

# 2017 California Road Trip - Trip Itinerary by Mel Coker

September 8-18, 2017

<u>Day</u>	<u>City / Areas</u>	<u>Attraction / Area / Hotel</u>	<u>Rating *</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Cost</u>	<u>More Information</u>		
<b>1 - FRI, SEP 8</b>	<u><a href="#">San Francisco</a></u>	SFO = 9:55 a.m. Hotel Griffon 11:30						
		<u><a href="#">Coit Tower</a></u>	4 / 84%	11:30 a.m. Noon - 1:15	16 1.2 m - 30 min. walk from hotel			
		<u><a href="#">Fishermans Wharf / Pier 39</a></u>	4 / 82%					
		Lombard "Crooked Street"	4.5 / 84%	1:45 - 2:15	.8 m - 25 mins. From Coit Tower			
		<u><a href="#">S.F. Maritime National Historic Park</a></u>	4.5 / 94%	3:00 - 4:45	.5 m - 12 mins from Lombard St			
				Arrive 5:30	<u><a href="#">alcatrazcruises.com - Pier 33 - 1.1 mi -</a></u>			
		Pier 33/ Alcatraz Landing	<u><a href="#">Alcatraz Night Tour - BOOKED</a></u>	4.5 / 96%	5:55 - 8:30	86 <u><a href="#">25 min from Maritime Museum</a></u>		
		<b>HOTEL</b>	<u><a href="#">Hotel Griffon</a></u>	4.5 / 84 / 52	<b>9:00 p.m.</b>	<b>220 Average 70/55 degrees</b>		
		<b>2- SAT, SEP 9</b>	<u><a href="#">San Francisco</a></u>	<u><a href="#">Cable Cars, Streetcars, Bus</a></u>				30 <b>MUNI? - Do the J-Church cable car</b>
				<u><a href="#">AT&amp;T Park - Home of SF Giants</a></u>	4.5 / 95	10:15 - Noon	40 <b>PURCHASED TICKETS - 30 min. walk</b>	
<u><a href="#">Golden Gate Bridge</a></u>	4.5 / 96%			1:00 - 2:15	Taxi or Uber from AT&T Park app \$25			
Optional	<u><a href="#">Baker Beach</a></u>			4.5 / 93%	2:45 - 3:15	Views of Golden Gate Bridge		
	<u><a href="#">Golden Gate Park Segway Tour</a></u>				<b>4:00 - 6:30</b>	150 <u><a href="#">Segway Tour - 12:30 \$70 each</a></u>		
	<u><a href="#">Presidio of San Francisco</a></u>			4.5 / 94%				
Optional	<u><a href="#">Legion of Honor Art Museum &amp; Park</a></u>			4.5 / 95%		26		
<b>HOTEL</b>	<u><a href="#">Hotel Griffon</a></u>			4.5 / 84 / 52		<b>220 Average 70/55 degrees</b>		
<b>3 - SUN, SEP 10</b>	<b>Monterey / Carmel</b>			leave San Francisco 7:30 a.m.				
				San Francisco	Alamo Car Rental		8:00 - 9:00	404 Costco > ALAMO at SFO - BOOKED
		Pacific Grove	<u><a href="#">Point Pinos Lighthouse</a></u>	4.5 / 90%	1:00 - 1:50	8 Opens 1:00 p.m.		
		Monterey	<u><a href="#">Seventeen Mile Drive</a></u>	4.5 / 88%	2:00 - 3:30	10 <u><a href="#">LINK</a></u>		
		Carmel-By-The-Sea	<u><a href="#">San Carlos Carmel Mission</a></u>	4.5 / 93%	3:45 - 4:30	14		
		<b>HOTEL - Carmel</b>	<u><a href="#">Mission Ranch</a></u>	4.5 / 86 / 58	4:30	<b>218 Average 70/53 degrees</b>		
		Carmel	Mission Ranch Restaurant		7:00			
		Carmel	<u><a href="#">Carmel Scenic Bluff Path - 1 mile</a></u>	5 / 100%		0 8th Avenue to Carmel Point		
<b>4 - MON, SEP 11</b>	<b>Pinnacles NP &amp; Paso Robles</b>	Leave Carmel-By-The-Sea - 8:00 a.m.						
		Soledad	<u><a href="#">Pinnacles National Park</a></u>	4.5 / 92%	9:30 - Noon	Hike Balconies Cave Trail - Flashlight		
		Paso Robles	<u><a href="#">Sculpterra Winery</a></u>	4.5 / 95%	2:00 - 3:45	20 Highly rated; beautiful gardens area		
		Paso Robles	<u><a href="#">Le Vigne Winery</a></u>	4.5 / 94%	4:00 - 5:00	30 Pullman rail car on grounds		

