

15 Top Romantic Getaways in California

These enchanting locales across the Golden State are the epitome of romance.

By Rachel Center, Editor Nov. 18, 2020, at 1:20 p.m.

FEW DESTINATIONS IN THE country boast the variety of vacation options that California offers. You can visit the second-largest city in the country, float along one of the world's clearest lakes, get an eyeful of the largest tree in the world, taste your way through the nation's largest wine-producing region, journey through the desert, then drive a few hours west to discover miles upon miles of beaches. It's this incredible geographical diversity that makes the Golden State a great choice for traveling twosomes.

To help you and your partner plan your next dream vacation, U.S. News searched far and wide to determine the state's most romantic escapes. From luxurious oceanfront resorts to small towns and beach communities that remain best kept secrets among locals (until now), these are the top romantic getaways in California.

Romantic Getaways in California:

Post Ranch Inn: Big Sur



(KODIAK GREENWOOD/COURTESY OF POST RANCH INN)

This hotel boasts one of the most spectacular addresses in all of California. Post Ranch Inn is located at the edge of Big Sur's famous towering cliffs, affording guests unobstructed, panoramic views of the Pacific Ocean. In addition to its unmatched location, Post Ranch Inn offers a variety of accommodation options, including guest rooms and two private houses that are perfect for some one-on-one time with your partner. There are even several treehouse-style accommodations available, should you and your partner prefer waking up to views of the adjacent mountains.

Standard amenities available in rooms and houses include wood-burning fireplaces, binoculars, walking sticks for hiking, heated floors, daily complimentary breakfast, hot tubs and private decks with sweeping views. Plus, the hotel offers an array of complimentary activities, such as morning yoga, guided nature walks, guided sound meditation, stargazing, a tour of the chef's garden and use of the property's Lexus. The inn also houses a fitness center, a spa, a restaurant and a pool that faces the ocean. What's more, the property is right next to Pfieffer Big Sur State Park, as well as a short drive away from other top attractions, including Andrew Molera State Park.