



# The Best of the Redwood Coast

## 25 Great Things to See and Do In Humboldt County

Courtesy of: \_\_\_\_\_ Your Humboldt Concierge

- 1. Redwood Scenic Parkway**  
Drive into the heart of Redwood National Park.
- 2. Fern Canyon**  
Natural wonder of scenic beauty.
- 3. Lady Bird Johnson Grove**  
One of the redwoods' most sublime (and accessible) walks.
- 4. Humboldt Lagoons**  
A unique ecosystem for beach, birding, fishing, boating and more.
- 5. Patrick's Point State Park**  
A pocket coastal paradise with scenic vistas, Indian village.
- 6. Willow Creek**  
Mountain town with fishing and rafting, wine and Bigfoot!
- 7. Trinidad**  
Scenic seaside village with beach, arts, dining on the pier.
- 8. Clam and Moonstone Beaches**  
Miles of sand, beachcombing, wildlife, kite-flying and walks.
- 9. Arcata Plaza**  
Historic square in a vibrant college town; dining and shopping.
- 10. Arcata Marsh and Wildlife Sanctuary**  
Superb birdwatching, guided walks and views of the bay.
- 11. Humboldt Bay**  
The Victorian Seaport has boats, history and wildlife to enjoy.
- 12. Samoa Cookhouse**  
Eat like a lumberjack, learn about logging. Three square meals daily.
- 16. Humboldt Bay National Wildlife Refuge**  
Experience incredible wildlife and scenery. Good for long walks.
- 17. Loleta Cheese Factory**  
See how cheese is made and sample dozens of delectable varieties.
- 18. Ferndale**  
Step back in time in this Victorian town. Shopping, dining, arts.
- 19. Fortuna**  
Antiques, events and more in classic small town America.
- 20. Scotia**  
Delve into timber heritage in this historic company town.
- 21. Scenic Lost Coast Drive**  
Explore California's only coastal wilderness, return via redwoods.
- 22. Avenue of the Giants**  
World-famous drive through the redwoods and much more.
- 23. Drive Thru Tree**  
Yes, you really can take your car through a redwood tree.
- 24. Shelter Cove**  
Discover the beauty of this spectacular, remote community.
- 25. Benbow SRA/Richardson Grove**  
An Eden for summer swimming and year-round redwood hikes.

**13. Old Town Eureka**  
Abundant shopping, dining, arts, history (and accessible) walks.

**14. Morris Graves Museum of Art**  
Icons of Northwest art

**15. Sequoia Park and Zoo**  
Stroll in redwoods, enjoy the animals. Gift shop and Cafe.

See over for details and directions to these 25 attractions. For complete information on the Redwood Parks, beaches, towns, attractions, the arts, dining and more, visit [www.redwoods.info](http://www.redwoods.info)

HUMBOLDT COUNTY CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU

# 25 Great Things to See and Do In Humboldt County

## 1. REDWOOD SCENIC PARKWAY

This 10-mile scenic alternative to Hwy. 101 takes just a few more minutes and avoids the steep grades of the park bypass. From the north, exit at Newton B. Drury Scenic Parkway near the county line; from the south exit at Newton Drury/Elk Prairie. Stop at intriguing trailheads and wander among the giants. Near the Elk Prairie visitor center, stop and watch the magnificent Roosevelt Elk. Bring binoculars and don't get too close — these are wild animals!

## 2. FERN CANYON

A "Lost World" awaits as you follow a narrow canyon whose 50-foot plus walls are carpeted with luxuriant ferns and mosses. It's a primeval location used in the filming of Jurassic Park 2. Approx. 2 mile loop walk with seasonal bridges over Home Creek. Take Hwy. 101 to Davison Rd., 3 miles N. of Orick. Follow unpaved road 6 miles to coast, 3 miles north to parking. Day-use fee; restrooms, beach.

## 3. LADY BIRD JOHNSON GROVE

This spectacular redwood grove was dedicated to Lady Bird Johnson, former First Lady, upon the creation of Redwood National Park in 1968. A level path ushers you past huge trees, rhododendrons that bloom in May-June, and numerous other features of an ancient redwood forest — in a loop nature trail of about two miles. Take Bald Hills Road, just north of Orick, two miles to the parking lot, then cross over the footbridge to the trailhead where you'll find printed trail guides.

## 4. HUMBOLDT LAGOONS

Whether your bag is fishing, boating, beachcombing or birding, the Humboldt Lagoons are for you. These lagoons are fed by springs, but get breached every winter so the water is brackish. The largest is Big Lagoon (six miles N. of Trinidad), which has overnight camping (first-come basis) and rock collecting on Agate Beach. Kayak rentals are provided by Kayak Zak's (707-498-1130). There's a great hiking trail from Dry Lagoon to Stone Lagoon; both have primitive camping.

