

California's Point Reyes National Seashore



VISUAL TRAVEL TOURS

Maps Show You Where... We Show You Why!

Table of Contents

[Cover](#)

[Tour Summary](#)

[Solitude Near the City](#)

[Tips](#)

[Chapter 1 - Point Reyes Lighthouse](#)

[Chapter 2 - Drakes Bay & Estuary](#)

[Chapter 3 - Point Tomales](#)

[Chapter 4 - Olema & Beyond!](#)

[Maps](#)

[Author Biography](#)

[Publisher](#)

Tour Summary

The Point Reyes National Seashore in Northern California's Marin County comprises over 100 square miles of open spaces and old-growth forests, as well as many miles of rocky headlands and abandoned beaches. Nature lovers delight over the varied and unspoiled terrain, located only one or two hours' drive from most Bay Area cities. The undeveloped coastline is a sanctuary for marine mammals and migratory birds. Pristine estuaries, freshwater lakes, waterfalls, saltwater marshes, windswept beaches, coastal scrub grasslands, geological wonders, plus virgin coniferous woodlands combine to create a wilderness haven for outdoor enthusiasts.

[Back to Table of Contents](#)

Solitude Near the City





The beautiful and varied countryside, combined with rugged and untamed coastline, makes Point Reyes National Seashore one of the most unique national treasures in America.



The Point Reyes Authorization Act was signed by President Kennedy in 1962, establishing the third National Seashore in the country. Once the shore was preserved, it seemed as if the surrounding region froze in time. We'll visit a few sleepy towns on the outskirts of Point Reyes during this tour.



Point Reyes is world-renowned for the long expanses of sweeping, and mostly abandoned, California beaches. In total there are over 80 miles of undeveloped and unspoiled coastline.



With over 150 miles of hiking, biking, and horseback multi-use trails in varied terrain, it would take even the most ardent explorer many days to cover all the available pathways.



Several wild animal species make this area their home, including barnyard owls, herds of tule elk, and elephant seals, to name a few. We'll take to the air, land, and sea to visit the wildlife of Point Reyes.



Tranquil freshwater lakes are scattered around inland valleys of the National Seashore. Such favorable circumstances make Point Reyes a vital stopover point for migratory birds. Different whale species also pass by on their migratory journeys.



Mariners have always dreaded this treacherous coastline. The Spanish named it La Punta de Los Tres Reyes because they sighted it on the day of the Feast of

Three Kings in 1603. This historic lighthouse was built in 1870.



Geologists have long been puzzled by the rocks of the craggy Point Reyes Headland jutting into the Pacific Ocean. They exactly match the rocks of the Tehachapi Mountains some 310 miles to the south along the San Andreas Fault. The answer lies in plate tectonics and the continual movement of the earth's crust.



The sheltered Drakes Bay, named after the famous English mariner, is a haven for birdwatchers and other naturalists. The expansive inland Drakes Estero flows in and out of Drakes Bay with dramatic effect.



On the windswept and mostly abandoned beaches many a treasure can be found. Not the treasure-chest kind Sir Francis Drake desired, but of an organic nature. There aren't many beaches in the country where

you can stumble upon a weathered old
whale bone.



The National Park Service allows equestrians access to most trails and beaches in Point Reyes. Several nearby stables are open to the public for horse or trail guide rental.



Come with us and explore one of most beautiful, moody, and renowned seashores in the world. Point Reyes will not disappoint!

[Back to Table of Contents](#)