



AN EXPLOROFF ITINERARY • BUILT FOR TWO

Yevgeniy & Angelina's *West Coast Honeymoon*

Eleven days down the Pacific, from Tacoma to San Diego and back, planned just for the two of you. Foggy Oregon lighthouses and hidden beach waterfalls, the redwoods, Big Sur at sunset, and the sea lions at La Jolla. Slow mornings, sunset spots picked on purpose, and a room with a view at the end of every drive. *Congratulations, you two. This one is all yours.*

11

DAYS

~2,500

MILES

10

NIGHTS

Aug 11-21

YOUR DATES

Your route, mapped

Every stop on the trip at a glance. Down Highway 101 to San Diego, then back up the inland side through Mount Shasta and the Painted Hills. Tap the button under the map to open the live, interactive version.



Open the live map in Google Maps ↗

TIP • OFFLINE MAPS
Download the whole West Coast region offline before you leave. Cell service drops out along Cape Perpetua, the Redwoods, and Big Sur.

WHERE YOU'LL SLEEP		
1	Yachats, OR	MON, AUG 11
2	Crescent City, CA	TUE, AUG 12
3	Point Reyes Station / Olema	WED, AUG 13
4	Monterey / Pacific Grove	THU, AUG 14
5	Cambria, CA	FRI, AUG 15
6	Ventura / Oxnard	SAT, AUG 16
7-8	San Diego • two nights	SUN-MON, AUG 17-18
9	Redding / Lake Shasta	TUE, AUG 19
10	Bend, OR	WED, AUG 20

♥ **A NOTE FOR THE TWO OF YOU**
This plan leans into the golden hour on purpose. **Cape Perpetua** (Day 1), **Point Reyes** (Day 3), and **Pfeiffer Beach** (Day 5) are all sunset stops. Pack a small blanket and something to toast with, and let those three evenings be the slow ones. Happy honeymoon, Yevgheniy & Angelina.

! BOOK TWO THINGS AHEAD OF TIME
This route runs in August, when the coast is busy. Reserve your **hotels well in advance** (the overnight towns are small and sell out), and buy **Alcatraz tickets several weeks early** for Day 4 — they routinely sell out and cannot be booked last-minute.



DAY 1 · MON, AUG 11

Tacoma to the Oregon Coast

~6.5 HR DRIVE

LEAVE 7:00 AM

The rugged Oregon coast, chased all the way to a sunset. Clear Tacoma early, cross the border by late morning, and spend the afternoon hopping headlands and lighthouses down Highway 101 to a stone shelter above the sea.



Cannon Beach & Haystack Rock BEACH

11:45 AM to 1:15 PM

Park in the Pelican Brewing lot or on the street, then take the beach ladder down to the sand under Haystack Rock.



Hug Point BEACH

1:30 to 2:15 PM

Sea caves and a seasonal beach waterfall. Time it near low tide.



Neahkahnie Viewpoint VIEWPOINT

2:30 to 2:45 PM

A quick highway pullout with a big coastline photo.



Tillamook Creamery

3:15 to 4:15 PM

Walk the self-guided platform and split a fresh ice cream.



The Tunnel BEACH

4:45 to 5:41 PM

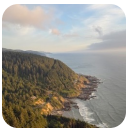
Evening low tide falls around 5:41 PM. Arrive a little early, near 4:45 PM, to see whether you can walk through the tunnel.



Yaquina Head Lighthouse LIGHTHOUSE

5:30 to 6:30 PM

Basalt tide pools and harbor seals. **Pass covers the \$7 entry fee.**



Cape Perpetua Overlook SUNSET

7:15 to 8:30 PM

Follow the Cape Perpetua Campground sign and take that road up to the stone shelter trail — the best sunset on the Oregon coast. Build your route before you arrive, there is no cell service here. **Pass covers the \$5 parking fee.**

Running late on Day 1? It is only about 15 minutes from Yachats, so you can just as easily catch it on Day 2 heading south, and honestly it is even better as a fresh-morning stop.