	Paso Robles	<a href="#">OR Eberle Winery</a>	4.5 / 89%	4:00 - 6:00	Wines in a cave tour; free tasting
	<b>HOTEL - Paso Robles</b>	<b><a href="#">La Quinta Inn &amp; Suites</a></b>	<b>4.5 / 95 / 69</b>	<b>6:30</b>	<b>162 Avg. 90/51 degrees</b>
<b>5- TUE, SEP 12</b>	<b><a href="#">Sequoia Nat. Park</a></b>	Leave Paso Robles - <b>7:00 a.m.</b>			<b>TAKE SNACKS/DRINKS FOR LUNCH!</b>
	leave early 9/12 to get thru const. in Sequoia	<a href="#">Moro Rock</a>	5 / 98%	10:30 - 11:30	3/10 mile RT
		<a href="#">Hanging Rock</a>		11:30 - Noon	4/10 mile RT - views of Moro Rock
		<a href="#">Tunnel Log</a>	4.5 / 87%	Noon - 12:45	
		<a href="#">Bear Hill Trail</a>		12:50 - 2:00	<b>Bear Hill (2.0m) or Little Baldy (3.4m)</b>
		<a href="#">Giant Forest Museum</a>	4 / 79%	2:15 - 3:00	
		<a href="#">General Sherman Tree &amp; Congress Trail</a>	5 / 98%	3:15 - 4:45	2.9 miles RT
	<b>HOTEL</b>	<b><a href="#">Wuksachi Lodge</a></b>	<b>4 / 72 / 31</b>	<b>5:00</b>	<b>236 Avg. 70/39 degrees</b>
		Telescope Tuesdays			<b>0 9:00 - Wuksachi Lodge</b>
		<a href="#">Dinner - The Peaks Restaurant</a>		7:00	
<b>6 - WED, SEP 13</b>	<b><a href="#">Kings Canyon NP</a></b>	Leave Wuksachi Lodge - 8:30 a.m.			
		Grant Grove	4.5 / 93%	9:30 - 11:00	
		<a href="#">General Grant Tree Trail</a>	4.5 / 96%	11:30 - 12:30	.5 mile
		<a href="#">Panoramic Point</a>	4.5 / 92%	1:30 - 2:30	1 mile RT; 7250 ft.
		<a href="#">Wonders of the Night Sky</a>		9:00 - 10:00 pm	0 Meet at John Muir Lodge
	<b>HOTEL</b>	<b><a href="#">John Muir Lodge</a></b>	<b>4.0 / 71 / 33</b>	<b>4:00</b>	<b>192 Avg. 70/39 degrees</b>
<b>7- THUR, SEP 14</b>	<b><a href="#">Yosemite NP</a></b>	leave John Muir Lodge 8:00 a.m.			
		<a href="#">Big Trees Lodge Dining Room (Wawona)</a>		11:15 - 12:15	Lunch
	8123 ft. Elevation	<a href="#">Sentinel Dome</a>	5 / 99%	1:30	4.9 mile loop trail; 1st to Sentinel and then Pohono Trail to Taft Point
	7500 ft. Elevation	<a href="#">Taft Point &amp; The Fissures</a>	5 / 99%	Finish 5:45	
		<a href="#">Washburn Point</a>		5:55 - 6:15	
		<a href="#">Glacier Point</a>	5 / 99%	6:20 - 7:30	1 mile RT; sunset 7:09 pm
	<b>HOTEL</b>	<b><a href="#">Yosemite Blue Butterfly Inn</a></b>	<b>5 / 96 / 91</b>	<b>8:45</b>	<b>222 Avg. 83/52 degrees</b>
<b>8 - FRI, SEP 15</b>	<b><a href="#">Yosemite NP</a></b>				
	Optional	<a href="#">Tunnel View</a>	5 / 98%	8:15 - 8:45	
		<a href="#">Old Inspiration Point / Artist Point</a>		8:45 - 9:45	or, do late in day closer to sunset
		<a href="#">Bridalveil Fall Trail</a>	4.5 / 88%	10:00 - 11:00	1.2 miles RT
		<a href="#">Yosemite Valley Chapel</a>	4 / 67%	11:00 - 11:30	
		<a href="#">Vernal Fall Footbridge</a>	4.5 / 96%	11:45 - 12:30	1.4 miles; moderate
		<a href="#">Majestic Yosemite Hotel</a>	4.5 / 90%	12:30 - 1:00	View historic hotel

