

# California

## Exploring the Californian coast

This region is attracting more and more people from around the world. There is so much to see and do, you won't know where to start! CampingCar-Online/Ramble Campervans suggests a list of places, beautiful sites and parks to visit during your motorhome adventure in California.

### Alcatraz Island

Visit the most famous federal prison in the USA, situated in San Francisco Bay. You will be totally immersed in your visit!

### Golden Gate Bridge

Enjoy the views of San Francisco Bay from the mythical, red bridge decorated with its large columns. You can drive across in your motorhome or walk or cycle across.

### Hearst Castle

Don't miss this beautiful, impressive mansion once home to William Randolph Hearst. There are more than 160 different rooms and 51 hectares of gardens with pools, fountains and panoramic views of the coast. Hearst Castle is situated in San Simeon off Highway 1.

### Redwood Empire Coast

In northern California explore the majestic redwood forests, with ancient sequoia trees thousands of years old. Enjoy this unique experience by walking through the Avenue of the Giants, surrounded by enormous trees and breathtaking views.

### Monterey

Monterey has gone from being an old, traditional fishing port to a more and more visited beach town. It has one of the largest aquariums in the country. Just a few kilometers away you can explore Big Sur, a beautiful, sparsely populated region offering real tranquillity away from other beach resort populated areas along the coast.

### Santa Barbara

This city has kept all of its past Spanish charm with its uniquely Spanish architected patios, archways and alleyways. It is also a famous beach resort with its fine, soft sand and palm trees lining the beaches. You will find campsites nearby and you will really be able to fully enjoy the beaches and the ocean.

### Malibu

Surfing enthusiasts must visit Malibu, one of the best surf spots in California! You will definitely enjoy the view from the big beach and its waves!

### Hollywood

In Los Angeles, the city of cinema is a unique experience. Visit Universal Studios and the Paramount Studios. You can

also enjoy the nightlife along Sunset Boulevard. You'll have no trouble finding campsites in Los Angeles.

## Venice Beach

At Venice Beach you will not be disappointed by the many chic boutiques that line the beach. Take the opportunity to stroll along the Ocean Front Walk and admire the view. You can also stroll along the canals and enjoy the surrounding unusual and original houses.

## Lake Tahoe

This huge mountain lake stretches over 30 km in the Sierra Nevada Valley. It is characterized by its clear water, of unparalleled purity, and wild mountain landscape. Part of the shore is built up with casinos and hotels. Take a stop at Emerald Bay, an exceptional site.

## SeaWorld

If you are travelling with children don't miss a visit to SeaWorld in San Diego, one of the biggest aquariums in the world. Enjoy the many different experiences and shows with the sea animals.

## Sonoma et Napa Valleys

In the northeast of San Francisco lie two small valleys, Napa Valley and Sonoma Valley, which include more than 300 wineries. Wine lovers will certainly appreciate this step of the Californian motorhome journey.

## Albuquerque

Steeped in colonial history, this small town of New Mexico has quickly become a real business city, the largest in the state. Every year in October 500 hot air balloons are set to flight for the International Balloon Fiesta.

## Death Valley National Park

Death Valley is situated mostly below sea level. The period of deglaciation carved the valley and its surrounding mountains. It is now the largest US national park. The best period to visit this area by motorhome is from mid-October to April. **CampingCar-Online would like to remind you that it is strictly forbidden to travel in this area by motorhome from 15 June to 15 September.**

## Sequoia et Kings National Parks

Both parks extend over a hundred kilometers and are home to Mount Whitney, the highest peak in the USA (excluding Alaska). These parks are less visited than the more well know Yosemite National Park. Therefore they are less busy and offer a lovely experience.

## Yosemite National Park

This park is certainly one of the most famous parks in the USA and also one of the most spectacular. A rare and beautiful mountain landscape engulfs the Yosemite Valley with giant pines and redwoods, abundant wildlife, and waterfalls including the Yosemite Falls, some of the highest in the country. The best view point in the region is Glacier Point, just a few kilometres away.

## Redwood National Park

Sequoia Redwood trees, with their reddish bark, dominate the park. This species has existed for millions of years, and here you will see the tallest trees in the world. The park is also home to spectacular rhododendrons that grow to an astounding height and abundant wildlife such as elk, deer and pelicans.

