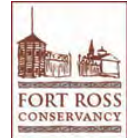


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# Fort Ross & Salt Point Parks News



August 2014

This issue features:

FRC Update  
Harvest Festival  
Park Hours  
Harbor Seal Survey  
Thank You

Fort Ross is open  
Thursday - Monday &  
major holidays  
10am-4:30pm

The Call House Museum and  
Garden is open first weekend  
of each month from 1 to 4 PM

Fort Ross Conservancy  
501c3 / California Cooperating  
Association  
[www.fortross.org](http://www.fortross.org)  
707/847-3437  
[info@fortross.org](mailto:info@fortross.org)

Tours in English & Russian  
Information on special events  
Visitor Center and sales

California State Parks  
Interpreters at Fort Ross  
Fort Ross State Historic Park  
[www.fortrossstatepark.org](http://www.fortrossstatepark.org)  
ELP, ELDP, & School Groups  
Junior Ranger & Boy Scout  
programs  
Talks at the fort compound  
707/847-4777

Recommended Websites  
California State Parks

Dear friends,

The summer season is winding down here on the coast. Fog lifts a little more quickly, the school groups are scheduling their educational overnights, and we here at Fort Ross Conservancy are dreaming of green hills and the rainy season. Sonoma wineries are harvesting their bounty -- earlier than normal but showing great promise -- and that provides the perfect segue to invite you to join us at Harvest Festival on October 18th. The day includes apple picking in the historic orchard and various family-friendly crafts -- juice pressing, pumpkin carving, horse and carriage rides, historic crafts, and the glorious voices of [Kitka Women's Ensemble](#) and [Russian House Kedry](#).

Optionally, Harvest Festival also offers the [Fort Ross-Seaview Wine Growers'](#) Grand Luncheon, served on the marine terrace outside the fort compound. The menu is still in the works but we've signed on a promising list of Sonoma chefs, including Barbara Hom, Executive Chef of Fort Ross Vineyards; Richard Whipple, Executive Chef at Sea Ranch Lodge; and well known chef and author John Ash. Each course will be paired with fantastic wines from Fort Ross-Seaview winegrowers, and the Grand Wine Tasting tent will offer even more Fort Ross-Seaview wines. Details for the Grand Luncheon and Wine Tasting events are listed below and on our [website](#), but please note that the Grand Luncheon requires advanced reservations through [Eventbrite](#).

Also we wanted to send a belated welcome and thank you to two new State Parks Interpreter staff at Salt Point, just north of Fort Ross. Throughout the summer Mary Pat Jacobs and Roberta Chan have done an excellent job offering Junior Ranger programs and hikes, and we are glad to see beautiful Salt Point growing its interpretation. If you haven't walked the bluff trail to take in the other-worldly [tafoni](#) geology, I highly recommend you visit.

Wishing you all an enjoyable late August.

With warm regards,

Sarah Sweedler  
Fort Ross Conservancy President & CEO  
[sarajs@fortross.org](mailto:sarajs@fortross.org)

Foundation  
Sonoma Birding  
Wikipedia on Fort Ross  
California State Parks  
Salt Point State Park



Register or Update Your  
Email Address

## Contact Us

Fort Ross Conservancy  
Fort Ross State Historic Park  
19005 Coast Highway One  
Jenner, CA 95450

info@fortross.org  
707-847-3437

Fort Ross Website



## HARVEST FESTIVAL October 18th, 2014 10am - 5pm



Special Event Fees - \$20 per car (includes \$8 State Parks fee).

California State Parks supports equal access. Prior to arrival, visitors with disabilities who need assistance should contact (707) 847-3437.

Questions? Email us at [info@fortross.org](mailto:info@fortross.org)

At Harvest Festival Fort Ross Conservancy has teamed up with [Fort Ross-Seaview Wine Festival](#) to offer spectacular wine tasting and a four-course Grand Luncheon served on the marine terrace at Fort Ross.

Grand luncheon (1pm-3pm, \$125 per person): Enjoy a four-course luncheon served on a marine terrace overlooking the Pacific Ocean. Each course is prepared by renowned coastal chefs using locally-sourced ingredients selected from the bounty of Sonoma. Limited seating, advanced tickets only through [Eventbrite](#).