	Optional	<a href="#">Lower Yosemite Falls</a>		2:00 - 3:00	1 mile; easy
		Yosemite Valley Film			
		<a href="#">Visitor's Center</a>		3:15 - 3:45	
		<a href="#">Ansel Adams Gallery</a>	4 / 70%	4:00 - 4:30	
		<a href="#">Yosemite Valley Bike Ride</a>		4:45 - 5:45	26 rent at Yosemite Valley Lodge - 5 miles
		<a href="#">Valley View</a>	4.5 / 96%		viewpoint along Northside Dr before Pohono Bridge
	Optional	Glacier Pt. Starry Night Skies		7:45 - 8:45	20 Yosemite Guide or 209-372-4386
	<b>HOTEL</b>	<b><a href="#">Yosemite Blue Butterfly Inn</a></b>	<b>5 / 96 / 91</b>	<b>10:00</b>	<b>222 Avg. 83/52 degrees</b>
<b>9 - SAT, SEP 16</b>	<b>Sonoma</b>	Leave Yosemite		8:15 a.m.	
	Martinez	<a href="#">John Muir Historic Site</a>	4.5 / 97%	12:45 - 2:45	
	<b>HOTEL</b>	<b><a href="#">El Pueblo Inn</a></b>	4.5 / 88 / 51	4:00	352 <b>Avg. 85/51 degrees</b>
	Sonoma	<a href="#">Sonoma Plaza</a>	4.5 / 95%	4:30 - 6:00	1 mile from El Pueblo Inn
	Sonoma	Walt Pinot Noir			Sonoma Plaza - \$30 PP
	Sonoma	Tortilleria Jalisco			Across the street from hotel - excellent
<b>10 - SUN, SEP 17</b>	Sonoma	<a href="#">Sonoma - Two Winery Tours?</a>			Leave El Pueblo 9:00 a.m.
		Matanzas Creek Winery		10:00 - 11:30	
		Cline Cellars OR <b>Jacuzzi Vineyards</b>		1:00 - 2:30	
	Mill Valley	<a href="#">Muir Woods National Monument</a>	4.5 / 96%	3:30 - 6:30	Open until 7:00 p.m.
		Turn in Car Rental		7:30 p.m.	Alamo location at airport
	<b>HOTEL - San Fran</b>	<b><a href="#">La Quinta Inn SF Airport W - Booked</a></b>	4 / 76 / 41	8:30 p.m.	141 <b>Average 70/55 degrees</b>
<b>11 - MON, SEP 18</b>	Depart	American Flight 416		10:55 a.m.	Arrive Columbia, SC 9:27 p.m.

\* Rating = 1.) Excellent & Very Good Ratings on Trip Advisor / 2.) Excellent

**Cost Comparisons: the GlobusJourneys trip I viewed online in 2016 was the inspiration for the planning of this trip.**

**GlobusJourneys.com - 9 days/8 nights**

"California Classics tour"	<b>Breakfast &amp; Dinner only</b>
\$2456 x 2	4912 <b>Very limited sites!</b>
Airfare for 2	25 (Using AA miles)
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$4,937</b>

**Mel's Itinerary - 11 days/10 nights**

Air	25 <small>80k miles</small>	<b>11 days; 10 nights</b>
Rooms	2185	<b>Breakfast, LUNCH and dinner</b>
Meals	950	<b>Visit NUMEROUS sites!</b>
Admissions	550	(tours, winery tours, admissions)
Rental / gas	540	Alamo (Costco); App. 975 miles
Other	250	Taxi, snacks, etc.
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$4,500</b>	

**INTERNET: [tinyurl.com/causa0917](http://tinyurl.com/causa0917)**

Google Maps: <http://tinyurl.com/ca0917map>