



PRESS RELEASE
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**California Coast Redwoods Named #1 U.S. Travel Destination by Lonely Planet;
*Save the Redwoods League Makes it Easy to Plan a Trip with New Online Tool***

SAN FRANCISCO (Feb. 6, 2018) — An estimated 31 million people visit the redwoods each year, so knowing where to go, what to do and how to get there is sure to make your journey one for the books. Since a good trip to the redwoods often begins with the planning, [Save the Redwoods League](#) has launched [ExploreRedwoods.org](#). This first-of-its-kind online tool is one of many initiatives the League is launching in 2018, its centennial year. The tool allows visitors to determine and plan what coast redwood and giant sequoia experiences might work best for their next California adventure.



Giant Tree, Rockefeller Loop, Humboldt Redwoods State Park. Photo by Tjflex2, Flickr Creative

California's Redwood Coast Named #1 U.S. Travel Destination

Lonely Planet named California's Redwood Coast [the number one destination](#) in the country to visit in 2018. Located four hours north of San Francisco, this picturesque region spans 175 miles of coastline and is home to towering forests of giant redwood trees that you might recognize from blockbuster film franchises such as Star Wars and Jurassic Park. With Redwood National Park turning 50 this year, travelers can get their share of shinrin-yoku (forest therapy) and experience Humboldt County's quirky new shops, oysters and brewpubs.

Explore Redwoods Trip-Planning Tool

The Explore Redwoods trip-planning tool allows users to discover trails, camping, access to giant ancient trees and more. Users choose their timeframe, desired region and activities of interest, such as family friendly parks, scenic landscapes and special events. The tool then curates numerous possible options to explore. From there, users pick destinations that are best suited to their travel plans and build a custom itinerary for their trip. Itineraries are packed with useful tips and information such as directions, amenities and fees, general park information, weather forecasts, what to pack and more.

Note: Itineraries can be downloaded to a visitor's phone or printed and carried since many parks are located outside of cellphone reception areas.

"We couldn't be happier that Lonely Planet is sharing what we've known for 100 years: The coast redwoods are a must-see destination for everyone," said Jennifer Benito-Kowalski, chief communications officer for Save the Redwoods League. "Whether you are a first-time visitor ready to take in the world's tallest trees, or you are a long-time lover of the redwoods who's looking to discover new hidden gems in the parks, our new trip-planning tool ExploreRedwoods.org allows users to locate a park that's right for them and find out what to do there."



Save the Redwoods League's new trip-planning tool, Explore Redwoods, is available at ExploreRedwoods.org.

Centennial Anniversary

Save the Redwoods League, one of America's first and most respected conservation organizations, is celebrating 100 years of protecting, restoring and connecting people to the iconic redwoods of California. Established in 1918, the League has protected more than 200,000 acres of majestic redwood forests and helped to create 66 redwood parks and preserves. The League has pioneered innovative, science-based forest-restoration techniques and touched the lives of hundreds of millions of people by connecting them to the marvels of nature throughout the redwood forest.

Free Second Saturdays in Redwood State Parks throughout 2018—Reserve a Parking Pass

California State Parks and Save the Redwoods League have teamed up to offer free vehicle day-use passes to more than 40 redwood state parks on the second Saturday of each month in 2018. These Free Redwoods Days (#FreeRedwoodsDays) are made possible by the League and its Centennial sponsor Oracle Corporation. Passes are available for download on a first-come, first-served basis at FreeRedwoodsDays.org and they cover day-use admission and parking fees at select redwood state parks. Hurry passes go fast!

The 2018 dates for Free Redwoods Days are: **February 10 | March 10 | April 14 | May 12 | June 9 | July 14 | August 11 | September 8 | October 13 | November 10 | December 8.**

Important note: Passes for each Free Redwoods Day will be available for download two weeks before each event at FreeRedwoodsDays.org. Sign up to receive email notifications when the next events' passes are available at savetheredwoods.org/signup.

League staff and select centennial partners also host free guided hikes at select parks on each Free Redwoods Day. Check FreeRedwoodsDays.org for details; space is limited.

Save the Redwoods League recognizes the support of the following travel partners:

- Eureka-Humboldt Visitors Bureau
- Crescent City/Del Norte County Chamber of Commerce & Visitors Bureau
- Mendocino County Tourism Commission

- Tuolumne County – Yosemite Gold Country
- Yosemite National Park – Delaware North
- Visit Yosemite Madera County
- Yosemite/Mariposa County Tourism Bureau
- Gold Country Visitors Association
- Mammoth Lakes Tourism
- Sonoma County Tourism
- Visit Oakland
- Visit Santa Cruz County
- Visit Santa Rosa
- Tulare Chamber of Commerce



Save the Redwoods League

One of the nation's oldest conservation organizations, Save the Redwoods League has been protecting and restoring redwood forests since 1918, connecting generations of visitors with the beauty and serenity of the redwood forest. Our 19,000 supporters have enabled the League to protect more than 200,000 acres of irreplaceable forest and help create 66 redwood parks and reserves. For more information, go to SaveTheRedwoods.org.

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