Grand Lunch ticket includes:

- Entrance to Grand Wine Tent (open from 12pm - 4pm),
- Four-course meal with five specially-paired glasses of award-winning wines from the steep ridges overlooking the Sonoma Coast, and
- Entrance into Fort Ross State Historic Park, with parking
- Access to the day's Harvest Festival entertainment.

Grand Wine Tasting (12pm-4pm, \$35 per person): Presenting a remarkable selection of wines grown in the FORT ROSS-SEAVIEW VITICULTURAL AREA that consists of the steep ridge top vineyards that overlook the Pacific Ocean and produce wines of structure, balance and finesse. Advanced tickets are available only through [Eventbrite](#) or at the wine tent on the day of event. [Fort Ross-Seaview Winegrowers](#) pouring at Harvest Festival 2014:

- Del Dotto Cinghiale Vineyard
- Flowers Vineyard & Winery
- Fort Ross Vineyards & Winery
- Martinelli Winery
- Pahlmeyer Wayfarer Vineyards
- Siduri Wines
- Tin Barn Vineyards
- Wesmar Winery
- Wild Hog Vineyard

- Williams Selyem.
- 

## FALL AND WINTER HOURS



Fort Ross State Historic Park will be open Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays, and Mondays after Labor Day. We will be closed Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays.

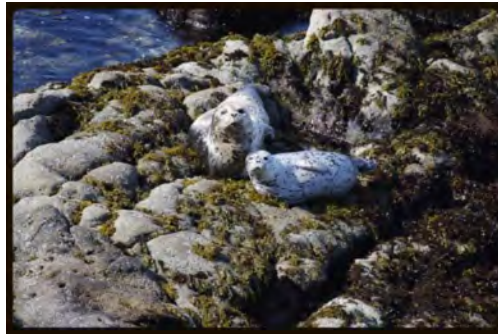
At Salt Point State Park Woodside Campground upper loop is open until September 2nd, lower loop is open until December 1st. Gerstle Cove campground is open year round.

Autumn is a great time to visit the Sonoma coast and we hope to see you at our parks.

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## UPCOMING HARBOR SEAL SURVEYS



Join us to learn more about our local pinnipeds and assist with our citizen scientist effort monitoring the Harbor Seals along our coast. The survey requires approximately two miles and two hours of low-tide fieldwork. We begin by scoping out the inhabitants on Sea Lion Rocks where we usually see the large Steller and California Sea Lions, and then proceeding along our ocean bluff shores to complete

our Harbor Seal survey, finishing at Fort Ross Cove.

Meet at Fort Ross State Historic Park Visitor Center, then carpool to roadside trail head at Highway One Mile Marker 33.52. If you're parking in the Fort Ross parking lot California State Park entrance fees do apply (unless you've worked for and received a [Volunteers in Parks pass](#)). For further information on harbor seal and Steller sea lion surveys please visit our [webpage](#).

### Upcoming Harbor Seal Surveys

- Saturday, Sept. 6, meet at 3:30 pm (low tide of 2.0 at 3:17 pm)
  - Saturday, Oct. 4, meet at 2:00 pm (low tide of 1.6 at 2:18 pm)
  - Saturday., Nov. 1, meet at 1:00 pm (low tide of 2.0 at 1:14 pm)
  - Saturday, Dec. 13, meet at 10:00 am (low tide of 2.3 at 10:17 am)
- 

THANK YOU!

Our July Fort Ross Festival was great fun this year – we had perfect weather and a wonderful turnout. As always, the whole thing came together with the help of many dedicated volunteers and craftspeople. Thank you for bringing your enthusiasm and expertise to Fort Ross. We rely on you, our dedicated band of volunteers, and we are always keen to expand our circle so don't hesitate to join us. No reasonable offer refused, email us at [info@fortross.org](mailto:info@fortross.org).



Also we send our sincere thanks to our dedicated and hard-working camp hosts for keeping Salt Point and Reef campgrounds running smoothly. You juggle a lot of chores with diplomacy and kindness, and we appreciate all that you do.

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Fort Ross Conservancy | 19005 Coast Highway One | Jenner | CA | 95450