



Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council Recreation and Tourism Newsletter December 2016





Winter Marine Animal Sightings

Look for the blows of gray whales migrating south through Greater Farallones Sanctuary and Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary in December in January? Pregnant females come first, swimming along the coastline and are visible from shore as they head for the warm waters off Baja California, Mexico for calving and mating.

Northern elephant seals arrive at their breeding colonies (Año Nuevo State Reserve and Piedras Blancas beach) in Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary. Two-ton adult

What is Migrating this Month? What, When, and Where

Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary is one of the most species diverse marine sanctuaries in the world. See what is in your sanctuary today.

> Click on Seasons by the Sea Logo See <u>What's Migrating</u>



Click on the <u>Wildlife Calendar</u> See the Migrating Calendar

Wildlife Viewing Calendar

Click on Points of Interest to find out "<u>where" to See</u> What's Migrating?

POINTS OF INTEREST

Did you miss a previous Recreation and Tourisum Newsletter? Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary's website now has them available. <u>Click here for your back issues</u>



What is Happening in Your Sanctuary December 2016

bulls arrive first and fight among themselves for dominant positions.

Winter water fowl migrate through 100,000's of ducks and geese rest and feed in the lagoons and estuaries in Greater Farallones National Marine Sanctuary and northern portion of Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary.

Learn More



SIMoN provides to the public an open source for pictures, names, species, and information about what is in your national marine sanctuary. Click on the photos section and be truly amazed. <u>Click Here</u>



MBNMS will be recruiting for the following Advisory Council seats: These seats are on a three year term commitment basis.

Citizen At-Large primary, Citizen At-Large alternate, Diving primary, Diving alternate, Education alternate, Tourism primary and alternate Tourism alternate. More more information

Applications Being Accepted after February 1, 2017. Contact: Nichole Rodriguez Sanctuary Advisory Council Coordinator Monterey Bay NMS 99 Pacific Street, Bldg. 455A Monterey, Ca 93940 831-647-4206 nichole.rodriguez@noaa.gov



Thinking about purchasing some local fish to celebrate the season? <u>Click here</u> <u>for information on how find local</u> <u>seafood</u> straight from the fishermen who catch it, and ideas for seafood recipes.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Pillar Point - Half Moon Bay Events

Night of Lights



Friday, December 2nd 6:00-9:00 PM

Santa Cruz Events

Santa Cruz Lighted Boat Parade



Saturday, December 3rd 5:30 PM

Monterey Events

Monterey Harbor Lighted Boat Parade



Sunday, December 4th 5:00-8:00 PM

What is Happening in Your Sanctuary December 2016

Night of Lights is a free annual old fashioned holiday event hosted in downtown Half Moon Bay on the first Friday in December.

Visit downtown Half Moon Bay during Night of Lights and find the trees decorated in dazzling lights and many stores will stay open late for you to do some holiday shopping in the unique coastal shops.

<u>Click here</u> for more details on the event!

See all events and Local Calendar

Monterey Peninsula Events



Daily through December

Recurring: Daily Location: Custom House Plaza, 4 Custom House Plaza, Monterey, CA

Celebrate the holidays amidst the scenic coastline at Ice Skating by the Bay's seasonal ice skating rink located in Custom House Plaza behind Portola Hotel & Spa. Skaters can spend the day in a winter wonderland right by the Bay.

See all events>

The Santa Cruz Yacht Club's 31st Annual Lighted Boat Parade at Santa Cruz Harbor will take place on Saturday, December 3, 2016 at 5:30 PM. The Santa Cruz Yacht Club, with support from the Santa Cruz Port District, invites all boaters to join the Lighted Boat Parade. To participate in this year's parade, please visit the Yacht Club's <u>website</u>. For more information on registering for this year's Lighted Boat Parade, please contact Greg Haws at greg@scyc.org or (831) 425-0690.

See all events>

Exploration Center Link >

Big Sur Events

Big Sur Light House Tours



Throughout December

Pt. Sur lighthouse and its supporting lightstation buildings, now a California State Historic Park, stand atop a dramatic volcanic rock just offshore in Big Sur, California. This historic aid-to-navigation has a modern aero-beacon which still guides ships along the treacherous Central California Coast. On the National Register of Historic Places and a California landmark, Pt. Sur can be visited by guided walking tours year round.

Lighthouse Tours Saturday & Sunday; 10:00 AM Wednesday; 1:00 PM Every holiday season, the Monterey Peninsula Yacht Club puts on a lighted boat parade in the harbor. The boats of Monterey Bay will be dressed in brilliant lights as they sail from Coast Guard Pier past Cannery Row to Lover's Point, all competing for the coveted title of "Best Decorated Boat." Check out this distinctive, illuminated event from along the Monterey and Pacific Grove coastline.

The boats congregate on the water at the end of the Coast Guard Pier at 5:00 to 8:00 PM.

See all events >

Cambria - San Simeon Events

Christmas in Cambria



Throughout December

The seaside village of Cambria invites you to enjoy our Village and the many events that will delight you, your family and friends. Enjoy the festive ambiance as the village of Cambria celebrates the season with fabulous decorations and brilliant holiday lights. Cambria is extremely pet friendly and you will find hotels and restaurants that will welcome your precious companion. Forget the shopping malls and mail order catalogs this year. We look forward to seeing you at this magical time of the year.

<u>Cambria Chamber of</u> <u>Commerce</u> or 805-927-3624

San Simeon Chamber of Commerce

See all events >

Discovery Center Link >

Hours: Open Wednesday through Sunday, 10am - 5pm (Closed Monday and Tuesday)



Sanctuary Exploration Center

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