



Dear CTTC -

The Monterey County Convention and Visitors Bureau would like to thank you for joining us in the beautiful Monterey Peninsula for the CTTC Sustainability Summit. We hope that you enjoyed your conference/visit at Asilomar and sincerely wish that you will visit us again. Here are a few upcoming events you may be interested in coming back for.

Best-

Celeste White & Aisha Maroon

FORK & FORAGE: Bursting at its agricultural seams, Monterey County celebrates its culinary roots with a wealth of regional finds. Ideal for the foodie on a taste trek or traveling oenophile seeking the next new vintage, this county boasts a sinful round-up of local calamari, red abalone, artichokes, sardines every-which-way, stellar Salinas greens and a cornucopia of events. **Top Picks:** **Cooking for Solutions, sustainable seafood conference (May/'10), Pebble Beach Food & Wine (Apr./'10).** **Hot Chops:** **Highlands Inn's** delectable Red Abalone Tasting Series, featuring Monterey Abalone Company's "Super Abs" and **L'Auberge Carmel's** tasty lineup of new cooking and pastry classes with Chef Christophe Grosjean and Pastry Chef Ron Mendoza. www.highlandsinn.com; www.laubergecarmel.com.



FLAMINGOS... and other stories of hope in a changing sea debuts (Mar./'10) at Monterey Bay Aquarium. The live exhibits feature aquatic animals affected by the climate crisis, along with stories describing what people are doing individually and together to address climate change. www.montereybayaquarium.org.

BURN TO LEARN – Savvy travelers are trading in the hammock for a high speed stint in exotic animal training, defensive driving or plein air painting. Monterey steps up with a roster of **Education+Vacation** getaways. Top picks: Photographer Robert Knight's "**Earth Expeditions**," Artista's "**Creative Safaris for Women**," Noah Greenberg's "**Carmel Surf School**," Robert Lewis' "**Plein Air Bootcamp**" --focusing on Monterey County's lush landscapes— and for the intrepid animal lover, **Vision Quest's Animal Training School**.

EXPERIENTIAL ESCAPES: This niche is one of the fastest growing sectors in the travel industry largely driven by Baby Boomers not content being tourists and would rather break out as adventurers. Safari with sea lions, cavort with California condors or dive for monsters of the deep... Monterey County's natural assets are a ready-to-wear adventure for travelers seeking the real deal, California-style. **New: Ventana Wildlife Society Condor Camp Reopened (May/'09).** Visitors can go outback for an eco-volunteer stint (\$1000/4 people) where these giant birds roost as part of the reintroduction program. **Offbeat: Ranger-led hiking tours of the Townsend Big Ear Bat at Pinnacles National Monument.** www.ventanaws.org; www.nps.gov/pinn.



HAUTE HOTELS: Carmel's newly-renovated **Forest Lodge** combines a cottage garden setting and crisp décor with eco-features such as reclaimed woods and insulation crafted from recycled jeans. Bohemian surfer/GM Amanda LeVett adds a fresh new spin to Carmel Boutique Inns. Starting at \$255.00/dbl. www.carmelforestlodge.com.

NATIONAL HISTORY MONTH (OCT.) marks the launch of a new **Path of History podcast** documenting Monterey's 55 iconic sites, from classic adobes to historic parks, on a two-mile self-led trek through time. Free download: www.SeeMonterey.com.

BUCKET LIST: From the oldest golf course in continuous operation West of the Mississippi (Del Monte Golf Course) to the drop-jaw **Pebble Beach Golf Links**, Monterey County offers some of the finest fairways in the world. Here, golfers have a choice of 25 public and private courses set on nature's finest terrain. **On the Cheap: Peter Hay Golf Course** sits across from the famed Pebble Beach Golf Links and at \$25/round, the par-27 executive course whets the appetite. Nearby, The Tap Room – a celebrity haunt – is the stop for a post-game chill and swill. Book your tee time now, since Monterey County is preparing to host the **U.S. Open in 2010**. www.pebblebeach.com.

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