

# HALF MOON BAY

COASTSIDE CALIFORNIA

## **EAT, DRINK, AND BE MERRY ALONG CALIFORNIA'S HALF MOON BAY COASTSIDE** *Celebrate the Holidays with Night of Lights, Christmas Tree Farms, Santa, and So Much More!*

**HALF MOON BAY, CA – NOVEMBER 13, 2019** – Located approximately 45 minutes south of San Francisco, [The Half Moon Bay Coastsides](#) offers a cheerful and memorable holiday season for everyone! Stroll along Half Moon Bay's pleasant Main Street for some holiday shopping to find the perfect artisanal gift. Snuggle up together at a cozy inn with hot cider and enjoy the comforts of the holidays at your fingertips. Explore fields of Christmas trees and celebrate with festive events such as a boat lighting decorating competition and an old-fashioned holiday parade at Night of Lights.

Below is a summary of holiday festivities, dining experiences, spa treatments, and more along the Half Moon Bay Coastsides. To plan a trip, visit [www.visithalfmoonbay.org](http://www.visithalfmoonbay.org) and also download [iCoastsides](#) to access information on the region's cozy inns and luxury coastal resorts, renowned restaurants, farm visits, golfing, wine tasting, fishing, whale watching, surfing and much more.

Special Note: All locations are in Half Moon Bay unless otherwise noted.

### – EVENTS –

#### **Gingerbread Lighthouse Display (free!)**

##### ***After Thanksgiving through Christmas***

Enjoy a handmade gingerbread lighthouse display at The Ritz-Carlton, Half Moon Bay. Taking cues from the resort's coastal location and famous Pigeon Point Lighthouse, the talented Pastry Chef Aurelien Revil-Signorat will create a special display in the lobby featuring gingerbread lighthouses in the theme of "12 Days of Christmas." *One Miramontes Point Road, (650) 712-7000, [www.ritzcarlton.com](http://www.ritzcarlton.com). Media Contact: Shelly Auyeung (650) 712 7007, [shelly.auyeung@ritzcarlton.com](mailto:shelly.auyeung@ritzcarlton.com).*

#### **Santa Claus is Coming to Town!**

##### ***November 30, 1-3 p.m.***

Santa Claus will be at Fog Town Toys for Polaroid pictures, hot chocolate, cookies, and free in-store toy raffles all day long! Complimentary gift wrap, toy assembly, and delivery will be offered for everyone. As a Toys for Tots donation site, customers can give back to the community by donating gifts for children to celebrate the holidays. *Fog Town Toys, 330 Main Street, (650) 726-4556, [www.fogtowntoys.com](http://www.fogtowntoys.com).*

#### **Night of Lights (free!)**

##### ***Dec. 13, 6 – 9 p.m.***

Night of Lights is an annual old-fashioned holiday event hosted in downtown Half Moon Bay. Visitors will enjoy trees decorated in dazzling lights while doing some holiday shopping in locally owned stores. The event features a tree lighting ceremony followed by Santa taking children's requests in Mac Dutra Park, the Parade of Lights down Main Street, carolers and

musical entertainment, roasted chestnuts, and activities for the kids. *Main Street. For more information, visit [www.visithalfmoonbay.org/local/night-lights](http://www.visithalfmoonbay.org/local/night-lights). Media Contact Erik Piro, (650) 726-8380, [erik@hmbcoastsidechamber.com](mailto:erik@hmbcoastsidechamber.com).*

**Pillar Point Harbor Lighted Boat Festival - Dec. 1-31 (free!)**

**32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Boat Decorating Contest – Dec. 14, 6 – 8 p.m. (free!)**

Get into the holiday spirit by heading over to Pillar Point Harbor to stroll along the boats festively adorned with holiday lights and other trimmings throughout the month of December. The annual boat decorating contest will be held on December 14 starting at 6 p.m. where the best-decorated boat will be chosen. Local shops in the Half Moon Bay area will be serving holiday snacks and drinks for attendees to enjoy. Santa Claus will make a special appearance along with the Half Moon Bay Choir and San Mateo Elks Band, who will be performing holiday music. *Pillar Point Harbor, #9 Johnson Pier, Princeton-By-The-Sea, (650) 726-4382, <https://www.smharbor.com/2019-12-14-lighted-boat-festival>.*

– LOCAL RICHES –

**Oh Christmas Tree!**

A winter visit to the Christmas tree farms around Half Moon Bay is a cheerful and fun-filled tradition for many families. With lots spread out along San Mateo Road (Hwy. 92) and Cabrillo Highway (Rt. 1), visitors can get into the holiday spirit while picking out their own Christmas tree. Below is a selection of local tree farms open to visitors:

- **4-C's Christmas Tree Farm** - select from a wide array of gorgeous firs and spruces at affordable prices. Choose to chop it down or get a pre-cut tree. Saws are provided, and the staff is even willing to help with difficult chopping jobs by whipping out their electric saw. *678-698 San Mateo Road, (650) 726-9614.*
- **Cozzolino Tree Farm** – choose from Grand Firs, flocked trees, poinsettias, wreaths, mistletoe and garlands. *501 San Mateo Rd, (650) 504-8206.*
- **H. Pastorino & Son Company** - the barn is transformed and filled with the magic of Christmas along with holiday trim, ornaments, trees, gifts, garland, poinsettias, and fresh wreaths for sale. Open Nov. 28 – Dec. 24 from 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. *12391 San Mateo Road, (650) 726-6440, [www.pastorinofarms.com](http://www.pastorinofarms.com).*
- **Lemos Family Farm** – Get in the holiday spirit at Lemos Family Farm where there are enough seasonal decorations to even make Scrooge smile. Starting the day after Thanksgiving, hop on a hayride to their Christmas Tree field to pick out a Douglas Fir, Incense Cedar, or Monterey Cypress. Trees are available pre-cut trees or those up for an adventure can cut down their own tree. Kids will enjoy a holiday hayride, train rides, and pony rides. Begins the day after Thanksgiving. *12320 San Mateo Road, (650) 726-2342, [www.lemosfarm.com](http://www.lemosfarm.com).*
- **Repetto Nursery** – In addition to a plethora of Christmas trees, this farm has some of the best deals on fresh flowers ideal for a holiday centerpiece. *12331 San Mateo Road, (650) 726-6414, [www.repettonurseryflorist.com](http://www.repettonurseryflorist.com).*

- **Santa's Tree Farm** –Santa's Tree Farm will open for the holidays Nov. 23-Dec 23, inviting customers to cut down their own Christmas tree. Grab a saw and head out amongst the 487-acre farm to choose from six different kinds of trees. As added bonus, everyone who purchases a tree will receive complimentary hot cider and candy canes. Be sure to stop by the Sleigh Bells Gift Shop, open on weekends to pick up festive holiday decorations. Santa will pay a visit on weekends starting Friday, Nov. 29 - Dec. 22, from 10:30 a.m. – 3 p.m. (except Dec. 7, 1:30 – 3:30 p.m.). There's also weekend train rides and Mrs. Claus' Kitchen will be serving up some goodies. *78 Pilarcitos Creek Road, (650) 726-2246, [www.santastreefarm.com](http://www.santastreefarm.com).*

– ACCOMMODATIONS –

**Cozy Up & Save at the Beach House Hotel**

Enjoy special holiday savings at this luxuriously appointed New England-style boutique hotel overlooking the Pacific Ocean. For the perfect winter getaway, stay three nights or longer and receive 15% off the room rate; stay two nights and receive 10% off over select winter dates. Guests can get into the holiday spirit with the brand-new Fire-Pit Fridays! Cozy up around the outdoor firepits overlooking the Pacific and enjoy complimentary hot chocolate and s'mores kits (\$12) from 7:30 to 9 p.m. All 54 junior suites feature a patio or balcony and a fireplace. Special amenities include a pool and hot tub, complimentary continental breakfast, a fitness center, and evening wine and cheese reception on weekends. Holiday savings are valid November 17, 2019 – February 28, 2020. 4100 *Cabrillo Hwy. (650) 712-0220, [www.beach-house.com/half-moon-bay](http://www.beach-house.com/half-moon-bay).*

**Sugarplum & Spirits Packages at The Ritz-Carlton**

Situated on dramatic bluffs overlooking the Pacific Ocean, The Ritz-Carlton, Half Moon Bay features 261 luxurious guestrooms, outdoor firepits, world-class dining, two championship golf courses, tennis courts, and coastal walking trails. The grand seaside resort and spa invites guests to take a break from the holiday planning for a little pampering with two special packages:

- The “Sugarplum Signature Suite Package” includes daily breakfast for four, a Sugarplum sweet amenity, and a holiday family activities guide. *Rates start at \$3,650 per night. Available Nov. 29 – Dec. 31.*
- The “Lift Your Spirits Package” includes an overnight stay and a Half Moon Bay Distillery Spirit Tasting Experience with an introduction and background on the distillery, spirit tasting of all products including tasting room specials, and a featured cocktail. *Starting at \$969 per night. Available through December 31, 2020.*

