



# #SafeMendocino Visitor Guide



#SafeMendocino

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# Welcome

As we ease back into a fully open economy, we welcome you to Mendocino County, the perfect destination to enjoy personal space with room to roam. From our 90 miles of California coastline, inland vineyards and towering redwoods, there is no better place to take in fresh air. Reconnecting with nature and each other provides much needed healing from the past year. And in keeping with a healthy and safe environment, we ask you to remember to be a responsible traveler. While most recreation areas and businesses are open, please be patient as they continue to provide safe and sanitized operations. Please research specific rules, regulations and business modifications before trekking out into our towns, shops, restaurants or outdoor recreational spaces. We provide this guide to help you understand what responsible means for both our community and you, our visitor.

Enjoy your time in Mendocino County – I invite you to find your happy.

Travis Scott  
Executive Director  
Visit Mendocino County

# Responsible Travel & Tourism

While the State of California is now fully open, it's important to recognize that the Coronavirus is still prevalent, and we continue to practice safety recommendations for the health of everyone – our guests and our communities. Being a responsible traveler is as important as ever. The magic of Mendocino County lies in the culture of the community and the natural beauty that surrounds it. To us, a responsible traveler is aware of the effects their travel has on the destination and the culture – both positive and negative.

So, before embarking on your journey to our beloved region, we ask you to join us in preparing and embracing the mindset of responsible tourists. Not only do we need to think about our footprint when traveling, but we also need to put safety and compassion at the forefront. We have outlined some tips we hope you'll consider before your Mendocino adventure begins.

Your mindfulness can make a huge difference.

## SAFETY TIPS

- Wash your hands often
- Avoid touching your nose, eyes or mouth
- Allow a safe space for everyone to move around
- Wear a mask or face covering indoors when a business requires/requests
- Cover coughs and sneezes, into your elbow or a tissue

## STAY EDUCATED

- Check in with businesses in advance to learn about their current guidelines before arriving

## ACCEPT PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY

- Be aware that Mendocino County has a small healthcare system with limited resources
- Don't travel if you are sick

## CULTURAL TIPS

- Have patience with businesses, some still practice safety measures
- Respect businesses and employee requests
- Seek and enjoy cultural experiences
- Eat locally
- Shop locally
- Engage and speak with the locals
- Support community non-profits

## ENVIRONMENTAL TIPS

- Leave no trace – trash belongs in the can
- Use reusable bottles – drink tap
- Say no to the straw
- Respect wildlife







# Helpful Hints

Before you make your trip to Mendocino County, whether for the day or for a few nights, make sure you have necessities with you and have made proper arrangements to ensure a safe trip.

## WHAT TO BRING

### Personal protective equipment for the whole family

- Make sure to include masks and hand sanitizer.

### Cleaning supplies

- If you'll feel more comfortable having some supplies with you, bring them from home. For example: paper towels, cleanser and wet wipes.

### Patience

- Many businesses have opted to continue with safety practices for your benefit and that of their employees and community. Please be patient with them and expect things to take just a little bit longer than usual – it's Mendo time.

## THINGS TO DO IN ADVANCE

### Call ahead

- Find out what the check-in process will be upon arrival as many businesses are looking to limit contact.
- Book your guided tours and arrange equipment rentals before arriving for your stay. These services may require you to fill out paperwork digitally and you may need to supply some of your own equipment.
- Make dining reservations, and confirm services and hours align with your trip expectations.

### Stay up to date on social media channels and business websites for real time information

### Set realistic expectations

- As Mendocino County is fully open, aligning with the State of California, businesses will continue doing everything they can to keep their patrons, employees and community safe.

