



Minneapolis to Monterey: Sun Country Launches Direct Flight to Monterey County

New Flight Connects Twin Cities to the best of California's breathtaking Central Coast

Monterey, Calif., February 29, 2024 – Beginning in August, Monterey County's vast mosaic of experiences will become even more accessible to the Minneapolis/St. Paul, Minnesota region through a new direct flight from Sun Country Airlines (NASDAQ: SNCY). The airline will begin nonstop flights between Monterey Regional Airport (MRY) and Minneapolis/St. Paul, Minnesota (MSP) beginning Thursday, August 8, 2024, giving Minnesotans easy access to iconic coastal destinations like Big Sur and Carmel-by-the-Sea and world-famous attractions like the Monterey Bay Aquarium and Cannery Row.

"Uniting Minneapolis/St. Paul with Monterey County opens up a world of possibilities for travelers seeking both leisure and business pursuits," said Rob O'Keefe, president & CEO of See Monterey. "This link offers seamless access to bucket list destinations like Big Sur, Pebble Beach and the picturesque Salinas Valley, and during prime summer season. Moreover, with major corporate players such as Best Buy and Target in the fold, our destination promises enriching opportunities for innovative meetings and conferences, fueling inspiration and collaboration."

With late summer and early fall often regarded as the best time to visit, the flight launch is well-timed to offer visitors a quintessential California experience. Monterey County offers 99 miles of prime Pacific coastline, 45,000 acres of premium vineyards, 28 golf courses including the famed Pebble Beach Golf Links and hillside elevations for hiking and climbing of over 5,500 feet. With more than 220 lodging options, there are hotels to fit every budget, including new hotels such as the 42-room [Stilwell Hotel](#) in Carmel-by-the-Sea and the newly transformed 192-room Monterey Beach Hotel, a Tribute Portfolio Hotel, alongside legacy properties like Big Sur's first hotel and restaurant, [Big Sur River Inn](#), celebrating its 90th anniversary this year. Michelin-starred restaurants like [Chez Noir](#) and Aubergine and 2023 Bib Gourmand recipient [Maligne](#) have propelled Monterey into the culinary spotlight, while flavorful journeys like the [Artichoke Trail](#) and app-guided [Wine Walk](#) offer bountiful opportunities to indulge in local flavor. Late summer also brings big events to town, like the legendary Monterey Car Week – more than a week's worth of automotive bliss – along with exciting entertainment like the world-renowned Monterey Jazz Festival and newcomer [Rebel & Renegades Music Festival](#).

Monterey County has long been an attractive destination for corporate groups and meetings, with inspiring venues ranging from the certified LEED® Platinum Monterey Bay Conference Center to imaginative spaces at the Monterey Bay Aquarium, celebrating its 40th anniversary in 2024. The temperate climate encourages outdoor team-building adventures year-round, including whale watching tours and kayaking amongst wildlife, hiking Pinnacles National Park and thrilling experiences at the Allen Berg Racing School at WeatherTech Raceway Laguna Seca.

The new flight launches Thursday, August 8, 2024, and is scheduled to run Thursdays and Sundays through November 3, 2024. Tickets are on sale now at www.suncountry.com. For more information on Monterey County, visit www.SeeMonterey.com.

For downloadable images, please see the [media gallery](#).

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ABOUT SEE MONTEREY

See Monterey is a 501c6 non-profit organization that drives tourism for Monterey County. Tourism is the largest industry on the Monterey Peninsula and the second largest in the County. See Monterey is a partnership of the hospitality community and local governments that aims to generate community prosperity and enrich economic vitality for Monterey County through the responsible promotion and growth of the tourism economy. Travel spending in Monterey County was nearly \$3 billion in 2022, supporting 25,370 jobs and generating \$307 million in state and local tax revenue that directly benefited the community. For more information, visit www.SeeMonterey.com and follow us on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) and [X](#) (Twitter).

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