

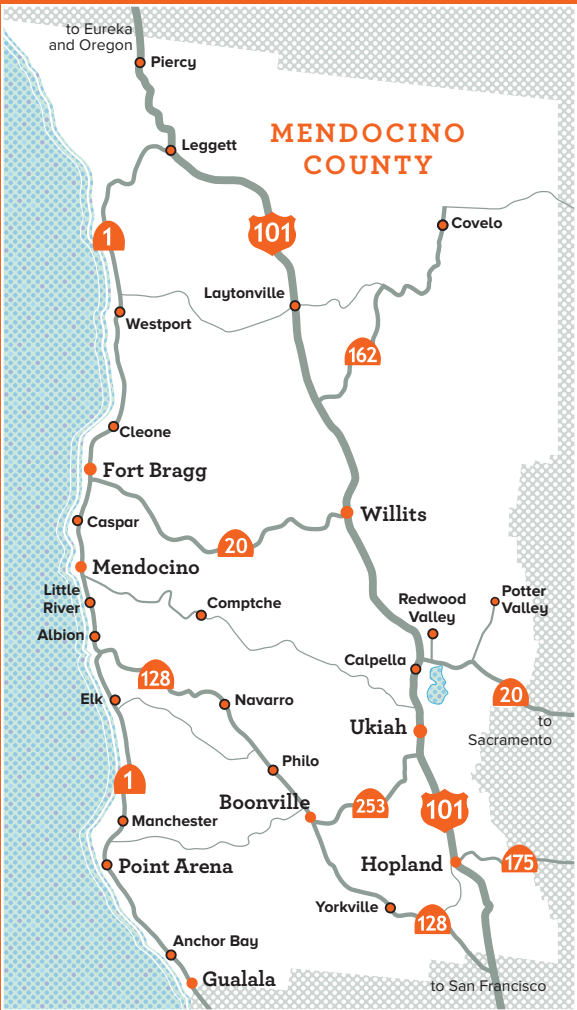


#SafeMendocino Visitor Guide



#SafeMendocino

visitmendocino.com



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Welcome Back

Now more than ever we seek a connection to the outdoors and Mendocino County is the perfect destination to enjoy personal space and 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. As we slowly start to venture away from our homes and begin planning visits to outside places and reconnect ourselves with nature, we ask you to remember to be a responsible traveler. While most recreation areas and businesses are open, please be patient with limited operations and research specific rules, regulations and business modifications before trekking out in our towns, shops, restaurants or outdoor recreation spaces. We provide this guide to help you understand what responsible means for both our community and you, our visitor.

I am pleased to welcome you back to Mendocino County.

Travis Scott
Executive Director
Visit Mendocino County

Responsible Travel & Tourism

In this new landscape of life during COVID-19 pandemic, being a responsible traveler is more important now than 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 a responsible tourist. Not only do we need to think about our footprint when traveling, we also need to put safety and compassion at the forefront. We have outlined some tips we hope you'll consider before your Mendocino venture begins.

Your mindfulness can make a huge difference.

SAFETY TIPS

- Wash your hands often
- Avoid touching nose, eyes or mouth
- Keep 6 feet of physical distance from others
- Wear a mask or face covering when in public places
- Cover coughs and sneezes, into your elbow or tissue
- Consider take-out and curbside services

STAY EDUCATED

- Be well informed about the disease and the risks associated with it. See the Resources page for links to local and national resources for the most up to date information
- Check in with businesses in advance to learn about their current modifications before arriving

[GO TO RESOURCES PAGE](#)

ACCEPT PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY

- Fully weigh the implications of being away from home right now and be aware of the limited resources in our small community
- Be aware that Mendocino County has a small healthcare system
- Don't travel if you're sick
- Businesses are relaxing cancellation policies so you can feel comfortable staying home if you don't feel well

CULTURAL TIPS

- Have patience as businesses navigate this uncharted territory
- 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, hand sanitizer, gloves and a thermometer

Cleaning supplies

- Cleaning supplies can sometimes be scarce at the grocery stores. If you'll feel more comfortable having some supplies with you, bring them from home. For example – paper towels, wet wipes and cleaning spray.

Patience

- Businesses are navigating the new procedures and protocols to ensure your safety, the safety of their employees and the community. Please be patient with them and expect things to take just a little bit longer than normal.

