the Skookum Surf Co. and hit the waves. Then dry off by pedaling an Electra cruiser on the 8.5-mile Discovery Trail or the Long Beach Boardwalk. skookumsurf.com.

BEST BREAKFAST JOINT
Seaview's 42nd Street Café & Bistro draws the "Big Easy" breakfast crowd with two eggs with pan-fried oysters or fried razor clams to go along with beignets and chicory coffee. \$; 42ndstcafe.com.

BEST BEACHSIDE LODGING
At the Inn at Discovery Coast, you can almost touch the beach grass from your bed in one of the corner studios, where sliding barn doors conceal the bath. Complimentary breakfast is delivered right to your room. From \$150; innatdiscoverycoast.com.

BEST LOCAL SECRET
Leadbetter Point State Park is often ignored as visitors flock to Cape Disappointment. A perfect (and quieter) northern peninsula day starts with a warm scone or bowl of soup inside Bailey's Bakery and Cafe, open Thursday to Monday. Park: \$10/vehicle; parks.wa.gov/537/Leadbetter-Point.

BEST EVENT
Savor morels and matsutakes at the Wild Mushroom Celebration, which offers classes, tastings, and dinners. Oct 1-Nov 15; wildmushroomcelebration.com.



Long Beach Peninsula's Beards Hollow Beach.