

# Weekend Wonders (Digital)

By Bentley Curtis

These five, prized California destinations provide the perfect weekend escape. And with the New Year underway, we think a vacation is already in order. Hit the road and never look back, until Monday, that is.



**1. Ojai:** A retreat for nature lovers and those in need of some local R and R, **Ojai** has long been a de-facto L.A. escape. And now, on select weekends in January and February, the town is offering culinary tours as part of its burgeoning food scene.

**2. Carmel:** Known for its tranquil scenery, **Carmel** is the perfect destination for assuagement after an arduous Angeleno week. Not to miss is a trip up the coast to nearby **Monterey Bay**, where clam chowder at the **Old Fisherman's Grotto** is staple Golden State treat.

**3. Palm Springs:** A perennial go-to, **Palm Springs** is standard fare for weekend warriors. Now, with its renowned **Modernism Week** approaching, art aficionados have another excuse to visit this desert oasis.

**4. Santa Barbara:** Offering everything from wine tasting to horseback riding, **Santa Barbara** is welcomed respite from the L.A. day-to-day.

Take the scenic route up Pacific Coast Highway, or head inland to **Los Olivos**, a quaint neighboring wine town replete with vineyards, charming boutiques and local galleries.

**5. La Jolla:** **La Jolla** seems to seamlessly pair luxury accommodations, fine dining and bespoke SoCal flair. For those with a penchant for Asian fusion, chef Stephen Window's venerable restaurant, Roppongi, is a "must." As is much of this San Diego County outpost.

- See more at: <http://modernluxury.com/angeleno/story/weekend-wonders#sthash.ht2FgQ0B.dpuf>