

Hi Everyone

Michelle and I were in Pacific Grove in January and our plans have come together. Of course the Seven Gables Inn (<http://thesevengablesinn.com/>) is still beautiful, they still provide wonderful local Monterey wines and cheese each afternoon from 4-6 P.M., and very nice breakfasts are from 8-10 AM each morning. Seven Gables is the top rated B&B in Pacific Grove by Trip Advisor, with 5 out of 5 little circles filled in. We have 22 cars (44 people) signed up to stay at the Seven Gables. We also have 3 cars on the waiting list for Seven Gables, and who will hopefully be joining us on the ride and events in any case. A trip roster is attached.

Just like last year, we will leave Orchard Creek at 8 A.M. Our trip will take us across the Golden Gate bridge and down Highway 1 through Half Moon Bay and Santa Cruz. We will have the most beautiful views possible.

We will again stop for lunch at Mezza Luna in Half Moon Bay (<http://mezzalunabythesea.com/>). This is a really wonderful Italian restaurant. We have arranged separate checks for each table. We will plan to be at Mezza Luna for a little more than an hour, so please bring cash to divide up the check between you so that we aren't held up by lots of credit card validations.

Our menu choices at Mezza Luna are

- Ceaser Salad
- Insalata Mezzaluna - Organic mixed green salad, topped with fresh marinated seafood
- Insalata Caprese - Sliced tomato, fresh mozzarella and extra virgin olive oil
- Calamari Fritti - Deep fried calamari served with tartar sauce
- Zuppa del Giorno - Homemade soup of the day
- Capellini del Orto - Angel hair pasta with tomato, basil and garlic
- Tortellini alla Crema e Funghi - Homemade meat tortellini sautéed with Parma Ham and mushrooms in a cream sauce
- Lasagna alla Bollognese - Homemade meat lasagna (top sirloin)
- Petto di Pollo alla Giovanni - Breast of chicken topped with Parma ham and fresh mozzarella cheese in a white wine and sage sauce
- Gamberi alla Roberto - Prawns sautéed with garlic, white wine and

capers in a spicy tomato sauce

We will make a brief pit stop at the Seacliff Inn in Aptos, and should arrive at Seven Gables about 3:45, just in time for wine and cheese.

Dinner Tuesday evening will be at 7 P.M. at Fandango restaurant

(<http://www.fandangorestaurant.com>), just a few blocks walking distance from Seven Gables. Fandango is located at 223 17th Street, but we will plan to all walk together. I always thought that Fandango was also Italian, but I have recently been corrected that it is more Mediterranean or European. Anyway, the dinner will be a fixed price of \$55, which includes tax and tip. You can choose your entre when you are there. We will be in a private upstairs room that will have a cash bar available.

Our menu at Fandango will be:

- Canneloni Nicoise - Fresh pasta rolled with spinach, ham, beef, cheese & tomato
- Carmel Valley Organic Greens - Assorted local greens, house vinaigrette
- Choice of
 - o Roast Black Angus Sirloin with wild mushroom sauce
 - o Filet of Salmon, grilled, and served with a Café de Paris butter
 - o Beef Bourguignon slowly braised in red wine and port
 - o Chicken Picatta - chicken breast sautéed in a lemon, caper butter
 - o Pasta Puttanesca - diced tomato, capers, garlic, basil, olives, olive oil
- Vacherin Glace Surprise - Meringue shell filled with lemon sorbet, raspberry sauce and whipped cream

We have chartered a boat for whale watching on Wednesday. The whale watching company is called Monterey Bay Whale Watch and the boat is called the Point Sur Clipper. The boat leaves from the Monterey Pier. You can check this out on the web at <http://www.montereybaywhalewatch.com>. We are getting the lowest rate, winter, mid-week at \$31.00 per person, with a 25 person minimum. Based on the response I got to my survey, we should easily have the minimum participation. There will be a marine biologist on board to lead the trip. Our trip will be on Wednesday April 18 between 10 A.M. and 1 P.M.. We will meet at their shack on the pier (Monterey Fisherman's

Wharf #1) at 9:45 AM. It is a 10 minute drive from Seven Gables. There is plenty of parking in the city lot at the wharf, and this is a great place to come early and walk around. You can walk to the pier from the Inn, but allow about 45 minutes, and it would only be for brisk walkers.

After we return from whale watching you are on your own. You might want to try crepes for lunch on the pier. Look for Britney Crepes, a little hole-in-the-wall just as you enter the pier on the right. These guys are from France and make special buckwheat savory crepes as they are only made in the Britney area in France, and they make sweet desert crepes as well.

Dinner at 7 P.M. on Wednesday will again be at Le Normandie, a wonderful French restaurant just 3 blocks from the Inn at Fountain and Lighthouse. Again, we will walk there. Everyone loved this restaurant last year. Christine and her husband own and operate this small family restaurant, and they are from Normandy. They will close the restaurant for us, and again there will be a guitarist who works for tips to provide music. Since last year Le Normandie has been rated by Trip Advisor. They have the highest rating of all restaurants in Pacific Grove, # 1 out of 57, the only restaurant to get 5 out of 5 little circles filled in. The cost will be \$55.00 per person, which includes tax and tip, a glass of wine and a sampler of the fantastic fruit torts that Christine bakes.

Le Normandie is a small restaurant and they will close the restaurant for us. Because their kitchen is so small, they ask us to pick our entree's in advance. The choices are

- Beef Bourguignon
- Duck Confit
- Roast Half Chicken
- Seafood Bouillabaisse (Requires minimum 8)
- Lamb Stew (Requires minimum 8)

If you choose one of the entree's that requires a minimum number of takers, you will be asked for a second choice just in case.

You are on your own for the drive home on Thursday. A few of us will be staying over one extra night and returning on Friday. If you are staying the extra day, Michelle and I will be taking a beautiful hike at Point Lobos (<http://www.pointlobos.org>), and we would be glad to have you join us.

That's about it. Attached to this email is a sign-up sheet.(not included on web version, see your email) Please fill

this out and mail it to us and let us know if you will be joining us for each of the dinners, and for the whale watching trip. Please also include a check for those items that you select. Please mail the check now so that we can keep track of exactly how many people we will have at each event. Your checks will not actually be cashed until the week before we leave.

Please make your checks out to Tom or Michelle Breckon. We will be collecting from everyone in advance, and then paying for the whole group. This applies to the two dinners and the whale watching, but not the lunch in Half Moon Bay where you will pay yourself.

Please review the enclosed roster (not included on web version, see your email) and email any corrections to (See LHSCG Roster for Contact Information) . And please let us know if this all sounds good to you, or if you have any suggestions to make the trip better.

Thanks,

Tom and Michelle Breckon