



Good Times Travel

Cambria & Castle Christmas by Rail

Featuring the *Cambria Pines Lodge*, *Hearst Castle Holiday Twilight Tour*, *Cambria Christmas Market*, *Coast Starlight Train*

December 10-12, 2026 – 3 Day Tour

Tour Highlights

- ◆ Settle in for a relaxing, five-hour rail journey with an included boxed lunch aboard Amtrak's premier *Coast Starlight* train, offering unparalleled views of California's spectacular coastline and fertile valleys from its observation car featuring floor-to-ceiling windows
- ◆ Savor a two-night stay in a fireplace room at the *Cambria Pines Lodge* – the woodsy-chic resort nestled amongst 25 acres of Monterey Pines and decked out for the holidays with a walk-thru light display featuring over two million lights and themed vignettes
- ◆ Experience what Christmas was like during Hearst Castle's heyday while on a docent-guided *Holiday Twilight Tour* showcasing the grounds, the Casa del Sol guest house and the grand social rooms of Casa Grande – modestly dressed for the holidays
- ◆ Immerse yourself in the *Cambria Christmas Market*, an authentic open-air festival crafted in the tradition of German Weihnachtsmarkts
- ◆ Enjoy time at leisure in Cambria and Solvang – both delightfully decorated for the holidays



Cambria Pines Lodge



Hearst Castle



Hearst Castle

Tour Inclusions

- ◆ 2 Nights deluxe hotel accommodations
- ◆ 4 Meals – 1 dinner, 1 lunch, 2 breakfasts
- ◆ Services of a professional GTT tour director
- ◆ Comprehensive sightseeing
- ◆ Admissions per the itinerary
- ◆ Transportation aboard a deluxe motorcoach and Amtrak's *Coast Starlight* Train
- ◆ Luggage handling throughout the tour

Tour Prices

Double Occupancy: \$1,399 per person
Single Occupancy (no roommate): Add \$700



Solvang



Coast Starlight Train

Make a Booking



www.goodtimestravel.com

(714) 848-1255

17132 Magnolia St., Fountain Valley, CA 92708

California Seller of Travel License #: 2018390-40

Accommodations

- ♦ Nights 1-2 **Cambria Pines Lodge**
Cambria, CA

Departure Information

Join this tour from one of our convenient departure points available in these cities:

- ♦Fountain Valley ♦Laguna Hills ♦Long Beach

Approximate Departure Time: 7-9 a.m.

Approximate Return Time: 6-8 p.m.

Payment Information

- ♦ Full payment due at time of booking
- ♦ Payment may be made by mailing a check to the above address or by making a credit card payment at www.goodtimestravel.com

Cancellation/Travel Protection

A travel protection policy (which includes cancellation protection and other benefits) is highly recommended and available through a third-party. A travel protection brochure will be provided with your payment receipt and invoice. Regardless of the reason, cancellations, credits and transfers of paid bookings require us to retain an administrative fee (ranging from \$100-\$600 depending on the date of cancellation) in addition to all non-recoverable fees paid to our tour suppliers on your behalf. Those guests who have purchased travel protection and must cancel for a covered reason, will be reimbursed by the travel protection company the balance of any non-refunded or credited monies (minus the premium itself). Visit www.goodtimestravel.com or see our tour catalog for our full cancellation policy and other terms and conditions.

Adjustments to the Itinerary

While we make every effort to operate our tours as advertised, should we be forced to adjust the itinerary prior to departure or while on tour, these changes will be communicated to you and only done when absolutely necessary.

Tour Pace & Activity Level



Visit our website for further explanation of what each of these designations means to assist you in determining which tour is right for you based on your physical abilities and the pacing you prefer.

Itinerary

Escape to California's captivating Central Coast on a festive three-day holiday getaway blending scenic rail travel, oceanfront landscapes, and seasonal magic. Aboard Amtrak's iconic Coast Starlight, we'll trace pristine coastlines and sweeping valleys before settling into a two-night stay at the woodsy-chic Cambria Pines Lodge, festively decked out for the season. From the twinkling wonder of the Cambria Christmas Market and a twilight tour of Hearst Castle to the old-world European charm of Solvang, this carefully crafted getaway offers the perfect mix of coastal relaxation and holiday cheer.

