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## In Elk -- along the south coast of Mendocino County -- you get to FEEL the ocean!



October 23, 9:39 PM • Mendocino Region Travel Examiner • Jay Gordon

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Relax and feel the ocean at Elk Cove Inn and Spa in Mendocino County, California

Photo by Jay Gordon

There are many places to stay along the Mendocino Coast of Northern California with expansive views of the ocean. At the [Elk Cove Inn](#) you can *feel* the ocean. You are in its embrace. You fall asleep to a lullaby of its rhythm.

Then, of course, there is the absolute comfort to consider. The key aspect of luxury is that it should be understated. Divinity is definitely in the details. We all crave the elegant amenities, but we savor the reminders of tradition in the furnishings of gentle earth tones, built for comfort and with ageless style. Fifteen rooms and suites, all distinctly appointed, most with impressive views, all with graceful

touches.

At a seaside resort a fireplace is a nice touch. Lighting it with the push of a button has a certain elegance to it. Yes, a spa tub is lovely. The heated towel rack makes it special. Decide what suits your fantasy and decide about whether to request a room with a balcony, patio, or view -- or a combination of what inspires you. Did I mention the beds are sumptuous? "Who needs six pillows on a bed?" the owner asks before she adds, "Why not?"

Actually, you don't have to wait till you get to your room to experience the first touch of quiet elegance. At check-in you are presented with a gift basket. You'll find a half-bottle of [Husch](#) Mendocino Chenin Blanc. Nothing but the best, just another detail. You'll probably want to eat the fresh grapes and strawberries right away. You can save the two oversized cookies for later if you like. There's a min-fridge tucked away in your room for that. Then there's some microwave popcorn. Yep, there's also a microwave behind that other door. Subtlety, another detail that's its own reward.

After checkin you'll want to drop by happy hour in the lobby, an opportunity to meet the innkeeper and her staff as well as the other guests. Owner Elaine Bryant hails from Alabama, so you'll find a few Southern touches included in the buffet breakfast. That meal will be different in many ways from what you may have been led to expect from breakfasts included in the hotel rate.

There's a selection of fruit juices. Champagne on the side. Mimosas, anyone? Expect fresh fruit,

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toast and [Thanksgiving coffee](#), a local artisan coffee roaster. After that, things veer into the realm of foodie fantasy: fresh-baked biscuits and gravy chunky with sausage, cheese grits, spinach quiche, waffles, Mendocino pears in syrup, deviled eggs, scones, and more. Of course, I missed some things. Deprive you of surprises? Never!

For information or reservations, check the [website](#) or call 800.275.2967 or 707.877.3321. Another detail: there's hassle-free Wi-fi access. Don't expect your mobile phone to work on much of the coast. (You didn't really wanna talk to those folks anyway, didja?) Elk Cove inn is at 6300 S. Highway 101 in Elk on the south Mendocino coast.



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## Unwind in Elk -- along the southern coast of Mendocino County



Listen to the silence. It's quiet, it's calm, it's relaxing. It is also almost unimaginably beautiful in this part of the Mendocino Coast. All you hear are the sounds of the ocean and an occasional bird. Perhaps your own breathing, but that will slow d

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Great article and beautiful pictures. For all the amenities, specials, and for the beauty of the location the rates are not all that bad.

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