Los Angeles Times

Walk around and wend your way to see the American River's South Fork.

Go with the flow on the American River's South Fork.

Hike to the outpost where immigrants waited on Angel Island.

Stare down a serpent in Borrego Springs.

Bathe in spray from Burney Falls.

Ride standing up on a San Francisco cable car.

See how California Christianity and colonization got started in Carmel.

Cross the sea to Catalina.

Study farmworker history at the César E. Chávez National Monument.

Steer carefully at the drive-through Chandelier Tree.

See the Cheech.

Gaze at a movement's murals beneath a bridge in Chicanos Park.

Roam among blooms in Chino Hills State Park.

Get your fill of country blues and hot chili at the Cold Spring Tavern.

Join the gold rush in Columbia, a town out of time.

Line up at Dad's Luncheonette.

Travel from '20s to '30s at Deetjen's in Big Sur.

Savor the shade in Downtown City Park. Paso Robles.

Amble, nibble and sipple at Downtown SLO's farmers market.

Find the island at Lake Tahoe's Emerald Bay.

Break bread at Erick Schat's in Bishop.

See butterflies hover at Exposition Park.

Creep between weeping walls in Fern Canyon.

Feast at the Ferry Building and roam the waterfront in San Francisco.

Meet Sequoia's big trees and their boss, General Sherman.

Feed your imagination and feast your eyes at the Getty.

Grab a handful of nature (or is it junk?) at Glass Beach.

See Golden Gate Park from the de Young Museum's view tower.

Choose among art, architecture, music and drama on Grand Avenue.

Eat with abandon at Grand Central Market.

Guess your Martian weight at Griffith Observatory.

Look up and step lightly in the Grove of Titans.

Examine the Hammer Museum and UCLA.

Climb, hike or recline in Joshua Tree's Hidden Valley.

Enter a green dream on Highway 46.

Picnic at the Hollywood Bowl.

Stretch among stars at Hollywood Forever Cemetery.

Read the Hollywood sign, frontward and backward.

Make tracks in the white sand at the Hotel del Coronado.

Browse among blossoms, books and a Blue Boy at the Huntington.

Order Animal Style at the flagship In-N-Out.

Roam Indian Canyons and take native waters.

Get sound-scrubbed at the Integratron.

Taste cattle country in Jocko's Steakhouse.

Paddle the Klamath in a Yurok canoe.

Feel kneaded in a Koreatown spa.

Get lost in the Last Bookstore.

Be spellbound at the Magic Castle.

Stride from Main Street to Mendocino's bluffs.

Snack and sip on the Malibu Pier.

Hurtle down Mammoth Mountain.

Remember the prisoners of Manzanar.

Listen (and eat) in Mariachi Plaza.

Slurp oysters at the Marshall Store on Tomales Bay.

Refuel at the rustic-chic Matte's Tavern.

Ogle sea cliffs and slopes at Montaña de Oro State Park.

Get next to sea creatures at Monterey Bay Aquarium.

Build a driftwood mansion on Moonstone Beach Drive.

Walk or paddle in Morro Rock's shadow.

Make tracks on Mt. Tam.

Lose your balance at the Mystery Spot.

Eat at Nepenthe, high above Big Sur.

Listen in at the Richard Nixon Presidential Library.

Hang with Impressionists at the Norton Simon Museum.

Step into history for kids in Old Sacramento.

See what's in the gleaming Orange County Museum of Art.

Grab a sandwich (and dessert) at the Orange Works Cafe.

Graze globally at L.A.'s Original Farmers Market.

Find a beast at OstrichLand USA.

Peruse pickles at Oxbow Public Market.

Zip from sagebrush to snow on the Palm Springs Aerial Tramway.

Look up at the Hollywood Pantages.

Cut loose at Pappy & Harriet's desert roadhouse.

Ogle elephant seals at Piedras Blancas Rookery.

Chase condors and climb through caves at Pinnacles National Park.

Mingle with monarchs in a Pismo Beach butterfly grove.

Tiptoe among tide pools at Point Lobos.

Hike among designer dreams in Poly Canyon.

See boats and hear overtures at Rady Shell.

Watch history take flight at the Reagan Library.

Shop and gawk on Rodeo Drive.

Kayak sea caves and fend off foxes at Santa Cruz Island.

Melt into the scenery at Sea Ranch.

Chow down at a 626 Night Market.

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NOTE: Gray highlight denotes Top 10 picks.