



Marquee Events in 2015

January

[Whalefest Monterey](#) **January 24 - 25, 2015** **Old Fisherman's Wharf, Monterey**

Whalefest Monterey is held in January during the migration of the gray whales, although whales are spotted in the Monterey Bay year-round. The weekend features a wide array of fun activities at Old Fisherman's Wharf in Monterey near the Custom House.

February

[AT&T Pebble Beach National Pro-Am](#) **February 9 - 15, 2015** **Pebble Beach Resorts**

Top PGA Tour professionals team up with Hollywood celebrities, world renowned musicians and the captains of industry as they compete for a \$6.6 million purse. Foursomes rotate to MPCC Shore Course, Spyglass Hill and Pebble Beach Golf Links Thursday through Saturday.

March

[Relais & Châteaux GourmetFest](#) **March 5 - 8, 2015** **Carmel-by-the-Sea**

Relais & Châteaux GourmetFest is a four day foodie extravaganza featuring an exclusive roster of Relais & Châteaux Chefs and wine estates based at L'Auberge Carmel in Carmel-by-the-Sea.

[Jazz Bash by the Bay](#) **March 6 - 8, 2015** **Monterey Conference Center**

The Jazz Bash by the Bay has been a wall-to-wall weekend of traditional jazz and swing since 1980. The festival brings together the many colorful forms of the roots of early jazz: traditional jazz, swing, gypsy jazz, ragtime, blues, zydeco and big bands.

April

[Pebble Beach Food & Wine](#) **April 9 - 12, 2015** **Pebble Beach Resorts**

Enjoy four days of the best in food and wine with an epic epicurean event, Pebble Beach Food and Wine. 60 celebrity chefs and 250 wineries assemble at Pebble Beach to bring you the culinary experience of a lifetime. Enjoy lunches, dinners, wine tastings and cooking demonstrations.

[Pacific Grove Good Old Days](#) **April 11 - 12, 2015** **Lighthouse Avenue, Pacific Grove**

Home to the County's largest arts and crafts show, with over 225 art and food vendors in downtown, a parade down Pine Avenue, live entertainment on four stages, old-fashioned games and contests and lots of family fun.

[Sea Otter Classic](#) **April 16 - 19, 2015** **Laguna Seca Recreation Area**

Sea Otter Classic is the largest cycling festival and consumer trade show in North America. Over four days, it includes a wide variety of bike races and fun rides for every kind, level and age of rider, an expo with more than 250 exhibitors, club zones, a product demo area, a ride zone, stunt shows and kids activities.

[Big Sur International Marathon](#) **April 26, 2015** **Big Sur**

The Big Sur Marathon is 26.2 miles of the most beautiful coastline in the world - and, for runners, the most challenging. At the Expo, participants in the Marathon will pick up their race bibs, goody bags and check out fitness apparel and equipment.

May

[Wildflower Triathlon](#) **May 1 - 3, 2015** **Lake San Antonio, Bradley**

One of the premier triathlons nationally and internationally, this course will test the skills of the professional triathlete and the first-time long course competitor. Spectators and athletes can also enjoy live music, great food, race clinics and a peek at the latest gear at the Wildflower Triathlon Expo area.

[Tudor United Sportscar Championship](#) **May 1 - 3, 2015** **Mazda Raceway Laguna Seca, Salinas**

This new series created by the merger between the GRAND-AM Rolex Sports Car Series and the American Le Mans Series retains the very popular format of races within a race, providing plenty of on-track action and constant passing.

[Winemakers' Celebration](#) **May 2, 2015** **Carmel-by-the-Sea**

Over 30 Monterey County wineries from 9 American Viticultural Areas (AVAs) offer their wines for tasting at the Winemakers' Celebration. Try rare wines - including library, reserve, and limited release labels - while rubbing elbows with the winemakers themselves. There will be plenty of food from local restaurants and live music.

[Steinbeck Festival](#) **May 8 - 10, 2015** **National Steinbeck Center, Salinas**

The National Steinbeck Center honors the great 20th-century writer John Steinbeck in Salinas, where the author was born, with films, speakers, panels, theater, and bus or walking tours.

[Carmel Art Festival](#) **May 14 - 17, 2015** **Devendorf Park, Carmel-by-the-Sea**

Gallery events, lectures, receptions and demonstrations take place at several art galleries in addition to a plein-air painting competition where final works are showcased at Devendorf Park.

