

The Fantastic landscapes of BIG SUR, CALIFORNIA, Jan. 8 – 20, 2017.



The most magnificent meeting of mountains, sea, and sky....

is found along the boundary of the North American and Pacific tectonic plates! Let's investigate this interesting region where agriculture is king, the San Andreas Fault shakes and slides, and the sea famously eats into the coastal mountains. Join our small group for San Jose, Pinnacles National Park, Morro and Monterey Bays, Hearst Castle, and many other fantastic landscape explorations. Also featured: otters, seals, sea lions, whales, and thousands of birds including California Condors.

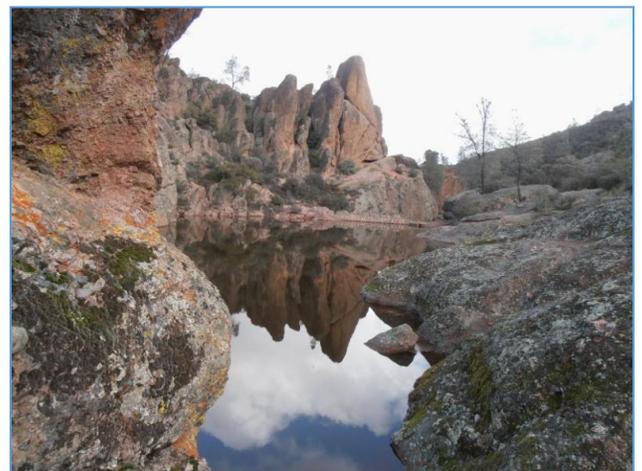
Overview: 13 Days . Cost estimate: **\$2980** per person + air. [Drive-yourself option: subtract \$500.] This trip will include awe inspiring and intriguing places with a variety of easy explorations

in National, State and County Parks. Whether natural or cultural, these locations will be unforgettable. I guarantee it.

Day 1, 2, 3. Arrival in **San Jose, California's second largest city, located on the south end of San Francisco Bay.** Visit the famously mysterious

Winchester House, hike on easy to moderate trails near the **San Andreas Fault**, and explore other scenic areas in the San Jose area. [Marriott Fairfield Inn – Airport]

(hotels are subject to change) **Days 4, 5, 6** Today we travel 100 miles south to **King City**, surrounded by vineyards. We will visit the Soledad Mission and also get a winery tour. The next day we will drive into Pinnacles National Park (West side). We will have a picnic lunch and take the 2 – 3 hour walk to explore the pinnacles and unusual talus caves. The next day we will head to the east side of Pinnacles where there will be an afternoon hike through even more spectacular talus caves and pinnacle landscapes. We will look for Condors, too. [Quality Inn]



Days 7, 8 Morro Bay and Hearst Castle. Here is a fantastic coastal landscape setting: a 23 million year old, 575 foot high volcanic neck, spires upward to anchor the beach and bay here. What a sight! On top of the coastal mountains is the unique Hearst Castle (photo), a State Park, with tours. You will be amazed by this spell-binding location and history. We will see sea lions hauled out on the nearby beaches. [Embarcadero Inn, Morro Bay]



Day 9: Big Sur Coast.

It will be a 100 mile journey along California’s famous Rte. 1 that hangs on the side of the coastal mountains overlooking the ocean. ***This is one of the most scenic and famous drives of North America.*** We will see the arching Bixby Bridge, McWay Falls cascading onto the beach, and giant Redwood trees as we make it to Monterey for the next 4 nights. [Holiday Inn Express, Seaside]

here’s the plan -- Monterey Bay Aquarium and Cannery Row; “free day” for more explorations – Whale watching excursion, beach and nearby museum explorations; Moss Landing & the Elkhorn Slough estuary boat tour (seals, otters, birds, and 500 sea lions!). [photo: terns at Elkhorn Slough] **Days 13.** Return northward to the San Jose airport. It is a 90 minute drive to San Jose, so **book your return flight for the afternoon** or continue your California travels on your own



Days 10, 11, 12 Monterey: Depending on the weather,

TO RESERVE YOUR SPACE(S)

Send \$100 per person refundable deposit to

EARTH VIEW LLC, 6 GRAND VIEW LANE, EASTHAMPTON, MA 01027-1075

***Payment schedule: \$100 deposit, fully refundable, even after the trip if you are not satisfied!
 \$50 per person fee for cancellation after December 1st.
 No refund 14 days or less to trip start. Final Payment due December. 1 st.***

(413) 527-8536 [email: RDLittle2000@aol.com](mailto:RDLittle2000@aol.com) [WWW. EarthView.rocks](http://www.EarthView.rocks)

Your trip leaders: Richard D. Little, Prof. Emeritus, Greenfield Comm. College and Earth View LLC founder. Co-Leader is spouse Suzanne, who loves all things botannic. It’s our 35th year of “Fantastic Landscapes” tours!

Come and find faults with our trip. (Are you on our email list?)