

HRF's Hearst Castle® Conference
Hotels, Sights and Location

How to Get There

Hearst Castle, the former home of William Randolph Hearst, designed by architect Julia Morgan, now a state historic park owned by the people of California, lies at the mid point of the California coast, on scenic Highway One. Near the village of San Simeon, just 6 miles north of the charming Victorian town of Cambria, it is an easy 40-mile drive from San Luis Obispo, where the San Luis Obispo County Regional Airport (SBP) offers connections from Los Angeles and San Francisco. This is the most direct route to the conference site, though many of you may wish to take the 4.5 hour drive up from Los Angeles or the 5.5 hour drive from San Francisco. These journeys take in the extraordinary countryside en route, including the Monterey Peninsula and Big Sur from the north, and Santa Barbara and Pismo Beach from the South. For an overview of the conference location, go to the official site of Hearst Castle where the visitor center provides this excellent map and directions: http://www.hearstcastle.org/visitors_center/directions.asp.

Where to Stay

While there is a wealth of choices of accommodations to choose from in San Simeon and nearby Cambria, ranging from \$70 per night to \$450, we list here a few hotels with multiple rooms, where you should be able to find good rooms up to within a month of the conference. For those adventurous travelers who prefer a unique experience, we recommend a visit to the Cambria's web site www.cambriachamber.org/ where you will find listings for very small hotels and B&Bs. Or, for the nature lover, try Treebones Resort www.treebonesresort.com where you can rent a Yurt overlooking the rugged Big Sur coast, just 30 minutes north of Hearst Castle.

NEWS BULLETIN: CAMBRIA PINES LODGE MAY NOT BE ABLE TO SUPPLY SUFFICIENT ROOMS DUE TO A SCHEDULING CONFLICT. CONSULT HRF WEBSITE AFTER 11/5 FOR MORE INFO!!!

Our chosen hotel for the conference, where speakers will be lodged and where an HRF board meeting can be scheduled, is the Cambria Pines Lodge. www.cambriapineslodge.com Special rates for HRF conference attendees are available on Thursday and Friday, ranging from \$95 to \$103 for double rooms, and \$135 to \$179 for suites, plus the 9% local taxes. Please reserve these special rates by phone to the central reservations desk at Cambria Pines Lodge at (800) 966-6490. Mention your HRF membership. To receive these special rates you must reserve by March 17th, 2008. We recommend not waiting until then if you plan to stay at the Cambria Pines Lodge. HRF is not responsible for promised rates or for satisfaction with hotel accommodations.

MOONSTONE CREEKSIDE INN

2618 Main Street, Cambria, CA
800-269-5212

Rooms in the Cambria Pines Lodge for our conference dates are already in very short supply. We have arranged for rooms to be available at Moonstone Creekside Inn in downtown Cambria, however bookings must be made before December 31st when bookings for April 17th and 18th will be open to the general public.

This excellent hotel is offering us the following rooms:
(prices for Thursday April 17th and Friday April 18th, 2008)

3 Single rooms with queen bed - \$89/night
5 Double rooms with king bed - \$99/night
13 Rooms with 2 queen beds - \$109/night
1 Suite, queen bed in bedroom plus sofa bed in sitting room \$119/night
2 rooms are equipped for the disabled and seven allow pets

PLEASE RESERVE YOUR ROOM BEFORE DECEMBER 31st, 2007

Other hotels in the Cambria area include:

Moonstone Creekside Inn - 2618 Main St. - 800-269-5212 (Pet Friendly)
Cambria Shores Inn - 6276 Moonstone Beach Dr. - 800-433-9179 (Pet Friendly)
Moonstone Fog Catcher Inn - 6400 Moonstone Beach Dr. - 800-425-4121

In San Simeon the Best Western Cavalier Oceanfront Resort, has also offered special rates to those attending the HRF conference at Hearst Castle.). Room rates vary from \$109. to \$179. per night. It's the closest facility to Hearst Castle and is the area's only ocean-side lodging (between the highway and the ocean). To reserve, call Cavalier directly at 1-800-826-8168 and mention the Heritage Rose Foundation.
Best Western Cavalier Oceanfront Resort - 9415 Hearst Dr., San Simeon.

Other hotels in San Simeon include:

San Simeon Beach Resort - 9520 Castillo Dr. - 866-990-8990
Sea Breeze Inn - 9065 Hearst Dr. - 800-927-3316
Motel 6 - 9070 Castillo Dr. - 805-927-8691

What to do on the beautiful Central Coast of California

We have planned this conference with the idea in mind that you may wish to enjoy some of the sights and experiences of one of the most interesting areas in the Western USA. Our special tour of the Art of the Garden on Saturday morning will provide a very unique and in depth look at the great artworks and masterpieces of craftsmanship that decorate the Hearst Castle gardens. But you may equally want to partake in one of several tours of the grounds that will provide you with a richer experience of Hearst Castle. While you visit the castle grounds, keep in mind that while Hearst Castle is the top-grossing attraction in the California State Parks system, most of the money taken in at the gate does not go to support Hearst Castle and its grounds and gardens, but is used to support the entire system of state parks. Horticulturist Christine Takahashi has a limited budget for the rose garden restoration and must accomplish her task of original plantings restoration one modest piece at a time. We hope you will take the time to engage the garden staff in conversation about their work, and praise them for their accomplishments. They will be among us at the conference.

California's Central Coast is a wild and wonderful place offering beautiful vistas of mountain and ocean, some of the finest wineries in the state, wildlife in abundance, including Monarch Butterfly migrations, California Grey Whale migrations, sea otters and tide pools and colonies of elephant seals. The drive northward on Highway One follows the most dramatic seacoast in America through Big Sur, home to colonies of artists and poets since the 1930s. A drive up the coast to Monterey on Saturday afternoon or Sunday morning will put you in place for Frances Grate's walking tour of the Monterey Adobes and a special lunch in Frances' garden in Pacific Grove. The Monterey Bay Aquarium and the cities of Monterey, Pacific Grove and Carmel are worthy of exploration if you have the time. Access to these amenities and much more can be found on the websites of Hearst Castle, San Simeon, Cambria, and the San Luis Obispo State Parks.

www.hearstcastle.org/
www.cambriachamber.org/
www.slostateparks.com/
www.sansimeonchamber.org/

Sunday Garden Tours

For those of you wanting to head southward from Hearst Castle after the conference, several garden tours are in the works. Jeri Jennings and the Gold Coast Roses group have planned an old rose roundup at Rancho Camulos in Ventura County—those who are interested can meet at Rancho Camulos in Piru.

<http://www.ranchocamulos.org/>

The Gold Coast Heritage Roses Group has arranged a tour of Rancho Camulos on Sunday, April 20, 2007, at 11 a.m. Conference attendees are welcome to join in the tour. To reserve space in the tour group, please contact Jeri Jennings at heritageroses@gmail.com – or call 805-482-2066. For more information please download the following pdf: RANCHO CAMULOS.

At the Huntington Library and Art Gallery in San Marino, near Pasadena, California, the final days of the new exhibit of rare rose books and the story of remontant old roses continues. You will not want to miss this, and the opportunity to meet rose garden curator Clair Martin who will lead a Curator's Tour of the exhibit and of the Huntington rose garden. For more information, download this informative pdf; LA ROSE IMPÉRIALE.