## 5. PATRICK'S POINT STATE PARK

Exit Hwy. 101 at Patrick's Point Drive, about five miles N. of Trinidad, and you'll find a perfect day-use park (fee) though you can camp there too — reservations at 1-800-444-PARK. Highlights include scenic walks on Rim Trail, Wedding Rock, Ceremonial Rock, a visitor center, picnic areas and Sumeg Village. This recreation of a traditional Yurok village includes houses, sweat lodge and a dance pit, as well as a redwood canoe and native plants.

## 6. WILLOW CREEK

"River fun in the mountain sun" is how this community on the scenic Trinity River bills itself, and indeed a popular pastime is whitewater rafting (Bigfoot Rafting, 800-722-2223). There's much more to do, including backcountry auto tours through Six Rivers National Forest, winetasting and farm stands, and visiting the China Flat-Bigfoot Museum with the world's largest collection of Bigfoot artifacts. The Willow Creek area is in fact ground zero for Bigfoot sightings.

## 7. TRINIDAD

Just 20 miles north of Eureka, the tiny, picture-perfect town of Trinidad perches on the coast. An official gateway to the California Coastal National Monument, Trinidad offers tidepooling at Trinidad State Beach, hiking on Trinidad Head, and dining on the Trinidad pier! You can shop for gifts and picnic supplies, too. Also check out the Memorial Lighthouse, and the Humboldt State Marine Lab.

## 8. CLAM AND MOONSTONE BEACHES

These wide, sandy beaches are easy to access and offer all the beach recreation you're looking for. Take Hwy. 101 to the Clam Beach exit (12 miles N. of Eureka) where you'll find ample parking. Walk and beachcomb, picnic and fly your kite. Take your dog (on the waveslope, under voice command) or bring your horse. To reach Moonstone Beach, exit Highway 101 at 6th St./Westhaven, turn left under the highway, left and then right. Here you can scramble on boulders or explore tidepools.

## 9. ARCATA PLAZA

The Arcata Plaza is a lively center of commerce and recreation. You'll find fantastic dining and unique shopping on the plaza's borders. On May to October Saturdays, a wonderful Farmer's Market with live entertainment takes place. Sample the arts with Arts Arcata on the second Friday of each month. Find visitor information and fun shops in the Jacoby Storehouse on the plaza. Exit Hwy. 101 at Sunny Brae/Old Arcata Rd. (northbound), take Samoa Blvd. west to G St. and turn right. Southbound, exit at Sunset and follow H St. to the Plaza.

## 10. ARCATA MARSH AND WILDLIFE SANCTUARY

Once you see the lakes, ponds and lovely trails at the Arcata Marsh, you'll never believe it's also an innovative, low-tech wastewater treatment facility for the progressive City of Arcata. Outstanding birdwatching is to be had (guided walks on weekends). Start at the Interpretive Center (Samoa Blvd. to South G St.) or at Klopp Lake (Samoa Blvd. to I St.)

## 11. HUMBOLDT BAY

Start at Woodley Island (Hwy. 101 to Hwy. 255, over the first bridge). Watch fishing boats, see the Fisherman Memorial or Table Bluff Lighthouse, go kayaking (Hum-Boats, 707-443-5157) or enjoy waterfront dining (Cafe Marina, 707-443-2233). Bay views can be enjoyed from the Eureka Boardwalk (foot of F St., Eureka), or on board the Madaket (707-445-1910), a historic ferryboat offering a 75-minute narrated tour of Humboldt Bay.

## 12. SAMOA COOKHOUSE

For over 100 years the Samoa Cookhouse has been serving up good eats to hungry millworkers, lumberjacks and visitors. The fixed menu is served family-style on long, oilcloth-covered tables, and they will keep bringing food as long as you keep eating! Check out the museum of logging and cookhouse memorabilia (707-442-1659). While you're there, visit the Humboldt Bay Maritime Museum next door. From Eureka take the Samoa Bridge (Hwy. 255) across the bay; turn left on New Navy Base Rd. and follow signs to the Cookhouse.

## 13. OLD TOWN EUREKA

Nowhere is Eureka's Victorian heritage more evident than in Old Town, a meticulously preserved and restored district of unique shops, restaurants, galleries and museums. Many special events, including the Arts Alive! art walk the first Saturday of each month, take place in Old Town. The Old Town/Downtown district includes theaters, pubs, antique shops, local coffee houses and the new Arkley Center for the Performing Arts. The Eureka Boardwalk (foot of F St.) is open for strolling and baywatching. Don't miss the iconic Carson Mansion at 2nd and M sts. Take 5th St. (northbound) or 4th St. (southbound) and turn north from M to C Sts. The action centers at 2nd and F.

