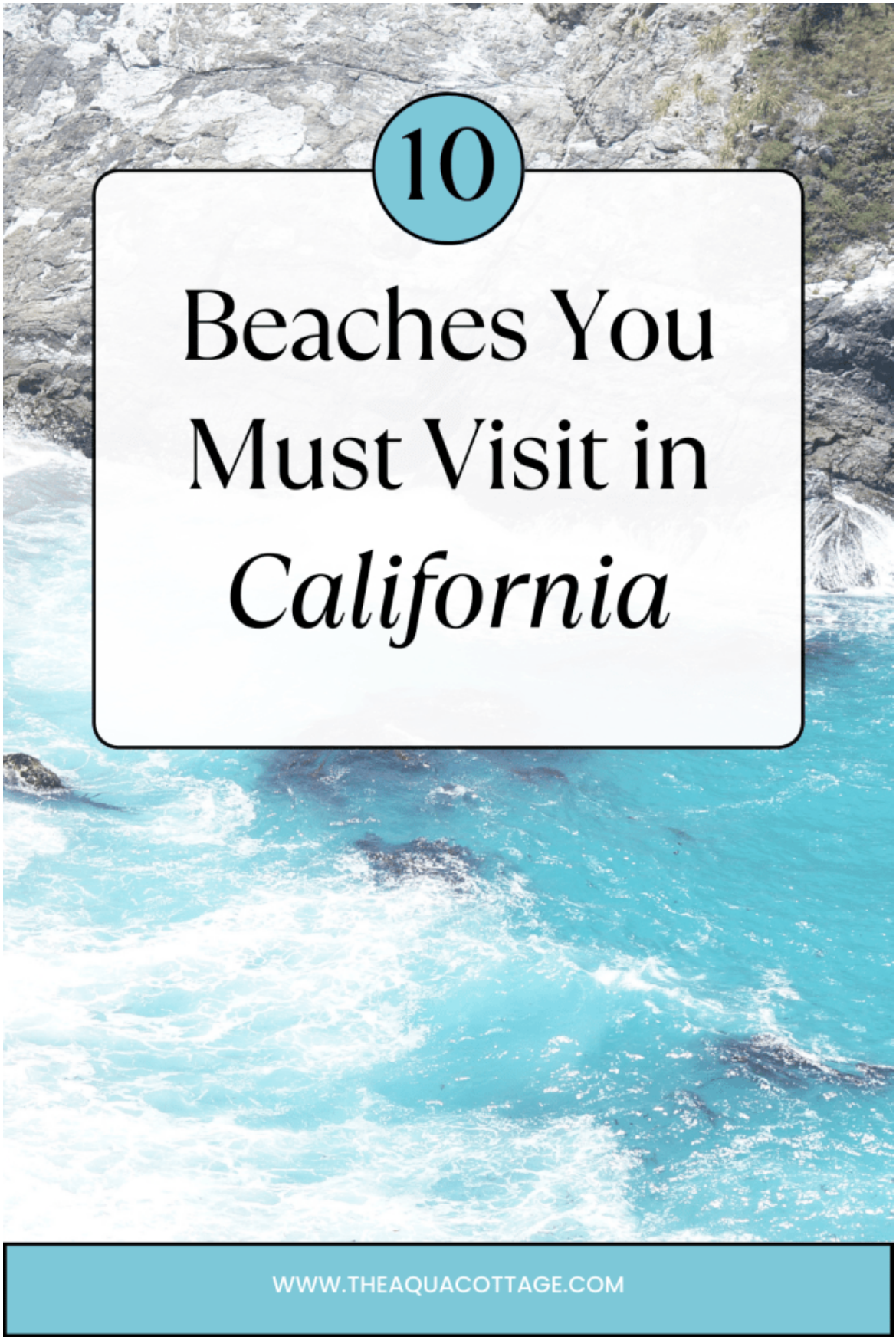
10 Most Beautiful California Beaches



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Are you planning a vacation to California? If so here are 10

beautiful beaches you must see. California has some of the most beautiful beaches in the United States. With over 420 public beaches and 840 miles of scenic coastline, no wonder it’s a top destination for nature lovers. Along the California Coast, you will find the tallest palm trees and Sherbert sunset skies that create the most dreamy ocean views.

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1. Pfeiffer Beach

Pfeiffer Beach is home to McWay Falls located in Big Sur California. McWay Falls pictured below, is an 80-foot waterfall that flows year around. Unfortunately, there is no longer any access to the beach because of dangerous conditions due to trail erosion. You can still see McWay Falls from the west side of California Highway 1.