[Salinas Valley Fair](#) **May 14 - 17, 2015** **Salinas Valley Fairgrounds, King City**

Enjoy the atmosphere of an old-fashioned county fair, complete with carnival, bull-riding, craft and 4-H exhibit, music and more.

[California Roots Music & Arts Festival](#) **May 22 - 24, 2015** **Monterey County Fair & Event Center**

The California Roots Music and Arts Festival is a three-day event packed with live music, fantastic food, refreshing beverages, creative artwork and sustainable practices. Reggae acts from around the globe culminate at the Monterey County Fairgrounds for good vibes during the Memorial Day weekend.

[Artichoke Festival](#) **May 30 - 31, 2015** **Monterey County Fair & Event Center**

The Castroville Artichoke Festival is a commemoration of all things artichoke. The event has artichoke cooking demos, artichoke-themed art, an artichoke parade, artichokes (and other vegetables) for sale at the farmers' market, and of course artichokes prepared in every way imaginable.

June

[Monterey Wine Festival](#) **June 6 - 7, 2015** **Custom House Plaza, Monterey**

With hundreds of wines offered for tasting, wine lovers will find an embarrassment of riches awaiting them at the Monterey Wine Festival.

[Carmel Valley Art & Wine Celebration](#) **June 20, 2015** **Carmel Valley Village, Carmel Valley**

The Art & Wine Celebration showcases over 60 artists, local wines and strolling musicians at restaurants, shops and galleries throughout Carmel Valley Village.

[Monterey Beer Festival](#) **June 13, 2015** **Monterey County Fair & Event Center**

Over 70 breweries offer their beers during the Monterey Beer Festival accompanied by live music and great food.

[Monterey Americana Music Festival](#) **June 27 - 28, 2015** **Monterey County Fair & Event Center**

The Americana Music Festival showcases a variety of artists throughout the weekend. The event also hosts over 100 vendors selling everything from wine to art and chocolate to lemonade.

July

[4th of July Events](#) **July 4, 2015** **Monterey County**

Celebrate Independence Day (and your day off) where California was first born! Monterey, Pacific Grove, Carmel-by-the-Sea and Spreckels each throw their own hometown bashes.

[California Rodeo Salinas](#) **July 16 - 19, 2015** **Salinas Sports Complex, Salinas**

Each July, the West comes alive in Salinas with the California Rodeo Salinas at the Salinas Sports Complex. Though the California Rodeo Salinas itself takes place for only four days, surrounding events such as the Rodeo Carnival, the Kiddie Kapers Parade and Cowboy Poetry provide a two-week long warm-up to the main event.

[FIM Superbike World Championship](#) **July 17 - 19, 2015** **Mazda Raceway Laguna Seca, Salinas**

The sounds of motorcycles will again roar through the central California hillsides as the FIM Superbike World Championship returns to Mazda Raceway Laguna Seca. The FIM Superbike World Championship features riders, teams and manufacturers racing high-performance bikes very similar to the ones right off the showroom floor.

[Carmel Bach Festival](#) **July 18 - August 1, 2015** **Carmel-by-the-Sea**

The Carmel Bach Festival has a 75-year history where musicians from the around the world perform in various venues including the Sunset Center, Carmel Mission Basilica, Church in the Forest, Pebble Beach and All Saints Church.

[Feast of Lanterns](#) **July 22 - 26, 2015** **Pacific Grove**

A tradition lasting for over a century, the Pacific Grove Feast of Lanterns is a community celebration. This event in Pacific Grove includes a lantern pageant, children's activities, and a pet parade.

[Moss Landing Antique Fair](#) **July 26, 2015** **Moss Landing**

The quaint fishing village of Moss Landing becomes the antique capital of the world where hundreds of antique booths set up on the streets for the Moss Landing Antique Street Fair, selling antique furniture and every kind of vintage item imaginable.

August

[Salinas Valley Half Marathon](#)

August 1, 2015

Salinas Valley

Take in the fresh air and enjoy the breathtaking beauty of the "Salad Bowl of the World" during the Salinas Valley Half Marathon. Runners and walkers will be delighted with stunning sights along Salinas Valley's Foothill and River Roads along the Santa Lucia mountain range.