## 14. MORRIS GRAVES MUSEUM OF ART

Situated in a lovingly-restored Carnegie Library building, the Morris Graves Museum of Art delivers a big-city art experience in a small town package. There are seven galleries, an outdoor sculpture garden and a performance rotunda, plus regular programs including a young artists academy. 636 F St., Eureka. 707-442-0278

## 15. SEQUOIA PARK & ZOO

Not many cities the size of Eureka have their own zoos! Sequoia Park and Zoo is a delightful attraction and is making regular upgrades and acquiring new animals. See the Children's Barnyard and petting zoo, the walk-in aviary, and the popular primates, not to mention over 70 acres of old-growth redwood forest to explore. Harris St. to 3414 W St. 707-441-4263

## 16. HUMBOLDT BAY NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

An important stop on the Pacific Flyway, the refuge serves up spectacular birding. The Aleutian Goose fly-off Feb. to March is legendary. Trails along the levees bring you close to the birding action. You can also launch your kayak or canoe at Hookton Slough. Highway 101 to Hookton Rd., follow signs to Ranch Road and start at the Richard Guadagno Visitor Center.

## 17. LOLETA CHEESE FACTORY

Visitors are always welcome! Watch cheese making through tall windows, sample the many different kinds of cheese, then browse through the cheese factory store where you can also find many other locally produced food items as well as some of Humboldt's own varietal wines. Stay for a picnic in the gardens. 252 Loleta Dr., Loleta, (707-733-5470)

## 18. FERNDALE

It's known as the Victorian Village, and for good reason: this bucolic farming town has barely changed for 150 years, and is loaded with beautifully preserved homes and shops. A stroll down Main Street is a step back in time — general store, ice cream parlor, blacksmith, etc. Besides shopping and dining there's plenty to do: visit the Ferndale Museum, the Kinetic Sculpture Museum, the gothic Ferndale Cemetery or wild Russ Park. Country roads radiate into peaceful farmlands. Exit Hwy. 101 at Fernbridge, cross over the Eel River and drive 5 miles to town.

## 19. FORTUNA

The "friendly city" is a great hub for visiting Avenue of the Giants and the Eel River Valley towns of Ferndale and Loleta, and hosts several exciting events during the year. The River Lodge conference center offers heather gardens and a scenic walk along the river. On Main Street there's an interesting cluster of antique shops, while in Rohner Park you'll find the Fortuna Depot Museum and beautiful hiking trails through the redwoods.

## 20. SCOTIA

Scotia is an authentic company town where everything from schools to shops was built by the Pacific Lumber Company for its workers. The Scotia Museum gives a glimpse of timber heritage, including logging locomotives and steam donkeys. The Scotia Aquarium displays wild salmon and steelhead and educates about habitat restoration. Exit Hwy. 101 at Scotia, about 25 miles south of Eureka.

## 21. LOST COAST SCENIC DRIVE

The Lost Coast is California's only coastal wilderness, where no development or major roads come near the ocean. This wild and spectacular scenic drive is the closest you can come without a backpack. Leave from Ferndale on the Petrolia Rd. (the "Wildcat"). The road follows the coast for six miles near Cape Mendocino, then turns inland along the Mattole River. Keep going and you'll wind up in the back of Humboldt Redwoods State Park, whence you can return via Hwy. 101. Allow 3-4 hours for this adventure.

## 22. AVENUE OF THE GIANTS

A 31-mile scenic alternate to Hwy. 101, the Avenue of the Giants is the best bet for seeing the redwoods by car. Apart from stately aisles of massive trees, the Avenue takes you past inviting trailheads and side roads, as well as quirky small towns with their roadside attractions. Must-sees along the Avenue include the Humboldt Redwoods State Park visitor center and Founders' Grove (nature trail).

## 23. DRIVE THRU TREE

Ever since there have been automobiles, people have wanted to drive them through holes cut in trees. Very well, if you must. The Shrine Drive-Thru Tree and Drive-Over Tree in Myers Flat, for a modest fee, will let you do it. Myers Flat exit off Hwy. 101. 707-943-1658.

## 24. SHELTER COVE

At the end of a challenging, twisty road from Garberville/Redway, the town of Shelter Cove rewards you with truly magnificent views of the Lost Coast, black sand beaches, outstanding fishing and all the solitude, peace and relaxation you could need. Lodging and dining available.

## 25. BENBOW SRA/ RICHARDSON GROVE

Benbow Lake State Recreation Area is a favorite spot on the Eel River for swimming, boating and fishing. You're in the redwoods but don't be fooled — it gets warm! Just south, the trees and trails of Richardson Grove State Park beckon, along with good access to the Eel River for more summertime water play.