

'Tis The Season: Monterey County CVB Announces 2020 Holiday Gift Guide

Monterey, Calif., November 17, 2020 – [Monterey County Convention and Visitors Bureau](#) (Monterey County CVB) is announcing its 2020 holiday gift guide, making it possible to support local businesses and gift a piece of the stunning California central coast this holiday season. From stocking stuffers to unforgettable experiences, the iconic destination offers the perfect gifts for loved ones near and far during the most magical time of the year.

Experience the Outdoors

- **Monterey Bay Kayaking Tour**
Give a private guided [kayaking tour](#) of Elkhorn Slough Estuary Reserve in Moss Landing, known for its abundant wildlife – from sea otters and harbor seals to more than 300 species of birds. Rated the #1 tour in the Monterey area by Trip Advisor, these tours are open daily and available to book in advance. Two-hour tours for up to four people are \$440.
- **Pebble Beach Resort Golf Gear**
Find the perfect gift for golf-lovers at [Pebble Beach Resort's online shop](#). From a new tumbler, golf shirt, ornament or [set of golf balls](#), Pebble Beach has all the gifts golf enthusiasts need to score a hole-in-one this holiday season.
- **Classic Car Experience**
Give a gift that comes complete with stunning views. Car enthusiasts can enjoy a drive down Highway 1 and take in the iconic Big Sur coastline with a [classic car rental](#) from [Monterey Touring Vehicles](#). Explore nearby areas, from fairy tale-style cottages in Carmel-by-the-Sea, to world-renowned 17-Mile Drive in Pebble Beach, and award-winning vineyards and horse ranches in Carmel Valley. Choose from more than 35 cars that can be rented for a minimum of 4 hours or for an entire Central Coast vacation. Car rentals range from \$200 to \$600 for four hours.
- **Monterey Bay Aquarium Gift Packages**
Ocean lovers will be ecstatic with one of eight gift packages the world famous Aquarium is offering this holiday season. Suitable for all ages, [these exclusive gifts](#) will provide year-round fun and the opportunity to learn about wildlife native to the Monterey Bay and Pacific Ocean. Packages are priced between \$25 and \$75.
- **Wine Tasting Helicopter Tour**
Gift a wine tasting tour with a twist! [Specialized Helicopters](#) offers [wine tasting tours](#) complete with aerial views of the Monterey Bay. Flights take guests directly to wineries in the Santa Lucia Highlands AVA, roughly 25 miles inland from the Monterey Bay. The region is the largest grower of Chardonnay in the United States and produces the highest-rated and largest amount of Pinot Noir in California. Once on the ground, winery staff greet guests and provide a tour of the winery. Tours start at \$460 per person.

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Relax and Rejuvenate

- **Luxurious Home Goods**

Bring the luxury of Big Sur, California's [Post Ranch Inn](#) home with products from the resort's online shop. Situated atop cliffs overlooking the Pacific Ocean, the world-class resort makes their signature [sateen sheets](#) (\$600) and [plush robes](#) (\$160) available for purchase via their online shop. These gifts are perfect for creating an at-home sanctuary and providing a sneak peek of a future Big Sur getaway.

- **Outdoor Spa Treatment**

Carmel Valley's [Bernardus Lodge & Spa](#) is now offering innovative spa treatments in light of COVID-19 safety requirements. The Spa now has four private outdoor treatment spaces on patios that adjoin to the treatment rooms and all massage and facial services take place in the new outdoor spaces. Carmel Valley enjoys 300+ days of sunshine each year, making it the perfect place for a vitamin D-filled relaxing escape.

- **John Steinbeck Novels**

Looking to experience Monterey County without leaving home? Purchase novels by legendary author John Steinbeck, who was born and raised in Monterey County's agricultural hub of Salinas. Monterey County is the backdrop for many of his books – including "Cannery Row" and its sequel "Sweet Thursday." Both books can be purchased from the National Steinbeck Center's [online shop](#).

Taste California's Finest

- **Handcrafted Pasta Sauces**

Chef Pèpe's handcrafted Little Napoli pasta sauces make the perfect gift for foodies. These authentic sauces — available in Garlic-Basil, Puttanesca and Arrabbiata — offer a taste of Italy from home. Chef Pèpe's Little Napoli sauces are staples at his restaurants, [Little Napoli](#) and [Vesuvios Italiana Restaurant](#) in Carmel-by-the-Sea, California. Each bottle is handcrafted in Chef Pèpe's kitchen with 100% natural ingredients and no preservatives. All three of Chef Pèpe's Little Napoli sauces can be purchased and shipped nationwide via [Amazon](#).

- **Monterey Bay in a Box**

From local chocolates to honey, scented hand soaps and hand-painted ornaments, [Monterey Bay Food Tour](#)'s gift boxes bring a taste of California's central coast home and help support local businesses in Monterey County. Perfect for those who've had to cancel travel plans but still looking to cure their wanderlust, these gift sets include everything necessary for the ultimate "staycation" with a West Coast twist. View the gift collections [online](#).

- **Sea Salt Caramels**

[The Cottage of Sweets](#) is a traditional British-style sweets shop that has called Carmel home since 1959. They provide a collection of fudge, locally made chocolates, British sweets, gummies and a wide variety of nostalgic and children's novelty candies – and have been ranked as one of

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the best candy shops in the U.S.! Pick from its robust collection of [sweets](#), guaranteed to make crowd-pleasing stocking stuffers.

- **Baker's Bacon Gift Box**

Formerly at Monterey's Montrio Bistro, local chef Tony Baker recently opened his own shop in Marina, specializing in signature bacon cuts. Previously only available to high-end restaurants, now [Baker's Bacon](#) is available to enjoy at home. Browse their [gift boxes](#) and order online.

- **Award-Winning Olive Oil**

California's best olive oil is found in southern Monterey County near the tiny town of San Ardo at [43 Ranch](#). Choose from four extra virgin olive oil flavors or its new reserve. The internationally acclaimed Ranch doesn't stop at producing olive oils, but also offers soap and honey. A 250 milliliter tin starts at \$19 and can be ordered [online](#).

- **Happy Girl Kitchen Co.**

Located in Pacific Grove, [Happy Girl Kitchen Co.](#) is all about farm driven foods. Known for its award-winning jams, marmalades and jellies, gift a delicious variety of California fruits with their Sweet California Gift Box. The box can be ordered [online](#) and includes plum jam, blackberry jam, Big Sur marmalade and Meyer lemon marmalade.

For more information Monterey County and how to book a future trip, visit www.SeeMonterey.com.

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ABOUT MONTEREY COUNTY CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU

The Monterey County Convention & Visitors Bureau (Monterey County CVB) 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. The MCCVB is a partnership of the hospitality community and local governments that aims to drive business growth through compelling marketing and targeted sales initiatives that maximize the benefits of tourism to its guests, members and the community. Travel spending in Monterey County was \$3.24 billion in 2019, representing a 3.3 percent increase from 2018. This \$3.24 billion in visitor spending supported 27,120 jobs, contributed \$296 million in total taxes and generated \$153 million local tax dollars that directly benefited the community. For more information, visit www.SeeMonterey.com and follow us on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) and [Twitter](#).

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