



10 ROMANTIC SMALL INNS AND B&BS

Romance, like people, takes endless forms. Some couples splurge with champagne, candlelight dinners, and four-poster beds with all the trimmings. Others prefer a rustic retreat with a snuggle-up-close fireplace. California's diverse collection of B&Bs and small inns lets you find the boutique lodging that best fits your amorous style. "The variety of lodging in California is as varied as California itself," says Jenn Wheaton, program and events manager with the California Association of Boutique & Breakfast Inns. "When it comes to finding a spot for a romantic escape, there really is something for everyone—from desert spa retreats to high-end city shopping excursions and oceanfront cottages with fresh oysters." Here are 10 uniquely swoon-worthy lodgings—see if one serves up romance just the way you like it.

—by *Matt Jaffe*



Discover the San Francisco Bay Area
THE INN ABOVE TIDE

Your heart will melt at this Sausalito stunner overlooking San Francisco Bay

When the lights go down (or up) in the city, you'll have a perfect perspective from **The Inn Above Tide**, where all of the waterfront rooms overlook San Francisco Bay. Take in views across the water to Alcatraz and San Francisco, especially if you splurge and book a stay in one of the many rooms or suites where the panoramas are even more spectacular from private decks. Some rooms also have fireplaces and deep soaking tubs—both nice touches when you need to warm up after a cool night by the bay or just want to cozy up with your honey. Borrow one of the inn's complimentary loaner bikes to visit Sausalito's pretty waterfront and appealing shops, or hop on the ferry with your bikes, and in 20 minutes you'll be docking in San Francisco. Spend the day exploring, then pedal back to the inn via another heart-melter, the Golden Gate Bridge.