NIGHT 1 · STAY [Yachats, OR](#)

[Browse handpicked places to stay ↗](#)

2

DAY 2 · TUE, AUG 12

Sea Lion Caves to secret bridges

~4.5 HR DRIVE

LEAVE 8:30 AM

Lighthouses, a cave full of sea lions, and the hidden rock arches of the far southern Oregon coast, ending under the old-growth canopy at the California line.



LIGHTHOUSE

9:00 to 10:15 AM

Heceta Head Lighthouse

A half-mile walk to the keeper's home and the most photographed lighthouse in Oregon.



WILDLIFE

10:30 to 11:45 AM

Sea Lion Caves

Elevator down into America's largest sea cave. \$18 / person



LIGHTHOUSE

1:30 to 2:30 PM

Cape Blanco Lighthouse

The remote, westernmost point of Oregon.



VIEWPOINT

3:45 to 4:30 PM

Natural Bridges

A short walk to the iconic arched rock viewpoints.



VIEWPOINT

4:40 to 5:30 PM

Samuel H. Boardman

Stroll from the Last Chance trailhead to the ocean-view bench.



REDWOODS

6:00 to 7:30 PM

Trees of Mystery

Old-growth canopy suspension bridges. \$20 to \$30

NIGHT 2 · STAY [Crescent City, CA](#)[Browse handpicked places to stay ↗](#)

Giants of the redwoods to Point Reyes

~6.5 HR DRIVE

LEAVE 8:00 AM

Drive straight through the old-growth canopy, then a car through a redwood trunk, ending at one of the most romantic sunsets on the California coast.

Corkscrew Tree REDWOODS

8:30 to 9:30 AM

A wildly twisted old-growth redwood, right on the Newton B. Drury Scenic Parkway. Free.



REDWOODS

9:30 to 10:15 AM

Big Tree Wayside

Vertical panorama mode was made for these.



ROADSIDE

11:45 AM to 12:15 PM

Drive-Thru Tree Park (Leggett)

Drive your car right through the redwood trunk. Small cash fee on site.



VIEWPOINT

3:45 to 4:30 PM

Cypress Tree Tunnel

A symmetrical walkway leading to the old maritime radio station. Free.



SUNSET

5:00 to 8:30 PM

Point Reyes National Seashore

Fill up at Point Reyes Station first, then a stunning sunset on the rugged headlands. Free.

NIGHT 3 · STAY [Point Reyes Station / Olema](#)[Browse handpicked places to stay ↗](#)

4

DAY 4 · THU, AUG 14

San Francisco & the Bay

~3 HR DRIVE

LEAVE 8:30 AM

The classic city day. Cross the Golden Gate, ride the ferry to Alcatraz, then work your way down to a waterfront dinner facing the skyline.



LANDMARK

9:15 to 10:00 AM

Golden Gate Bridge

Stop at the northern overlooks before you drive across.



FERRY + TOUR

10:30 AM to 1:30 PM

Alcatraz Island

Ferry ride and the cellhouse audio tour. **Book weeks ahead. The pass does not cover this.**



WILDLIFE

1:45 to 3:15 PM

Pier 39

The resident sea lions and a late lunch.



LANDMARK

3:30 to 4:00 PM

Lombard Street

Drive down the famous crooked road.

Skates on the Bay (Berkeley) **DINNER**

6:00 to 8:00 PM

Waterfront dinner facing the glittering SF skyline.

NIGHT 4 · STAY Monterey / Pacific Grove

Browse handpicked places to stay ↗

5

DAY 5 · FRI, AUG 15

The drama of Big Sur

~3.5 HR DRIVE

LEAVE 9:00 AM

One of the most beautiful stretches of road in the country. Take it slow, pull over often, and finish on the purple sand at Pfeiffer Beach as the sun drops behind Keyhole Rock.



