

7 ultimate family road trips



McWay Falls in Big Sur

Coastal California



BIG SUR, CA

108 miles



POINT REYES, CA

261 miles



EUREKA, CA

1 **WHAT TO DO:** "Stop at Big Sur Bakery for coffee cake, cinnamon twists, and picnic goodies before hitting Julia Pfeiffer Burns State Park. When you get there, take the McWay Falls Overlook Trail to the waterfall, which plunges

80 feet into the Pacific." —NANCY BROWN, 60, AUTHOR OF THE BLOG "WHAT A TRIP" **WHERE TO STAY:** At Treebones Resort, perched on the coast, guests sleep in yurts—circular tent-like structures with pine floors (877-424-4787, treebonesresort.com;

rates start at \$169). Only kids over 6 are allowed, so if yours are younger, head to Deetjen's Big Sur Inn (831-667-2377, deetjens.com; doubles start at \$105). **WHERE TO EAT:** The iconic Nepenthe restaurant has communal tables overlooking the ocean. You'll get drunk on the views, not just the pinot. (831-667-2345, nepenthebigsur.com)

2 **WHAT TO DO:** "Check out Dillon Beach, a popular surf spot. The undercurrent is strong, so little ones should stay on the sand, which has giant dunes my kids love rolling down." —AMIE O'SHAUGHNESSY, 42, AUTHOR OF THE BLOG "CIAO BAMBINO!" **WHERE TO STAY:** The Inverness Valley Inn has a pool, a tennis court, croquet, and a mini farm. (800-416-0405, invernessvalleyinn.com; doubles start at \$149) **WHERE TO EAT:** Nick's Cove on Tomales Bay is a quirky

nautical-themed spot serving local seafood (order oysters!). There's a bait shop nearby, a huge deck, and bay views from every table. (415-663-1033, nickscove.com)

3 **WHAT TO DO:** "Stop for ice cream at Bon Boniere, then head to the Sequoia Park Zoo, where the animal habitats mesh seamlessly with the redwoods, or see the harbor from a Humboldt Bay Harbor Cruise." —AMY WHITLEY, 34, AUTHOR OF THE BLOG "PIT STOPS FOR KIDS" **WHERE TO STAY:** Every room at the Victorian Village Inn in nearby Ferndale drips with unique charm. (888-589-1808, victorianvillageinn.com; doubles start at \$105) **WHERE TO EAT:** The Samoa Cookhouse, opened in 1893, is like hopping in a time machine. Food is served family-style, and kids can veer off to visit the logging museum. (707-442-1659, samoacookhouse.net)