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– SPA –

**Holiday Pampering at The Ritz-Carlton, Half Moon Bay**

Enjoy a relaxing getaway at The Ritz-Carlton, Half Moon Bay with the resort's luxurious seasonal spa treatments that are perfect for the holidays. Guests may elevate their massage further with the Holiday Bliss Scalp Massage enhancement in a choice of: vanilla, featuring anti-aging and hair softening properties; peppermint known as an anti-inflammatory and to combat dryness; or pine, widely acclaimed as an effective natural skin treatment with antioxidants. The

enhancement features a soothing scalp massage with essential oils followed by a hot towel wrap around the hair. \$40, exclusive of tax and gratuity. Available December 1-31. One Miramontes Point Road, (650) 712-7000, [www.ritzcarlton.com](http://www.ritzcarlton.com). Media Contact: Shelly Auyeung (650) 712-7007, [shelly.auyeung@ritzcarlton.com](mailto:shelly.auyeung@ritzcarlton.com).

## – HOLIDAY SHOPPING –

### **Holiday Ornament Hand-Blown Art**

*Offered Nov. 22 to Jan 18*

Learn how to blow hot glass to make a special ornament that will be the perfect gift or addition to a Christmas tree. Pieces are typically ready the next day for pick up or mailed for a small fee. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Cost of the class is \$40. Located at La Nebbia Winery, 12341 San Mateo Road on Hwy. 92, (650) 283-5626, [www.hmbartglass.com](http://www.hmbartglass.com).

### **2019 Colony of Coastside Artists Open Studios (free!)**

*Nov. 23-24, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.*

Hosted by the Colony of Coastside Artists, nearly 40 local artists will open their homes and studios to the public for this once-a-year showcase of their work. There will be a selection of paintings, drawings, sculpture, jewelry, hot glass, and much more perfect to purchase as holiday gifts for any art-lover. If you are feeling lucky, guests will have the chance to score an original piece of artwork in a random drawing. For more information, visit [www.colonyofcoastsideartists.com](http://www.colonyofcoastsideartists.com).

### **Bottle Your Gift For the Holidays**

*Dec. 7*

Perfect for the holiday dinner table or to give as a present, wine lovers can take part in “Barrel to Bottle” at La Nebbia to refill their empty wine bottles at a big savings. For a personalized holiday gift, guests can create customized labels for their loved ones and friends. Barrel to Bottle pricing starts at \$6.50 per 750ml bottle; 12341 San Mateo Road, (650) 726-9463, [www.lanebbiawinery.com](http://www.lanebbiawinery.com).

### **Sugar, Spice, and Everything Nice!**

Got a sweet tooth? Head to Small Town Sweets for their delicious homemade Guittard chocolate fudge and wide selection of modern-day and nostalgic candies (Abba Zaba Bars anyone?). This holiday season, find colorful foiled turkeys in milk and dark chocolate (perfect for an edible table setting!). Also for sale are beautiful Advent calendars, tins from Germany filled with chocolate creams, and make-your-own gingerbread house kits with tubs of holiday candies for decorating. 516 Main Street.

### **North Pole Express**

Hoping for that perfect gift you’ve dreamt about all year? Well, better make sure your letter gets to Santa! There’s no need to send it certified, just drop it in the special bright red mailbox outside of Surf Factory and Santa will send a reply back confirming he got your letter. While you’re there, be sure to pick up some gifts for the surfer in your life! 521 Main Street, (650) 440-4540, <https://www.surffactory.net>.

## – HOLIDAY DINING –

### **Thanksgiving Feast at Pasta Moon**

Foodies will enjoy a farm-to-table experience with Pasta Moon's special menu this Thanksgiving! Start the meal with a choice of lentil soup with truffle oil, a plate of local cheeses, or a salad of fresh local greens and herbs. Choose from five entrees such as hand carved Diestel Farms Turkey brined with Italian aromatics, Guinness Braised Beef Short Ribs, Linguine New England Lobster, and more. A plethora of sides is served including sausage spinach parmesan stuffing, whipped buttermilk gold potatoes, sweet potato casserole, etc. It'll be hard to choose from one of the three desserts: a duo of pumpkin pie and apple crostata; Ghirardelli butterscotch pudding; and warm molten chocolate cake with vanilla chocolate gelato. *Price per person: \$78. A special menu for children under the age of 12 is available for \$25. Available November 28 from 12 p.m. – 8 p.m. 845 Main Street, (650) 726-5125, [www.pastamoon.com](http://www.pastamoon.com).*

### **The Ritz-Carlton Holiday Feasts and Drinks**

There are plenty of reasons to celebrate this season, and The Ritz-Carlton, Half Moon Bay is packed with holiday festivities:

#### **Thanksgiving Harvest Brunch in Navio**

*November 28 – Seatings from 10 a.m. to 2:45 p.m.*

Gather with family and friends for a delightful brunch at the award-winning Navio, inspired by the autumn season's finest ingredients and traditional Thanksgiving fare. *Available for \$199 per adult, \$149 per child ages five to 12 (children four and under complimentary), exclusive of tax and gratuity.*

#### **Thanksgiving Dinner in Navio**

*November 28 - 6:30 to 9 p.m.*

Chef Jakob Esko presents a special five-course prix-fixe Thanksgiving dinner menu with choices that include Dungeness Crab with Meyer lemon crème fraîche and caviar; Ouroboros Baby Green Salad with persimmon, hazelnut, and juniper-citron vinaigrette; Roasted Pumpkin Bisque with lobster and pain d'Epices; Traditional Early Bird Organic Turkey with Yukon potato purée, brioche stuffing, Half Moon Bay brussels sprouts, giblet gravy, and cranberry compote; and Green Apple with spiced sable, caramelized apple, and Tonka bean ice cream. *Available for \$199 per guest, exclusive of tax and gratuity.*

#### **Hot Chocolate Bar at The Ocean Terrace**

*Available Month of December*

Guests can enjoy a heartwarming hot chocolate on Ocean Terrace while they are cozied around the resort's signature fire pits or strolling around the resort gazing at the festive holiday decorations. The gourmet Hot Chocolate Bar will feature marshmallows, chocolate shavings, whipped cream, and more. An alcoholic option will also be available for adults. *Available for \$16 per hot chocolate; \$29 version with reusable travel mug featuring The Ritz-Carlton, Half Moon Bay logo, exclusive of tax. Offered on the weekends in December and on Christmas Day.*

#### **Holiday Afternoon Tea Benefitting Boys and Girls Club of the Coasts**

*December 1, 2019 – January 9, 2020*

*Monday - Thursday from 3 - 5 p.m.*

Enjoy a splendid afternoon with an elegant holiday-inspired tea at The Conservatory with

homemade pastries, savory tea sandwiches, and bubbly champagne with ocean vistas. As part of the brand-wide Community Footprints charitable initiative, the resort will donate \$10 for every holiday afternoon tea reservation to Boys and Girls Club of the Coastsides. *\$99 for adults and \$45 for children ages 12 and under. Advance reservations are required.*

### **Holiday Tasting Menu in Navio**

***December 4-8; 11-15; 18-22 from 6 to 9 p.m.***

In honor of the holiday season, Executive Chef Jakob Esko will present a special six-course tasting menu featuring luxury ingredients from the Bay area. *Available for \$175 per guest, exclusive of tax and gratuity.*

### **Christmas Eve Dinner in Navio**

***December 24***

***Seatings from 5 - 9 p.m.***

Create a new Christmas Eve tradition on the coast in Navio over a festive seven-course tasting menu with the finest seafood, local proteins and produce. Sample dishes include: Scallop Crudo with blood orange and sunchoke chips; Charcoal Grilled American Wagyu with black truffle, salsify, and bordelaise; and Partridge in a Pear Tree with chocolate, hazelnut, and Williams pear. *\$199 per guest, exclusive of tax and gratuity. Children's menu will be available.*

### **Christmas Day Brunch in Navio**

***December 25 - 10 a.m. to 2:45 p.m.***

Commence Christmas Day with a renowned brunch at Navio serving traditional beloved dishes and seasonal inspirations. *\$199 per adult; \$149 per child ages 5 to 12 (children four and under complimentary), exclusive of tax and gratuity.*

### **Christmas Day Dinner in Navio**

***Wednesday, December 25***

***Seatings from 6:30 - 9 p.m.***

Gather with family and loved ones for an elegant seven-course tasting menu in Navio featuring the freshest catch and the season's most pristine local ingredients. Menu items include: Smoked Squab with caviar, crème fraiche, and crepe; Kabocha Squash Gnudi with huckleberry, brown butter, and pickled fennel; and Striped Bass with sauce meurette, hazelnut, and brussels sprouts. *Available for \$199 per guest, exclusive of tax and gratuity. Children's menu will be available.*

