



SONOMA

> A BOUNTY OF NATURAL BEAUTY AWAITS AT SEA RANCH LODGE, A BOUTIQUE UP THE COAST

BY SHIRLEY HALPERIN

ANYONE WHO'S DRIVEN Highway 1 north of San Francisco knows the sensation of turning a corner and seeing the ocean, horizon and coastline meld together like a painting. At Sea Ranch Lodge, cradled along the dramatic cliffs of western Sonoma County, that sense of harmony is at the core of the 53-acre property, which boasts 17 guest rooms sustainably renovated in 2023 and expertly appointed for maximum relaxation.

In fact, the lodge is so mellow, you hardly want to leave its cozy confines. And truth be told, there's not a lot of nightlife to be had in the hamlet known as Sea Ranch, which was designed in the mid-1960s as an homage to nature and built from simple materials to complement the landscape and local vegetation. On the grounds, that vision translates to clean lines defined by slabs of dew-soaked wood — down to the eco-friendly room keys made of sustainable bamboo

 accented by picturesque peekaboo doorways and nooks with breathtaking views of the Pacific all surrounding a deck made for sunsets and stargazing.

In the heart of the main structure are two eateries featuring farm-to-table menus and a formidable wine and cocktail list. Locally sourced ingredients determine the nightly dishes at the Dining Room, where highlights include pasta made in-house and a variety of crudos, depending on the day's catch. Further minimizing its environmental impact, Sea Ranch Lodge is home to chickens, cattle and sheep and recently announced programs related to regenerative beef and lamb farming, mushroom cultivation, honey harvesting and composting — which is to say, the eggs you're eating for breakfast were likely laid yards away.

Daytime activities abound, both on the grounds (bird-watching, hiking, picnicking and ocean dipping) and the nearby Sea Ranch Links, offering golf and a "balls and beers" driving range. A little further out, the Russian River runs through the area, reinforcing the bounty of natural beauty that this heavenly slice of California affords to all. thesearanchlodge.com



AUBERGE DU SOLEIL'S ROSÉ ALL MAY

> On May 1, the lush Napa Valley resort will kick off its fifth annual Rosé All May celebration, featuring the release of its latest vintage of private label rosé and a monthlong series of rosé-themed events. aubergeresorts.com/ aubergedusoleil – J.R.