THINGS TO DO IN ADVANCE

Call ahead

- Connect with your lodging property to find out what cleaning precautions have been taken and what items might be available for you upon arrival
- 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

Confirm businesses are adhering to County and State guidelines

- Many businesses will also be excited to share with you how they are going above and beyond.
- To view a list of businesses who have self-certified with the County of Mendocino [CLICK HERE](#)

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

Set realistic expectations

- As Mendocino County slowly starts to open up, businesses will be doing everything they can to keep their patrons, employees and community safe. Because of this, expect things to move a little slower as everyone gets used to the new safety measures.

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
- Social distance
 - » Maintain social distance while you are here and be sure to travel and recreate only with the people in your social bubble
- 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
- Expect Closures
 - » Many public restrooms may be closed and trash services are limited. Plan accordingly and again, remember to dispose of your trash appropriately.

INDUSTRY-SPECIFIC TIPS

Restaurants

- Take out is still the safest option for visiting your favorite Mendocino County restaurant. Many restaurants have adjusted their offerings to now include these services.
- Dining in — Be ready for some changes at your favorite eatery
 - » Make a reservation
 - » Please wear a mask while not eating
 - » 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 your hands before and after eating



Lodging

- Before you arrive, review all of the pre-arrival information which has 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 will look different than the last time you visited, ask for details
- Expect that the room will have been vacant for 24-48 hours prior to arrival and thoroughly cleaned following CDC guidelines
- There will likely be no cleaning services during your stay
- The breakfast service you may have had the last time you visited will 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 the stores with instructions on entering/exiting the store and markers in check-out lines to keep 6 feet from other patrons
- Wash your hands before and after entering a shop

Wineries

- Schedule a tasting ahead of time since a guest management plan will be in place for social distancing effectiveness
- Masks are required while indoors as well as before and after wine service
- Tables will be spaced appropriately for your and other guests' safety
- Wash your hands before and after tasting

Farmers Markets

- Farmers markets, a key component in preserving local and regional food production, have been classified as essential services and will be operating this summer
- The layout has been adjusted to assist with social distancing
- Please do your shopping quickly to reduce crowding and lines to meet social distancing guidelines
- No onsite consumption — All food purchases must be ordered to go, including hot food which must also be served at home



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. Please remember to explore and experience the outdoors safely and responsibly.

- Check for restrictions or closures of your favorite beaches and trails before you head out
- Recreate with only those from your own home/social bubble
- Even when outside, don't forget to wear your mask
- 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
- Bring your personal protective equipment (PPE) with you even if you don't anticipate being around other recreators
- Stay Clean — Pack out all trash
- If parking on the side of the road, make sure you're in an appropriate and legal area.

NON-MOTORIZED WATER SPORTS

- Non-motorized watercraft, like kayaks and paddleboards, are currently allowed in Mendocino County
- Check before you go to make sure your launch point is open and practice social distancing in the parking lot, at the launch site and out on the water

BOATING

- Lake Mendocino's North and South Boat Ramps are open for motorized watercraft

STATE PARKS AND BEACHES

- [Admiral William Standley State Recreation Area](#), Branscomb
- [Bower Park](#), Gualala
- [Caspar Headlands State Natural Reserve](#), Mendocino
- [Caspar Headlands State Beach](#), Caspar
- [Faulkner Park](#), Boonville
- [Greenwood State Beach](#), Elk
- [Hendy Woods State Park](#), Philo
- [Indian Creek Park and Campground](#), Philo
- [Jug Handle State Natural Reserve](#), Caspar
- [Lion's Club Park](#), Redwood Valley
- [Low Gap Park](#), Ukiah
- [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
- [Smithe Redwoods State Natural Reserve](#), Leggett
- [Standish-Hickey State Recreation Area](#), Leggett
- [Van Damme State Park](#), Little River
- [Westport-Union Landing State Beach](#), Westport

Business Updates

[Mendocino County Self Certified Businesses](#)

Resources

[Mendocino County COVID-19 Information](#)

[Mendocino County FAQs](#)

[California COVID-19 Information](#)

[Visit California Travel Alerts](#)

[California Department of Parks and Recreation](#)

[CDC Travel Information](#)

[Mendocino Area Parks Association](#)



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Find Your Happy!



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MENDOCINO COAST
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



REDWOOD COAST
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



Visit Mendocino County

PO Box 89, Ukiah, CA 95482

Tel. 866.466.3636 ~ 707.964.9010

visitmendocino.com