### **New Year's Eve Dinner at Navio**

***December 31***

***Seatings from 6 - 9 p.m. for overnight guests***

Ring in 2020 at the breathtaking oceanfront Navio restaurant while indulging in an extravagant seven-course tasting menu spotlighting the season's most impeccable ingredients. The decadent meal includes: Oyster, Champagne and Caviar with fresh Fanny Bay oyster, watercress, California caviar; Slow-Cooked Egg with noisette butter and black garlic truffle; Saffron Spaghetti "Alla Chitarra" with Dungeness crab, Meyer lemon, and fennel; Sea Bass with black trumpet, roots, and California almonds; Charcoal Grilled American Wagyu with sunchoke and wild mushroom; Pre-Dessert with gin tonic, apple, and mint; and Navio Chocolate with raspberry and yogurt. *\$275 per guest, exclusive of tax and gratuity.*

## **New Year's Day Brunch in Navio**

**January 1, 2020**

**Seatings from 11a.m. - 3:30 p.m.**

Usher in the new year and embrace the company of friends and family by indulging in brunch overlooking the picturesque coastal views. \$199 per guest, \$149 per child ages 5 to 12 (children four and under complimentary); exclusive of tax and gratuity.

Reservations are required for all holiday dining events and early reservations are strongly recommended. Reservations for Navio can be placed at [exploretock.com/navio](http://exploretock.com/navio) and Holiday Afternoon Tea at The Conservatory at [exploretock.com/conservatoryhalfmoonbay](http://exploretock.com/conservatoryhalfmoonbay). For more information please call (650) 712-7000 or visit [ritzcarlton.com/hmb](http://ritzcarlton.com/hmb). *One Miramontes Point Road, (650) 712-7000, [www.ritzcarlton.com](http://www.ritzcarlton.com). Media Contact: Shelly Auyeung (650) 712-7007, [shelly.ayueung@ritzcarlton.com](mailto:shelly.ayueung@ritzcarlton.com).*

## **Sweet Treats at Harley Farms**

Harley Farms, home to award-winning goat cheese, is offering their seasonal peppermint cheesecakes and peppermint truffles. These delectable treats are perfect to buy for Christmas time! The shop is open Fridays through Sundays from 11 a.m. – 4 p.m. *205 North Street, Pescadero, (650) 879-0480, [www.harleyfarms.com](http://www.harleyfarms.com).*

## **Moonside Bakery and Café**

Moonside Bakery and Café is the place to go for holiday treats! A plethora of freshly baked goodies line the shelves including Stollen (German-style bread made with rum soaked raisins and currants, hazelnuts and orange and lemon peel, generously buttered and rolled in vanilla sugar and powder sugar), gingerbread houses and gingerbread house kits, princess cake, chocolate mousse, mocha buttercream, passion fruit mousse, freshly baked Panetone bread, almond Danish trees, and Linzer tortes (spicy nutty dough made of ground almond, ground hazelnut, cinnamon, cloves and nutmeg, filled with raspberry jam.). *604 Main Street, (650) 726-9070, [www.moonsidebakery.com](http://www.moonsidebakery.com).*

## **– PERFORMANCE –**

## **Bach Dancing & Dynamite Society**

***Every Sunday; doors open at 3 p.m.; performances from 4:30 – 7 p.m.***

Get into the holiday spirit with live music! Head to Douglas Beach House for their acclaimed Sunday afternoon performances celebrating jazz and classical music. Founded by Pete Douglas in 1964, this legendary yet low-key venue has hosted the likes of jazz greats such as Count Basie, Duke Ellington, Dizzy Gillespie, On December 8, UK pianist Terry Disley, accompanied by an all-star hand-picked seven-piece group, will perform The Jazz Nutcracker Holiday Show, a rare concert of his original jazz arrangements of Tchaikovsky's ever-popular Nutcracker Suite. Etta James, Dexter Gordon, and Stan Getz. *307-311 Mirada Road, (650) 726-4143, [www.bachddsoc.org](http://www.bachddsoc.org).*

## **About the Half Moon Bay Coastsides**

The Half Moon Bay Coastsides is a charming seaside respite located 45 minutes south of San Francisco. Nestled between the Santa Cruz Mountains and the Pacific Ocean, this breathtaking region consists of four distinct areas - the North Coast, Half Moon Bay, the South Coast and the Redwood Region. Featuring the best of Northern California all in one place, visitors will enjoy miles of white sandy beaches, redwood forests, a historic downtown filled with local artisan shops, beautiful state parks, fields of wildflowers, and trails along ocean bluffs and mountain

ridges as far as the eye can see. A sampling of activities includes horseback riding on the beach, farm fresh dining, shopping, biking, hiking and world-class golfing and surfing.

For more information on visiting Half Moon Bay, visit [www.visithalfmoonbay.org](http://www.visithalfmoonbay.org) or call (650) 726-8380. Like our [Facebook](#) page and follow us on [Twitter](#) @visithmb and [Instagram](#) @visithalfmoonbay.

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