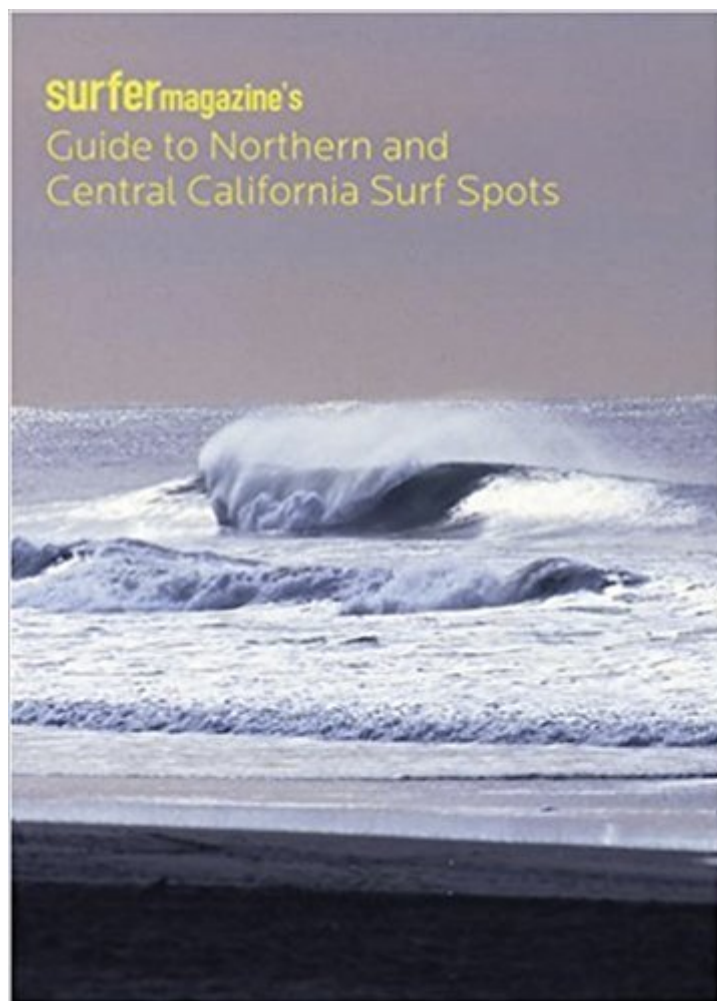


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Surfer Magazine's Guide To Northern And Central California Surf Spots



Synopsis

Surfer Magazine offers the ultimate guide to catching the best waves from the redwood shores of the Oregon-California border to the wind-blasted coastal plains of San Luis Obispo County. For more than 250 spots, this sturdy manual sporting a water-resistant cover delivers a clear assessment of wave quality, prime wave conditions, and local hazards (both natural and manmade). Informative text answers the burning questions that surfers often pose: What tide? What wind? What swell? How are the locals? Are they worse than the sharks or the traffic? With helpful maps, photos, and directions, this Surfer's Guide is sure to become the gold standard for anyone looking to score the perfect wave.

Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.0 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (21 customer reviews)

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Customer Reviews

My quals: Surfing for the past 22+ years and 17+ on the California coast, shortboarder. Surfed North Shore, Fiji, Mentawais, Mex, etc. Subscriber to Surfer Mag, TSJ. Live, breathe, sleep, eat waves. I travel to NorCal each month for business and surf SF, Sta Cruz, Capitola, Monterey, etc. I was looking for a reliable guide which gives optimum swell/wind angle, tides, and paddle out tips to most of the breaks, both lesser-known and well-known. Instead, nearly all of the overly vague spot descriptions in this book cite sharks, locals and cold as barriers to surfing in NorCal. WTF? Shame on you, Surfer Mag. You're supposed to be a trusted source, selling a guide on where to surf and maybe making the lineups a little safer. How about a little differentiation? For instance, if you're a longboarder or beginner, surf Cowells or Pleasure Point 2nd Peak or Waddell, etc. Why not include a disclaimer at the beginning of the books that the shark threat is prevalent, then just leave it alone.

How many shark deaths have there been in NorCal in the past 50 years? Less than 15, I'm certain. Meanwhile, there are a million surfers who have never had a run-in, and playing to the fears, you include a giant picture of whitey at the front of the book. Your hypocritical message seems to be, "if you don't live here, don't surf here". Do the locals a favor and spell out the most heavily localized spots, giving a few tips on where the channels and obstacles are, as well as describing the more welcoming locales. In your guide to So Cal, you did this. Why play into the NorCal b.s. -- do you think the Westsiders will stop buying your mag? Only if they want to give up their sponsorships. SurferMag -- I'm used to you taking the high road, playing the referee. When did you start wimping out?

This guide is so so. I can't give a better option but I can say this one will get you started. If your just passing through and using this book it will get you to the big name spots or atleast close enough to them to figure out the rest. This got me started and now when it's 15ft at 14sec and I'm hanging back I stand close to the locals and listen in. If your quiet...people talk :). Also if your alone people tend to let the stranger in town tag along :). So, don't expect miracles or an all inclusive but it will get you started and headed in the right direction...It's surfing - how much can a book really do for you :/

When I moved from Southern to Northern California, this book saved my surf life. You get directions to access points and the names of breaks so you can at least pretend to know where you are if someone talks to you in the line up. One more point: I don't know if its the sharks, the weather, or the fact that the writers live there, but they seem pretty intent on scaring you off of anything north of San Francisco.

Are you going to learn about some super secret and undiscovered spot? No. But that's fine. This is a quality book that will show you the lay of the land. It's worth it just to read the background and stories related to each spot. Also, the book itself is made of a very water resistant material. It's great.

Awesome book, printed on plastic-y waterproof paper, follows the coast north to south, does a great job with most major breaks and the promising coastlines in between. Talks a lot about sharks, I guess it's part of surfing up here, but really...we know that already, no need to mention everytime some dude's gotten chomped on in the last 25 years. Bought this and the Bank Wright surfing California...I only surf in central/northern Cali and this book is wayyyy better. Wright's is out of date, insufficient and inaccurate for most of northern California's spots...great investment for the newer norcal surfer looking to travel. Highly recommended...just don't let the locals see it on your

dashboard...

Got it as a gift for a beginning/novice surfer. Informative, well organized, funny quips about local areas, and descriptive enough to make locations easy to find. We were most interested in the Sonoma and Mendocino coast and it seemed incomplete. Jargon replacing content. I know how to speak like a surfer now, I just don't exactly know where to find a consistent right reef break on the Mendocino coast. But I guess that is part of what a guide is supposed to do-spark curiosity so well done. Also, I wish it were spiral bound.

Awesome book, we couldn't put it down. Not only great info up and down the Northern and Central CA coast, but history and great general info as well.

Much better than Moby Dick, but not as good as Typee:). I sat transfixed for hours, just me and this book, my billable work hours clicking by, hanging on every last bleat about each surfing spot. Beta, beta, feta - this book is better than cheese, which is what I am usually armed with when I head north to surf. Please buy this book, read it and learn all about sharks, and then DON'T go to the North Coast - we will all get along in this manner. If you do go, knock back a Starbucks to muster the courage, load up the 'ol Pequod, and summon your inner Ishmael - the North and this book will captivate your soul.

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