Day 1 – Coastal Train Ride, Welcome to Cambria! (Thursday, December 10)

From our departure points this morning we'll travel aboard a deluxe motorcoach to downtown Los Angeles' Union Station. *All aboard* Amtrak's renowned **Coast Starlight train** for a spectacular, **five-hour rail journey** along California's dramatic coastline and through its fertile valleys. We'll travel along Point Conception and through Vandenberg Space Force Base, offering views of launch complexes and pristine, undeveloped coastline only visible by train. Enjoy an included boxed lunch onboard, with additional snacks and drinks available for purchase in the snack bar. Relax in your reclining seat or check out the view from the **Observation Car** (all group seats and observation car seats are located on the upper level of the train with stairs required), featuring floor-to-ceiling panoramic windows providing unparalleled views. Upon arrival in **San Luis Obispo**, we'll reboard our motorcoach and continue north and follow the iconic **Pacific Coast Highway** (CA-1) to the enchanting seaside village of **Cambria** – the artists' colony nestled in a forest of towering Monterey Pines along a craggy stretch of California coastline. We'll enjoy a two-night stay at the woodsy-chic **Cambria Pines Lodge**, a boutique resort nestled amongst towering Monterey Pines. This charming lodge features spacious rooms that are richly appointed with a fireplace, farmhouse furnishings and modern amenities. The sprawling grounds feature beautiful gardens, a heated outdoor pool and spa, and the Cambria Pines Lodge Restaurant, offering a diverse menu of enticing dishes. This time of year, the lodge is decked out in its holiday finest – sure to get you in the spirit of the season! Enjoy the evening at leisure with dinner on your own at the restaurant or the **Cambria Christmas Market**, the charming, annual holiday event that allows you to experience a traditional holiday market similar to those found in Germany and Austria where it's known as "Weihnachtsmarkt." This outdoor event on the resort grounds features a vendor market with open-air stalls and local merchants selling seasonal gifts along with fresh baked goods and seasonal treats and drinks like Glühwein – the traditional German hot spiced wine that is sure to keep you cozy while exploring the walk-thru light display that features more than two million bulbs and themed vignettes. (Lunch)

Day 2 – Cambria, Hearst Castle (Friday, December 11)

Following an included breakfast at the lodge, we'll travel just north of Cambria to the **Piedras Blancas elephant seal rookery**, one of only a few places in the world where northern elephant seals can be seen up-close. Enjoy time at leisure this afternoon for lunch on your own and browsing in the quaint village of Cambria, featuring eclectic shops, unique boutiques and galleries. Early this evening we'll gather for an included dinner with choice of entrée at **Linn's Restaurant**, the Cambria icon known for their contemporary comfort food classics like meatloaf and chicken pot pie. But be sure to save room for what they're most famous for – warm olallieberry pie with a scoop of vanilla ice cream on top! We'll then continue to **Hearst Castle**, the National Historic Landmark that sits above the clouds on top of "The Enchanted Hill." Discover why the holiday season was an exceptionally festive time for William Randolph Hearst and his guests while on a docent-guided, **Holiday Twilight Tour**. This special seasonal evening tour showcases Hearst's estate modestly decorated for the holidays. As your guide shares stories of holiday glitz and celebration during the estate's heyday, you'll tour the grounds, the Casa del Sol guest house and the magnificent social rooms of Casa Grande. *Note: This 75-minute walking tour includes 190 stairs (both up and down) along a 2/3-mile route. While Hearst Castle has confirmed twilight tours will be offered this holiday season, a schedule has not been released. Should a twilight tour be unavailable, an afternoon Grand Rooms tour will be provided.* (Breakfast, Dinner)

Day 3 – Solvang, Journey Home (Saturday, December 12)

After an included breakfast, we'll travel south by motorcoach to the historic **Madonna Inn** in San Luis Obispo to admire its famous, delightfully whimsical holiday decorations. We'll continue along the backroads of the **Santa Ynez Valley** to the charming Danish village of **Solvang**, celebrated as one of the most "Christmassy Small Towns in America." Enjoy time at leisure with lunch on your own in this walkable village that features old-world architecture, windmills and gaslights. Explore more than 100 unique boutiques, European import shops, art galleries and bakeries serving up fresh Danish aebleskivers, kringles, and shortbread cookies. This afternoon we'll continue south returning to our drop-off points this evening with fond memories of our Central Coast holiday getaway. (Breakfast)

While a rare occurrence, should Amtrak cancel the Coast Starlight train, an Amtrak Surfliner train will be substituted, or a sit-down lunch at a Santa Barbara restaurant will be added in lieu of the boxed lunch.