



# The 13 Best U.S. Road Trips, According to T+L Editors

By T+L Editors | May 21, 2020

## Highway 1 California Coast (Los Angeles to San Francisco)



CREDIT: GETTY IMAGES

"Throughout my childhood, my family often [road-tripped up the California coast](#), from our home in Pasadena to San Francisco. We typically stretched it out over at least a week, stopping for a few days in each of our favorite cities. We'd grab tacos at La Super-Rica, Julia Child's favorite hole-in-the-wall in Santa Barbara, and olallieberry pie at Linn's Fruit Bin in Cambria. We'd visit Hearst Castle in San Simeon, the boardwalk in Santa Cruz, the shops along Ocean Avenue in Carmel, and, of course, the Monterey Bay Aquarium, which I loved for its touch tanks and sea otters. Anytime we stopped at a beach, I'd clamber over the rocks with my mom, searching for tide pools and the critters that occupied them. We'd be zonked by the time we finally reached San Francisco, but that didn't stop us from hitting up the Embarcadero sights and Fisherman's Wharf. I'm working on convincing my husband to repeat the trip, so we can stay at all the places I never did as a kid, like [Hotel Californian](#), [Carmel Valley Ranch](#), [Post Ranch Inn](#), and [The Inn Above Tide](#)." — [Sarah Bruning](#), Senior Editor