Image Credit: Getty Images-Art Urbo

2. Newport Beach

Newport Beach is a coastal city in Southern California known for its stunning coastline and beautiful sandy beaches. Located in Orange County, it’s also known for its two piers, Newport Beach Pier and Balboa Pier. The most popular attractions are Newport Pier, Balboa Fun Zone, and The Ferry to Balboa Islands which takes you to local shops and restaurants.

Image Credit: Getty Images-Trace Rouda

3. Glass Beach

Glass Beach in Mendocino County is located in Fort Bragg California. Glass Beach is one of the most unique beaches in California because it was once abundant in layers of colorful sea glass.

Image Credit: Getty Images-Moni Hogue

4. Santa Monica

Located just west of downtown Los Angeles, Santa Monica Beach is famous for the Santa Monica State Beach Pier. Santa Monica is known for its soft sandy beaches and has a variety of activities and attractions such as scenic bike trails, hotels, shops, and restaurants.

Image Credit: Getty Images-Ziga Plahutar

5. Laguna Beach

Laguna Beach is located in Orange County and is known as one of Southern California’s premier coastal destinations. Laguna Beach is known for its picturesque beaches, hiking trails and is nestled between seven miles of hidden coves and majestic canyons.

Image Credit: Getty Images-Mauinow1

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The California coastline is about 840 miles long and has about 420 public beaches.

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6. Huntington Beach

Huntington Beach is a city southeast of Los Angeles known as Surf City. Its famous attractions include the Huntington Beach Pier, International Surf Museum, and Huntington Central Park.

Image Credit: Getty Images-Mdesigner125

7. Malibu Coastline

Malibu is located west of Los Angeles known for its celebrity homes, beautiful beaches, and surfing. The Malibu Coastline stretches over 21 miles along the scenic Pacific Coast Highway. Some of the most beautiful beaches located in Malibu are Zuma, Matador, Leo Carillo State Beach, and the Malibu Pier.

Image Credit: Getty Images-Rachel Lodin

8. Carmel Beach

Carmel Beach located in Monterey County is known for its white sandy beach, cypress trees, and surfing. Known as Carmel By The Sea, it’s rated as one of America’s top iconic beach towns.

Image Credit: Getty Images-William Reagan

9. Manhattan Beach

Manhattan Beach is famous for the beautiful Manhattan Beach Pier which stretches 928 feet. The pier is the perfect place to view spectacular colorful sunsets or enjoy drinking your morning coffee while viewing the most gorgeous sunrise.

Image Credit: Getty Images-Cody Spence

10. Butterfly Beach

Butterfly Beach is located in Montecito and is a favorite among the Santa Barbara locals. Known for its great views, small calm waves, and nice breezes it’s the perfect place to spend a nice lazy day seaside.

Image Credit: Getty Images-Joseph Tointon

I hope you found this post helpful in planning your trip to California! Be sure to add at least one of these beaches to your bucket list. Thanks for reading!

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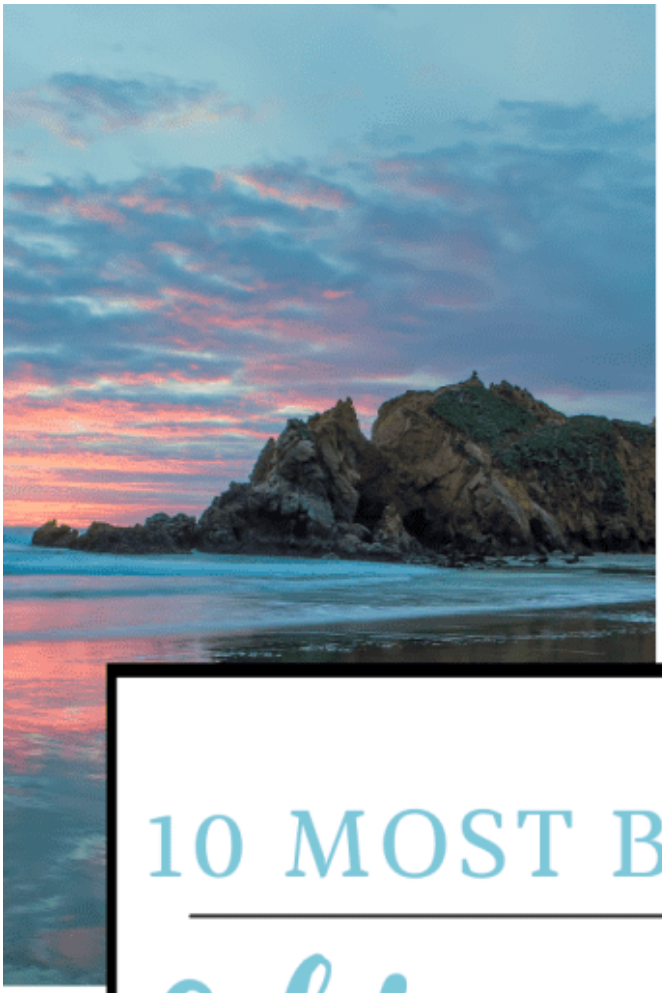
Also See: I Moved To Los Angeles for tips about moving to California!