Santa Cruz BEACH TOWN

9:45 to 11:15 AM

A morning walk along the historic beach boardwalk.



Bixby Creek Bridge LANDMARK

12:15 to 12:45 PM

The world-famous highway arch. Free pullout.



Hurricane Point VIEWPOINT

12:55 to 1:15 PM

An expansive, high-elevation coastal view.



Pfeiffer Beach SUNSET

4:30 to 8:30 PM

Explore the purple sand and watch the sun set through Keyhole Rock. Narrow entrance road, cash parking.

NIGHT 5 · STAY [Cambria, CA](#)

Browse handpicked places to stay ↗

6

DAY 6 · SAT, AUG 16

Waterfalls to central-coast wildlife

~3 HR DRIVE

LEAVE 9:30 AM

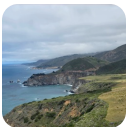
A hidden waterfall that spills onto a beach, a canyon bridge, and a boardwalk right beside thousands of wild elephant seals. A shorter, easier day to catch your breath.



McWay Falls WATERFALL

11:00 AM to 12:00 PM

A flat walk overlooking the hidden beach waterfall cove.



Big Creek Cove Vista Point VIEWPOINT

12:15 to 12:35 PM

The view of the massive double-arch canyon bridge.



Elephant Seal Vista Point WILDLIFE

1:45 to 2:45 PM

Boardwalks right next to thousands of wild elephant seals. Free.

NIGHT 6 · STAY [Ventura / Oxnard](#)

Browse handpicked places to stay ↗

7

DAY 7 · SUN, AUG 17

Los Angeles sights to San Diego

~4.5 HR DRIVE

LEAVE 8:00 AM

Hit the LA highlights in the morning, from the pier to the Hollywood sign, then drive south to your San Diego base for the next two nights.



Santa Monica Pier LANDMARK

9:15 to 10:45 AM

The End of Route 66 sign and the pier. Municipal parking is extra.

PARK

Beverly Gardens Park

11:15 to 11:45 AM

Walk past the iconic Beverly Hills sign.



Griffith Observatory & Hollywood Sign VIEWPOINT

12:30 to 2:30 PM

Sweeping city views and the best Hollywood-sign photos.



Pinocchio Restaurant (Burbank) LUNCH

2:45 to 4:00 PM

An affordable, classic Italian meal before the drive south.

DRIVE

The evening stretch to San Diego

4:00 to 6:30 PM

Roll south into San Diego for the night.

NIGHT 7 · STAY [San Diego](#)

Book two nights here (Aug 17 and 18) ↗

8

DAY 8 · MON, AUG 18 · THE TURNAROUND

Sunny San Diego

LOCAL DRIVING ONLY

LEAVE 9:00 AM

The turnaround point, and the one day with nowhere to be. A slow morning at La Jolla Cove, then the afternoon and evening are yours.



La Jolla Cove WILDLIFE

9:30 AM to 12:30 PM

Sea lions lounging on the rocks and the tide pools.



Gaslamp Quarter or Balboa Park

FREE AFTERNOON

A free afternoon and evening to explore. A good night for a nicer dinner out.

NIGHT 8 · STAY [San Diego](#)

Your second night at the same base

9

DAY 9 · TUE, AUG 19

The long haul north

~8.5 HR DRIVE

LEAVE 7:00 AM

The big driving day home. Leave early to clear Southern California before the heat, then break up the run with a catamaran cruise and an underground cave tour on Lake Shasta.



Lake Shasta Caverns CAVE TOUR

3:30 to 6:00 PM

A catamaran cruise and underground cave tour to break up the highway. \$46 / person

NIGHT 9 · STAY **Redding / Lake Shasta**

Browse handpicked places to stay ↗

10

DAY 10 · WED, AUG 20

Mount Shasta beach to the painted desert

~5.5 HR DRIVE

LEAVE 8:30 AM

A crisp mountain-lake morning, then a long, beautiful cut across Oregon's high desert to the surreal red and gold stripes of the Painted Hills, before rolling into Bend for the night.