[Scottish Games & Celtic Festival](#)

August 1 - 2, 2015

Monterey County Fair & Event Center

This very popular Celtic celebration brings the music, dance and athletic events of the mystical lands of Scotland and Ireland to Monterey County and features events for the whole family.

[Blues, Brews & Barbecue](#)

August 8 - 9, 2015

Monterey County Fair & Event Center

Monterey becomes the center of the blues world when the Blues, Brews & Barbecue Festival takes over the Monterey County Fair & Event Center. Don't miss this weekend full of great music, fantastic food, outstanding beer and an unmatched ambiance!

[Monterey Auto Week](#)

August 10 - 16, 2015

Monterey County

Classic automobiles take over the Monterey Peninsula during Monterey Auto Week and Concours d'Elegance. All over Monterey County, classic cars take to streets, golf courses, parks and the world-renowned Mazda Raceway Laguna Seca, surrounding visitors with automobiles from yesteryear.

[Concours d'Elegance](#)

August 16, 2015

Pebble Beach Resorts

A tradition going back over half a century, the Pebble Beach Concours d'Elegance is where the world's collector cars meet and compete. Only the 200 best collector cars in the world roll onto the legendary 18th fairway of Pebble Beach Golf Links, and only a handful of those will receive official recognition for style, technical merit and historical accuracy.

[Sand City West End Celebration](#)

August 21 - 23, 2015

Sand City

Sand City is known for its funky, independent and artistic atmosphere and nowhere is that more on display than the annual West End Celebration. The streets of Sand City shut down and become an open-air artists' fair, showcasing truly unique works from artists throughout Monterey County.

[First City Festival](#)

August 2015 (official date TBA)

Monterey County Fair & Event Center

Monterey meets Coachella during the First City Festival. The site of the original Monterey Pop Festival, Monterey County Fair & Event Center hosts the two-day music event.

September

[Monterey County Fair](#)

September 2 - 7, 2015

Monterey County Fair & Event Center

The annual Monterey County Fair is always fun for all, with livestock exhibition, entertainment, live music, amusement and delicious food.

[Monterey Greek Festival](#)

September 5 - 7, 2015

Custom House Plaza, Monterey

Every Labor Day weekend, Monterey becomes a part of the Mediterranean as the Monterey Bay Greek Festival takes over Custom House Plaza. While you're munching on dolmades, you can watch traditional dance, listen to music, and even learn a little at a cultural lecture.

[Festa Italia](#) **September 11 - 13, 2015 **Custom House Plaza, Monterey****

Embrace your inner Italian at Monterey's Festa Italia. Monterey transforms into a mecca for all things marinara as this Italian Festival takes over Custom House Plaza with Italian favorites like calamari, pizza, pasta, paninis and rice balls.

[Triathlon at Pacific Grove](#) **September 11 - 13, 2015 **Lovers Point Park, Pacific Grove****

Elite and amateur triathletes flock to Pacific Grove the second weekend in September to participate in one of the most scenic triathlons in the world. The Triathlon at Pacific Grove offers an Olympic distance triathlon, a sprint distance triathlon, and a 5K and 10K Fun Run.

[Pirelli World Championship](#) **September 11 - 13, 2015 **Mazda Raceway Laguna Seca, Salinas****

One of North America's finest and longest running auto racing series, the Pirelli World Challenge, will crown their 2015 champions at Mazda Raceway Laguna Seca. The popular Series boasts a paddock of more than 70 race cars and consists of six classes of vehicles.

[Monterey Jazz Festival](#) **September 18 - 20, 2015 **Monterey County Fair & Event Center****

The Monterey Jazz Festival attracts all of the top names in jazz, and boasts art exhibits, jazz clinics and seminars. The Festival features over 500 artists performing on eight stages spread over the Monterey County Fair and Event Center.

[First Tee Open](#) **September 22 - 27, 2015 **Pebble Beach****

Junior golfers get the chance to play with champions like Ben Crenshaw, Isao Aoki, Tom Kite, Sandy Lyle, Tom Watson and Fuzzy Zoeller at the First Tee Open at Pebble Beach. This competition, broadcast on The Golf Channel, earns money for The First Tee, a charity that gives disadvantaged youngsters the opportunity to play golf.

