

West Coast Road Trip

HIGHLIGHTS

- San Francisco • Monterey • Pismo Beach • Los Angeles

ITINERARY

San Francisco

Fly to San Francisco from the UK and arrive in the 'Bay City'. We recommend a stay in the Hotel RIU at Fisherman's Wharf, a waterfront neighborhood and visitor destination that includes seafood restaurants, Pier 39 with its sea lions, Madame Tussauds Wax Museum, and many other attractions. This hotel also includes breakfast as standard so provides great value for money.

Enjoy a day in San Francisco, hop aboard a famous cable car to see the sights while enjoying one of the city's iconic experiences. Take a ferry to Alcatraz Island (pre-book this online) to get an up-close look at the notorious federal penitentiary (now part of the National Park Service). Climb up Telegraph Hill to take in panoramic city views from the top of Coit Tower, and stroll down winding Lombard Street. If time allows, join a walking tour or cycle across the Golden Gate Bridge.

Monterey

A 2-hour drive south sees you arrive at your next stop in Monterey, where we recommend a stay at Monterey Marriott. Walk into the spacious lobby, where you'll find the hotel restaurant and communal seating area, perfect for relaxing with friends or catching some sport. You won't run out of fun activities in this picturesque coastal community. The Monterey Bay Aquarium is an absolute must, a place where you can marvel at marine life and learn how to help preserve our oceans. Be sure to go whale watching too, an extraordinary spectacle year-round!

Pismo Beach

Pismo Beach is the ultimate spot to take a few days away from the long drives and unwind by the beach. There are some really great coffee spots like Kraken Coffee, right next to Pismo Pier, and even better seafood restaurants such as Ventana Grill, where you'll be blown away by the views you get during your sunset reservation. You can also enjoy beach bonfires and eat s'mores to your hearts content or live life on the wild side and take an excursion through the sand dunes!

Optional: Santa Barbara

This charmingly small city, 90 miles north of Los Angeles, hugs both the beaches and Highway 101. With bougainvillea twining across red-tiled rooftops, birdsong mingling with the ocean breeze, islands and whale spouts on the horizon — Santa Barbara's charms tempt at every turn. Perfect getaways don't get much more perfect. Take it from the movie stars who sneak away to Santa Barbara all the time — or just straight up move here. Oprah, Brad, and Ellen are just some of the A-listers who have estates here.

Los Angeles

Arrive at your final stop, the 'City of Angels'. Head for North Hollywood, where you will enter the world of glitz and glam, it's everything you ever imagined it would be. Here, everyone's a rockstar! We recommend a stay in The Garland in North Hollywood, opened by legendary Hollywood actress Beverly Garland in 1972. This hotel has great transportation links to the rest of the city, the Metro line is just a 10-minute walk from the hotel, so you can be strolling along the Hollywood walk of fame in no time!

For those looking for a bit of adventure try one of the cities many theme parks such as Universal Studios, Disneyland California, or Knott's Berry Farm. If you're headed for Anaheim to see the main man, Mickey Mouse, we recommend a stay in the Sheraton Park Hotel.

Depart Los Angeles

Return your hire car to the airport prior to your flight back to the UK. Alternatively, why not fly onwards to another US city such as Las Vegas or New York before returning home.

This itinerary is an example of one of our most popular California road trips. Dates, durations, hotels and activities are flexible and our experienced travel agents can build an itinerary perfectly suited to you.

Drive Times:

- San Francisco to Monterey = 2 hours
- Monterey to Pismo Beach = 3 hours + 30 minutes
- Pismo Beach to Los Angeles = 3 hours + 14 minutes