Lake Siskiyou Beach LAKE DAY

9:30 AM to 1:30 PM

A crisp morning swim or paddleboard in the mountain water right at the base of Mount Shasta. Grab a quick lunch before heading out.

DRIVE

The high desert cross-cut SCENIC DRIVE

1:30 to 5:30 PM

Drive north past Klamath Falls and branch northeast into Oregon's central desert basin on US-97 and US-26.



Painted Hills (John Day Fossil Beds)

5:30 to 7:00 PM

Drive the gravel park loops. Take the short Painted Cove boardwalk to see the deep ochre soil up close, then the Painted Hills Overlook Trail for the sweeping panorama.

DRIVE

Evening dash to Bend

7:00 to 8:30 PM

Drive southwest into the outdoor hub of Bend, OR for the night.

NIGHT 10 · STAY **Bend, OR**

Browse handpicked places to stay ↗

11

DAY 11 · THU, AUG 21

The drive home to Tacoma

~5 HR DRIVE

LEAVE 9:30 AM

The last stretch. A relaxed morning in Bend, then the drive back home to Tacoma, married and a couple thousand miles of coastline richer.

HOME **Tacoma, WA**

The final stretch home — arrive around 5:30 PM.

America the Beautiful pass guide

One \$80 interagency pass covers day-use vehicle fees at the federal sites on this route. Here is exactly what it covers, what is already free, and what you still pay on site.

✓ COVERED BY YOUR PASS

Yaquina Head Lighthouse (Day 1) · waives the \$7 vehicle entry fee for the natural area, tide pools, and center.

Cape Perpetua Overlook (Day 1) · waives the \$5 day-use parking fee at the overlook, visitor center, and Thor’s Well.

○ ALWAYS FREE

Redwood National & State Parks · the scenic parkways and public trails are free.

Point Reyes National Seashore · the peninsula, beaches, and Cypress Tree Tunnel are free.

Highway overlooks · Hug Point, Neahkahnie, Natural Bridges, Samuel H. Boardman, Bixby Creek, and the Elephant Seal Vista Point are all free to park.

✗ OUT OF POCKET (NOT COVERED)

Private attractions · Sea Lion Caves \$18, Trees of Mystery \$20 to \$30, the Leggett drive-thru tree, Lake Shasta Caverns \$46.

Alcatraz Island (Day 4) · the ferry and audio tour run through a private concessioner. Book weeks in advance.

State and city parking · Tillamook Creamery, Santa Cruz, and the Santa Monica Pier charge separately.

Lighthouse interior tours · climbing inside the historic towers needs a separate ticket.

Before you go

Five things worth sorting out before Day 1. The first one matters most.

- 1

Download the map offline
Cell service drops out completely along Cape Perpetua, the Redwoods, and Big Sur. Download the whole West Coast region on Google Maps before you leave.
- 2

Footwear strategy
Non-slip, closed-toe shoes for tide pools and steep lighthouse paths. Flip-flops for the sandy beach transitions.
- 3

Pack layers up front
The coast can drop into chilly, damp fog with no warning. Keep warm layers in the cabin, not buried in the trunk.
- 4

Bring a tripod
The vistas are dramatic and often low-light at sunset. A small tripod or a good phone clamp earns its space.
- 5

Fuel strategy
Gas is frequent but pricey in remote stretches. Always top off before isolated sections like the run through Point Reyes.

Distances, timings, fees, and operators here are planning estimates. Confirm hours, tide tables, and Alcatraz tickets before you go, and treat the daily leave times as a rhythm, not a rule. It is a honeymoon.

This trip was hand-built for Yevgeniy & Angelina. Found your way here and want one like it? [We can make you one too.](#)