

Star Destinations

The Hog's Breath Inn in Carmel has long been a must-see stop for avid Clint Eastwood fans. But there are countless other spots in Monterey County where you can trace the tracks of the stars or relive the movie-making past, and enjoy some stellar dining, shopping, or sightseeing in the bargain.

Big Sur and the Coast The rocky Pacific shoreline and rugged hills of the Big Sur coast beckoned filmmakers even before Highway One provided an easy inroad to this wild territory. Explore Garrapata, Andrew Molera, and Pfeiffer Big Sur State Parks, isolated Pfeiffer Beach, and other Big Sur sites for glimpses of the terrain that enriched *Suspicion*, *Deep Valley*, *One-Eyed Jacks*, *Doctor Dolittle*, *The Terror*, and *Zandy's Bride*. Or, take in the hawk's-eye view and tackle an Ambrosia Burger at Big Sur's Nepenthe, on the spot where Henry Miller once wrote, Orson Wells and Rita Hayworth once dreamed, and Richard Burton and Elizabeth Taylor once played out a scene for *The Sandpiper*.

Cannery Row Thrust into the literary spotlight by John Steinbeck, Cannery Row today will bring you face to face with souvenir shops and succulent seafood rather than cannery workers and immense catches of sardines. Films such as *Clash by Night* in the 1940s revealed the Row's gritty working side; more recent pictures such as *Play Misty for Me* and *Star Trek IV* have celebrated its latter-day attractions, including the Sardine Factory restaurant and the famed Monterey Bay Aquarium. While at the Aquarium, don't miss the delicate sea nettle jellies that ballooned into horrors of the deep in *Sphere*.

Carmel-by-the-Sea/Carmel Valley Though the white-sand beach at the end of Ocean Avenue is world famous, Carmel's quaint architecture has won most of the casting calls. Movies such as *Julie*, *Five Finger Exercise*, *The Lady Says No*, *Seems Like Old Times*, *Thumb Tripping*, and *Play Misty For Me* have all relied on Carmel's shop-lined Ocean Avenue and other byways for much of their street appeal, with the old Mediterranean Market a frequent star. In the summertime, load up on picnic supplies and blankets, then head to the historic Outdoor Forest Theatre for screenings of some of Hollywood's classic work.

Fisherman's Wharf The atmospheric potential of Monterey's wharves and fishing fleet hooked moviemakers as early as 1916, when the harbor stood in for Sicily in *The Isle of Life*. In subsequent films—as on the wharves today—eating the bay's bounty was as popular a pastime as catching it. Barbara Stanwyck, Ginger Rogers, Troy Donahue, Elizabeth Taylor, Richard Burton, and Clint Eastwood all have filmed scenes at the waterfront's restaurants and cafes, from the long-gone Cerrito's and the Windjammer (now the Sandbar & Grill) to the former Angelo's (now the Wharfside).

Fort Ord Home to California State University Monterey Bay, this former Army Base once enrolled film crews that put its barracks and chaparral-covered dunes to work. The authentic Army backdrop, still much in evidence, was a key element in films such as *The Girl He Left Behind* with Tab Hunter and Natalie Wood, and *Soldier in the Rain*, which starred Jackie Gleason and Steve McQueen in an odd tragi-comic pairing. The Fort's miles of public hiking trails will put you in territory where local National Guard tanks once masqueraded as German Tiger tanks in *Breakthrough*.

Monterey The historic heart of the county, Monterey dates to the late 1700s and has long attracted moviemakers and visitors with its old adobes, maritime backdrops and hospitality. In addition to Fisherman's Wharf and other historic sites, tour Colton Hall for a close-up look at the police station where Doris Day sought help in *Julie* and the school where Sandra Dee pined for Troy Donahue in *A Summer Place*. The building's real-life role as home to the state's first constitutional convention was memorialized in the western *California*, starring Barbara Stanwyck; the film premiered at downtown Monterey's grand State Theatre.

Pebble Beach Once linked to Monterey's elegant Del Monte Hotel by a winding track known as the 17-Mile Drive, Pebble Beach's native pine forest, gracious Lodge, golf courses, mansions, rocky coast, and windswept cypresses were—and are—a filmmaker's heaven. From the silent era to today, more than 40 films have taken advantage of the sights, including *Our Dancing Daughters* (Joan Crawford's 1928 breakthrough role) and the original version of *The Parent Trap*.

Point Lobos State Reserve The sublime meeting of land and sea known as Point Lobos has lent its scenic glories to nearly 40 films, including *Evangeline*, for which an entire village was built on site—then intentionally burned—in 1929. Follow trails to locations where nature rather than movie-making is now the grandest show, including sheltered China Cove, noisy Sea Lion Point, and Cypress Grove, one of only two naturally growing Monterey cypress stands in the world.

Salinas and the Salinas Valley It is fitting that Salinas hosted movie crews during the filming of the award-winning *East of Eden* in 1954; the town and surrounding farmland played a major role in Steinbeck's 1952 novel. This burgeoning town was John Steinbeck's birthplace. Its National Steinbeck Center honors its best-known literary son and spotlights the writings and the movies that came from them. Plan for lunch at the Center's cafe or at the nearby Steinbeck House, Steinbeck's boyhood home. See the classic facade of historic Fox Theatre or drive through the long valley that shaped so much of Steinbeck's work.

Pacific Grove Walk and shop the hometown streets of Pacific Grove, where Tom Hanks found canine companionship in *Turner and Hooch*, and the movie *Junior* filmed a driving scene.

And More... Dine on succulent fried artichokes in Castroville, the Artichoke Capital of the World in North County. The 22-year-old starlet Marilyn Monroe was crowned Artichoke Queen in 1948. Explore South Monterey County, and other local destinations. All will bring Monterey County's star connections and motion picture heritage into close-up focus. ★