



ABOVE: The Giant Wheel at the Irvine Spectrum Center in sunny Orange County

CALIFORNIA LOVE

See, sip and savour all the beautiful things that California has to offer like a true local.

CALIFORNIA IS COOLER than cool. Just think about the sheer amount of influential people who call The Golden State home: Dr. Dre, Snoop Dogg, Kendrick Lamar (a.k.a. half of this year's Superbowl half-time show — we're still not over the magnitude of that performance, OK?).

Cali is so amazing, we would live there, too. Where else can you ski down a mountain and tan on a beach all in the same day? Or walk through the deserts

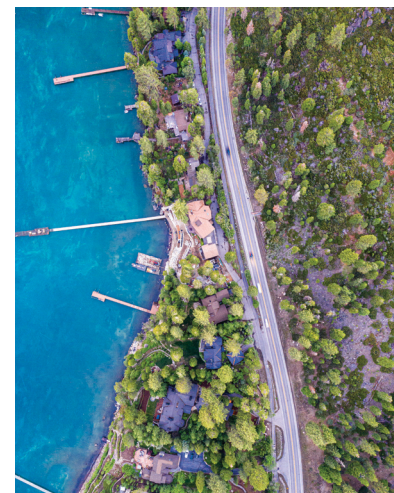
of Joshua Tree National Park, explore the peaks of Death Valley (which holds the record for hottest temperature ever recorded) then drive three hours and find yourself at the shores of the Pacific Ocean. Only in California will you find such an array of stunning landscapes and an astounding amount of places to go, things to do and food to eat.

It can be overwhelming to pick exactly where and what to explore, so when in

doubt, go where the locals go. After all, no one knows California better than the people who live there. You may even run into a few recognizable faces while you're checking out local faves like all-day Sunday brunch at L.A.'s Post and Beam, or digging into a plate of spaghetti at Arnoldi's Café in Santa Barbara.

You can even take a culinary-focused tour and eat your way through the neighbourhood with local guides. Six Taste Food Tours in Los Angeles, and San Diego's So Diego Tours are some of the best.

Napa Valley is world-renowned for its fantastic wine, but California's historic Gold Country on the western side of the Sierra Nevada is an amazing and



ABOVE AND CLOCKWISE: Tahoe City on the shore of Lake Tahoe; Anza Borrego Desert; Mono Lake

underrated destination for vino. The quaint town of Murphy's has its own Under-the-Radar Wine Tasting where you can explore the wineries and their beautiful tasting rooms that give this part of the Golden State its own unique flavour. For a special place to stay, check out Querencia, a secret-hideaway-style inn overlooking vineyards and the Sierra foothills.

For more off-the-beaten-path experiences that locals love, tie up your hiking boots and discover the off-road trails of Big Bear Lake, a small city in Southern California packed with big adventure. Located at about 6,700-

feet elevation, Big Bear Lake and its surrounding peaks offer all-season fun, from winter sports at Big Bear Mountain Snow and Summit to hiking, cycling, water sports, and helicopter rides during the summer. Keep your eyes peeled for bald eagles. In fact, good luck closing your eyes at all because when you're in Cali, you won't want to miss a thing.

For more info and tips from locals, check out visitcalifornia.ca



CHECK OUT THESE LOCAL CALIFORNIA FAVES



1 Morro Bay
Along Cali's Central Coast, you'll find gems like Morro Rock Beach with an ancient volcanic peak and nearby lagoons.



2 Stanislaus National Forest
One of the oldest national forests, Stanislaus is a breathtaking nature-lover's paradise between Lake Tahoe and Yosemite.



3 Joshua Tree National Park
Rugged deserts spotted with twisted Joshua trees tell a story of beauty and resilience.



4 Temecula Valley
Picture yourself in picturesque, Temecula Valley wine country, sipping vino and flying high.