

HOME DINING RECREATION TRAVEL COMMUNITY HEALTH STYLE

805 LIVING

CELEBRATING
10 YEARS
2004-2014

NOVEMBER 2014



GIVING BACK



LUXE PRIVACY IN SAUSALITO



Casa Madrona Hotel & Spa (casamadrona.com), a property with a nine-room historic mansion and cottages (some with kitchens) in Sausalito, renovated The Mansion (rooms from \$509) and seven hillside cottages (from \$419) in May. The refreshed design was intended to preserve the historic charm of the 1885 mansion and add modern sophistication and amenities. So details like ornate mantels and moldings and hardwood floors were left intact but paired with more modern furnishings, light fixtures, and tile treatments for a sleek yet eclectic feel. New to the property is

the stellar 5,000-square-foot, two-bedroom Alexandrite Suite (\$10,000 nightly) that includes a full kitchen with a stocked wine bar and use of a private chef, a personal fitness center, an office, and a nine-panel media wall that can stream content from the guest's own devices. Floor-to-ceiling glass doors open onto a two-tiered patio with a hot tub, bar and barbecue areas, and fire pit and lounge area with views of the harbor.

For the holidays, guests may take over the entire mansion and the Alexandrite Suite (from \$25,000 for up to 24 people) for memorable events such as Thanksgiving, Hanukkah, and Christmas. A buyout includes day use of a yacht, a personal driver to explore the area, dedicated concierge and staff, and the private chef that comes with the Alexandrite Suite. Or visit on December 13, when the Sausalito Lighted Boat Parade and Fireworks takes place just steps away from the mansion. The hotel can even arrange a boat so guests can take part in the parade.

Casa Madrona offers a variety of rooms, suites, and apartments at its hillside location overlooking Richardson Bay: The master bedroom in the Alexandrite Suite (top) connects to a large outdoor terrace; the Hillside Guest House functions as an apartment with a full kitchen and breakfast nook (above).

Surf With Santa

Who knew that Santa takes a break to catch some sun and ride the waves at **Turtle Bay Resort** (turtlebayresort.com) on Oahu before heading out for his round-the-world trip? Catch some face time with the man in red and enjoy an all-you-can-eat Christmas Eve feast and Christmas Day buffet or four-course dinner as part of the seasonal celebrations planned. Take advantage of the "Early Holiday" offer and get the fifth night free when booking four nights from December 16 through 25 (from \$389). The package includes breakfast for two adults and two children, a 10 percent discount at the resort's retail shop and spa, ukulele and hula lessons, and the use of high-performance Titleist clubs on the practice range. Guest rooms were recently renovated and range from standard rooms to ocean suites, beachfront cottages, and one- to four-bedroom villas with full kitchens. On site are restaurants, a new fitness center, a spa, and activities, including surfing, kayaking, and horseback riding. >

Turtle Bay Resort is the only resort on Oahu's North Shore, famous for world-class surfing and the spot of the Vans Triple Crown of Surfing (November 12-December 20).



TURTLE BAY RESORT



COURTESY OF RESORT AT PELICAN HILL

DRESSED FOR THE HOLIDAYS

Head down to the **Resort at Pelican Hill** (pelicanhill.com) in Newport Beach this month for the second annual La Bella Moda pop-up fashion boutique, a fashion show, and prosecco brunch (\$49). Each week focuses on a different trend for the season (cocktail attire and accessory collections, November 23; holiday jet set-style, November 30) accompanied by a brunch inspired by the cuisine of Milan (since the resort is Italian-themed and Milan is a top fashion capital). Care to stay overnight? Bungalow rooms with fireplaces and ocean and garden view private terraces start at \$395.

The Resort at Pelican Hill is built into a hillside in Newport Beach and references Italy in its architecture, menu (including a range of fresh-made pastas), and spa with a Roman-style bath.



With names like Pelican, Pine, Lookout, and Smuggler's Cove, the rooms at Brewery Gulch Inn evoke a feeling of being part of the natural landscape.

Cozy in Mendocino

Most rooms at Mendocino's **Brewery Gulch Inn** (brewerygulchinn.com; from \$325) have private redwood decks and in-room fireplaces to chase away early winter's chill. The 10-room plus one suite Craftsman-style inn was built in 2001 from reclaimed 150-year-old redwood and features a soaring 15-foot cathedral ceiling in the great room, which is home to a towering Christmas tree every December. Situated on a bluff overlooking Mendocino's coastline, the three-acre property is also home to mature pine and redwood forests, wetland ponds, and gardens. Full breakfasts, evening wine-and-beer hours, and dinner buffets are prepared by an on-site chef.

Take advantage of a 10-percent-off winter discount on rooms booked from December 6 through January 31 using code "Festive Mendocino" over the phone or in the comments section when booking online; blackout dates apply. Visit in conjunction with events in town, such as the Festival of Lights at the Mendocino Coast Botanical Gardens (gardenbythesea.org), a holiday candlelight tour of B and Bs decorated for the holidays (mendocinoinntour.com), or the Crab, Wine, and Beer Festival (visitmendocino.com). ♦

BY MALLORY McCREARY