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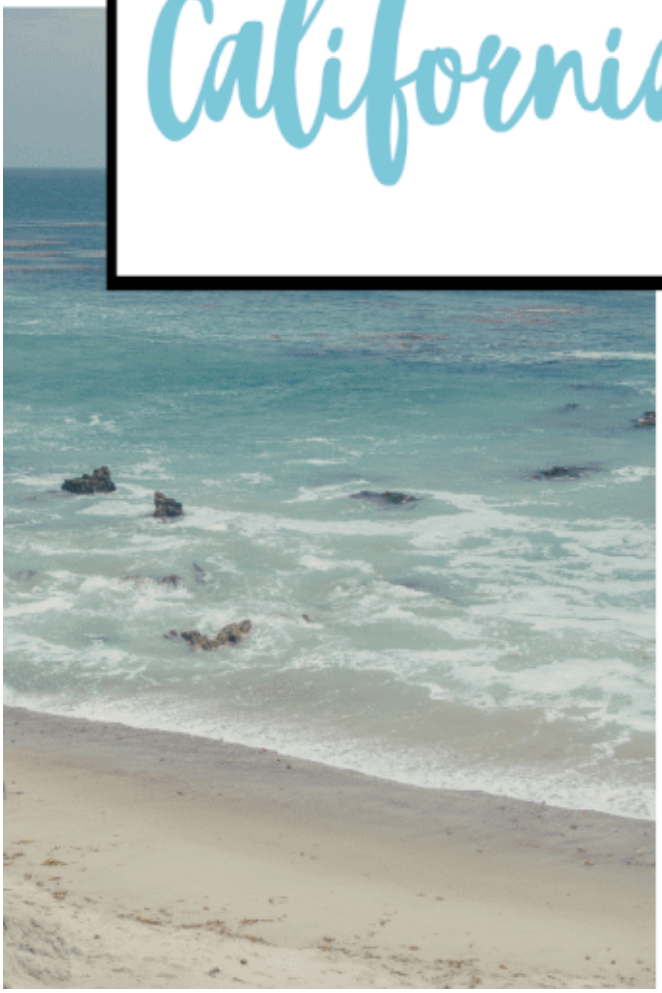

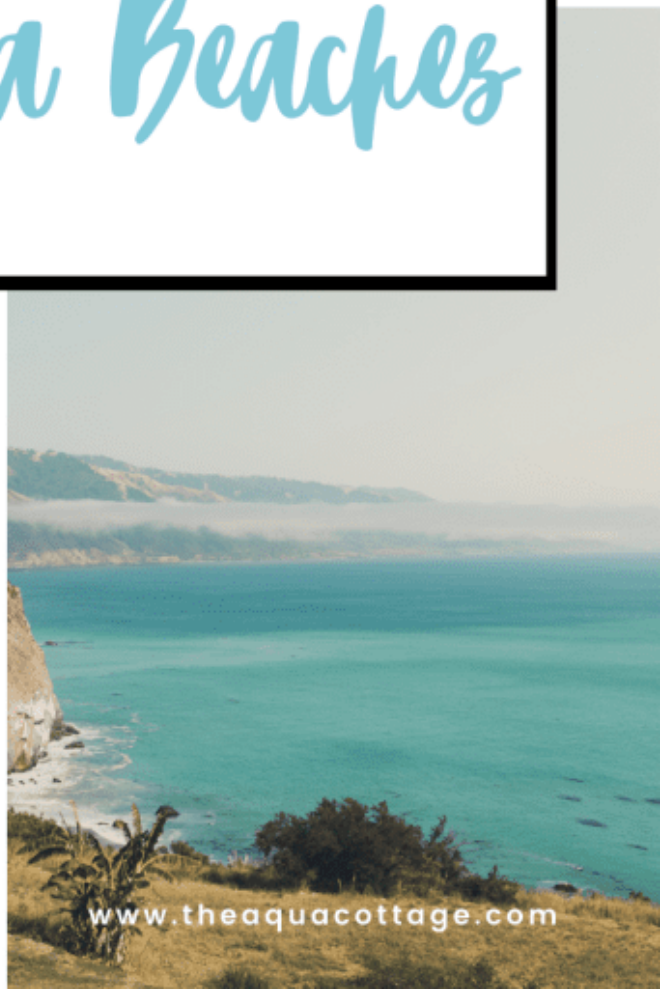

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