[California International Airshow](#) **September 2015 (official date TBA) **Salinas Municipal Airport****

Watch jaw-dropping aeronautical acrobatics from the Patriots Jet Team, Metal Mulisha, the Pemberton's Wing Suit Jump, Robosaurus and more. There will also be military demos, military fly-bys and military/civilian aircraft displays.

October

[Taste of Carmel](#) **October 1, 2015 **Carmel-by-the-Sea****

A weekend of local culinary and winery delights, commencing with the traditional ball and the sampling of wine and food, music and silent auction at the Carmel Mission on Thursday night. Other events round out the coastal experience.

[Butterfly Parade & Bazaar](#) **October 3, 2015 **Pacific Grove****

Pacific Grove celebrates its heritage every October with the Butterfly Parade and Bazaar which celebrates the return of the Monarch Butterfly.

[Monterey Beach SportsFest](#) **October 3 - 4, 2015 **Monterey****

The Monterey Beach Sportsfest is a celebration of wellness both for people and for the ocean we love and enjoy so much. Join in on two exciting days of competitive events in the waters and along the shore of the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary.

History Fest

October 2015 (official date TBA)

Monterey

The Monterey History Fest has grown into a festival that offers a variety of programs for both residents and visitors to experience Monterey's unique cultural heritage and historic resources. The plentiful schedule brings Monterey's past to life during this community-wide event.

Porsche Rennsport Reunion

October 9 - 11, 2015

Mazda Raceway Laguna Seca, Salinas

The Rennsport Reunion brings together an extraordinary gathering of significant Porsche vintage and current racecars, as well those who have designed, engineered, and driven them to victory. The three-day program of on-track competition will be complemented by a Concours d'Elegance, which is open to invited race participants, and special activities celebrating each of the six decades of legendary Porsche racecars.

Carmel International Film Festival

October 21 - 25, 2015

Carmel-by-the-Sea

Contemporary art and independent film collide for five days in Carmel-by-the-Sea during the Carmel International Film Festival. The festival features art in almost every medium including music, fine art, photography and, of course, film.

November

Big Sur Food and Wine

November 5 - 8, 2015

Big Sur

Indulge in fantastic food, great wines and exquisite scenery at the Big Sur Food and Wine Festival. Local and visiting restaurateurs, resorts and wineries from all over will team up for dinners and tastings at unique Big Sur locations.

Big Sur Half Marathon

November 8, 2015

Monterey

The Big Sur Half Marathon on Monterey Bay takes runners through historic downtown Monterey, over to Cannery Row, down the shore of Monterey Bay, into downtown Pacific Grove, and back along the coast to the grand finish at Custom House Plaza.

Callaway Golf Pebble Beach Invitational

November 17 - 22, 2015

Pebble Beach

The Callaway Golf Pebble Beach Invitational attracts professional and amateur golfers of all stripes to Pebble Beach. The Invitational gives spectators a special chance to watch their favorite golfers in a more intimate and relaxed environment; viewers can even walk down the fairway right behind the golfers.

Cowboy Poetry & Music Festival

November 2015 (official date TBA)

Monterey Conference Center

Pack those chaps and spurs for a wranglin' good time with some of the nation's top balladeers and cowboy/girl poets featured during the Monterey Cowboy Poetry and Music Festival. The three-day event hosts several great shows, open mic sessions, a western art and gear sale, silent auction and "cowboy" church service among other festivities.

December

Christmas at the Inns

December 1 - 2, 2015

Pacific Grove

It's Pacific Grove at its most picturesque, as ten of the town's bed and breakfasts and inns deck their halls and open their doors so you can share their holiday cheer in Victorian-era splendor.

Christmas in the Adobes

December 11 - 12, 2015

Monterey

Step back into Monterey's past during Christmas in the Adobes. See the adobes by candlelight and enjoy refreshments and live performances as volunteers in period attire welcome you into historic homes decorated in historical style.



[First Night Monterey](#)

December 31, 2015

Monterey

First Night Monterey celebrates the lively arts scene in Monterey County with its family-friendly celebration of the arts on New Years Eve. Over thirty venues hold concurrent performances and activities for both children and adults, culminating in a convergence on Custom House Plaza to ring in the New Year.

For a complete list of events visit www.SeeMonterey.com/Events