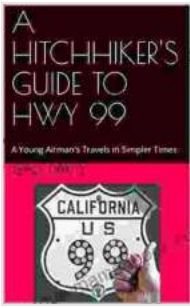


# The Ultimate Hitchhiker's Guide to Highway 99: Uncovering Hidden Gems and Roadside Oddities



## : Embarking on the Journey of a Lifetime

Highway 99, also known as the Pacific Highway, stretches along the picturesque coastline of California and Oregon, connecting bustling cities with charming small towns. It's a road that beckons travelers, offering a mesmerizing blend of natural beauty, historical intrigue, and roadside oddities that make it an unforgettable experience. For the intrepid souls who dare to venture off the beaten path, Highway 99 holds endless treasures waiting to be discovered.



## A HITCHHIKER'S GUIDE TO HWY 99: A Young Airman's Travels in Simpler Times by Ashley Rescot

★★★★☆ 4.6 out of 5

Language	: English
File size	: 3908 KB
Text-to-Speech	: Enabled
Screen Reader	: Supported
Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
Word Wise	: Enabled
Print length	: 21 pages
Lending	: Enabled



### Section 1: From City Lights to Coastal Charms

The journey begins in the vibrant city of Los Angeles, where Highway 99 emerges from the urban jungle and heads towards the coast. As you leave the city's embrace, you'll encounter a diverse array of communities, each with its own unique character. Long Beach, with its iconic Pike amusement park and bustling marina, offers a lively pit stop. Further up the road, charming Newport Beach invites you to bask in the sun and indulge in coastal delights.

As you continue northward, the landscape transforms into idyllic beach towns. Huntington Beach, renowned for its world-class surfing, beckons you to witness the thrill of wave riding. Dana Point Harbor, with its quaint shops and charming waterfront dining, offers a tranquil respite. The picturesque city of Laguna Beach, nestled amidst dramatic cliffs and crashing waves, is a haven for artists and nature lovers alike.

### Section 2: Into the Realm of Nature's Wonders

Continuing along Highway 99, you'll be greeted by the breathtaking beauty of California's natural wonders. The majestic redwoods of Big Basin Redwoods State Park stand as silent sentinels, their towering presence inspiring awe and wonder. Redwood National and State Parks take you deeper into the ancient forest, where you can marvel at the sheer size and grandeur of these magnificent trees. Along the coast, the towering cliffs of Point Reyes National Seashore beckon you to explore its rugged coastline and discover hidden coves and secluded beaches.

As you enter Oregon, the landscape unfolds into a tapestry of mountains, forests, and rivers. The Umpqua River cuts a path through towering canyons, offering breathtaking views from the many scenic overlooks along Highway 99. The Willamette Valley, known for its lush vineyards and rolling hills, invites you to sip fine wines and savor local flavors. Further north, the mighty Columbia River Gorge awaits, with its dramatic waterfalls and towering basalt cliffs that will leave you in awe.

### **Section 3: Uncovering Roadside Oddities and Historic Treasures**

Beyond its natural beauty, Highway 99 is dotted with a plethora of quirky and historic roadside attractions that add to its charm. In the town of Yreka, California, the Siskiyou County Museum holds a collection of Native American artifacts and Western memorabilia. In Ashland, Oregon, the Oregon Shakespeare Festival brings world-class theater to the heart of a charming college town.

Oddities abound along the highway, too. The Evergreen Aviation & Space Museum in McMinnville, Oregon, houses an impressive collection of aircraft and spacecraft, including the iconic Spruce Goose. Bigfoot enthusiasts will find delight in the Bigfoot Discovery Museum in Willow Creek, California,

where they can delve into the legend of the elusive creature. And for a touch of whimsy, stop by the Mystery Spot in Santa Cruz, California, where gravity seems to defy all logic.

## **Section 4: Planning Your Hitchhiker's Adventure**

To fully embrace the spirit of the journey, consider embarking on Highway 99 as a hitchhiker. It's an experience that will test your limits, connect you with the locals, and make memories that will last a lifetime. However, it's crucial to prioritize safety and approach it with caution:

\* Choose frequented and well-lit areas to hitchhike from. \* Share your travel plans with someone you trust. \* Carry a whistle or personal alarm for emergencies. \* Trust your instincts, and if something feels wrong, don't hesitate to walk away. \* Respect the privacy and property of others. \* Leave no trace, and dispose of any trash responsibly.

### **: The Road Less Traveled**

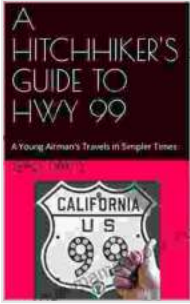
Highway 99 is more than just a road; it's a canvas on which countless stories have been written. Its vibrant cities, stunning natural landscapes, and quirky roadside attractions make it the perfect destination for those seeking adventure and a deep connection with the road. Whether you travel as a hitchhiker or embark on the journey in a more traditional manner, Highway 99 promises an unforgettable experience that will stay with you long after you've left its winding path.

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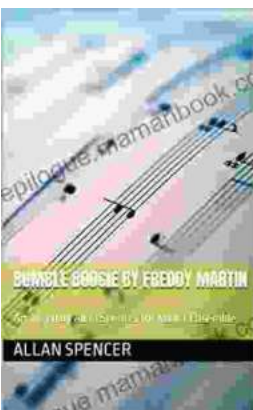


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