### Set up tap-to-pay with your phone/smartwatch or contactless credit card





## WHEN YOU ARRIVE

- Look for instructional signage and adhere to it.
- Wear a mask indoors if not vaccinated or if requested by business.
- Social distance if not vaccinated.
  - » Maintain social distance while you are here
- Use Touchless Payment When Possible.
  - » Use your credit card or your phone/smartwatch (with tap-to-pay app downloaded) to pay
  - » Pre-Pay/Pre-Order over the phone or website prior to picking up your items



## INDUSTRY-SPECIFIC TIPS

### Restaurants

- Many restaurants have adjusted their practices and standards.
- Dining in – Be ready for some changes at your favorite eatery.
  - » Make a reservation
  - » Please wear a mask while not eating (as requested)
  - » Be on the lookout for signage directing you to the best way to enter and exit the restaurant, as well as the restrooms
  - » No lines inside - many restaurants will be asking you to wait outside to avoid crowding
  - » No sharing - communal condiments will be replaced with one-time use items
  - » Be prepared for new menu formats, from menu items to the physical form of the menu (online only, paper, large signs)
  - » Tables will be spaced appropriately for your and other guests' safety
  - » Wash and/or sanitize your hands before and after eating



## Lodging

- Before you arrive, review all of the pre-arrival information which may have changed since your last visit.
- On arrival, be prepared to park your own car as well as move your own luggage to keep yourself and the staff safe.
- Look out for signage on arrival for information like specific instructions on how to use communal spaces – lobbies, living rooms, hot tubs, spas, etc.
- Housekeeping may look different than the last time you visited, ask for details.
- There may be no (or limited) cleaning services during your stay.
- The breakfast service you may have had the last time you visited may be different; whether that means it's no longer available, delivered to your room or available as grab-and-go from the front desk.

## Retail

- Look out for signage in stores with instructions on entering/exiting the store and markers in check-out lines to maintain a safe distance from other patrons.
- Wash and/or sanitize your hands before and after entering a shop.





## Wineries

- Schedule a tasting ahead of time since a guest management plan will be in place.
- Masks may be required while indoors.
- Tables may be spaced appropriately for your and other guests' safety.
- Wash and/or sanitize your hands before and after tasting.

## Farmers Markets

- **Farmers markets**, a key component in preserving local and regional food production will be operating this summer.
- **The layout** may have been adjusted to assist with social distancing.



# Outdoor Recreation

Not only is getting outside to enjoy nature allowed (and probably one of the reasons you're visiting Mendocino County), both the CDC and the State of California are encouraging you to spend time in the outdoors. But, remember to explore and experience the outdoors safely and responsibly.

- **Go Small or Go Home** – Don't venture too far away or push yourself on difficult terrain as medical services are limited in our county.
- **Keep It Moving** – Keep walking, jogging, biking, surfing, swimming, etc. This is in an effort to support social distancing and make our outdoor space accessible for visitors and community members alike.
- **Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)** – It's always a good idea to bring PPE with you, even if you don't anticipate being around other recreators.
- **Stay Clean** – Pack out all trash.
- Lots of cars at a trailhead means the trail is busy, so **keep going** and find another place to explore.
- If parking on the side of the road, make sure you're in an **appropriate and legal area**.

## BOATING

- Lake Mendocino's South Boat Ramp and North Boat Ramp are both closed.

## STATE PARKS AND BEACHES

- [Admiral William Standley State Recreation Area](#), Branscomb
- [Caspar Headlands State Natural Reserve](#), Mendocino
- [Caspar Headlands State Beach](#), Caspar
- [Greenwood State Beach](#), Elk
- [Hendy Woods State Park](#), Philo
- [Jug Handle State Natural Reserve](#), Caspar
- [MacKerricher State Park](#), Fort Bragg
- [Mailliard Redwoods State Natural Reserve](#), Yorkville
- [Manchester State Park](#), Manchester
- [Mendocino Headlands State Park](#), Mendocino
- [Mendocino Woodlands State Park](#), Fort Bragg
- [Mill Creek Park](#), Talmage
- [Montgomery Woods State Natural Reserve](#), Ukiah
- [Navarro River Redwoods State Park](#), Elk
- [Pt. Cabrillo Light Station State Historic Park](#), Mendocino
- [Russian Gulch State Park](#), Mendocino
- [Schooner Gulch State Beach](#), Point Arena
- [Sinkyone Wilderness State Park](#), Garberville
- [Smithe Redwoods State Natural Reserve](#), Leggett
- [Standish-Hickey State Recreation Area](#), Leggett
- [Van Damme State Park](#), Little River
- [Westport-Union Landing State Beach](#), Westport









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# Find Your Happy!



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**MENDOCINO COAST**  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



**REDWOOD COAST**  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



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