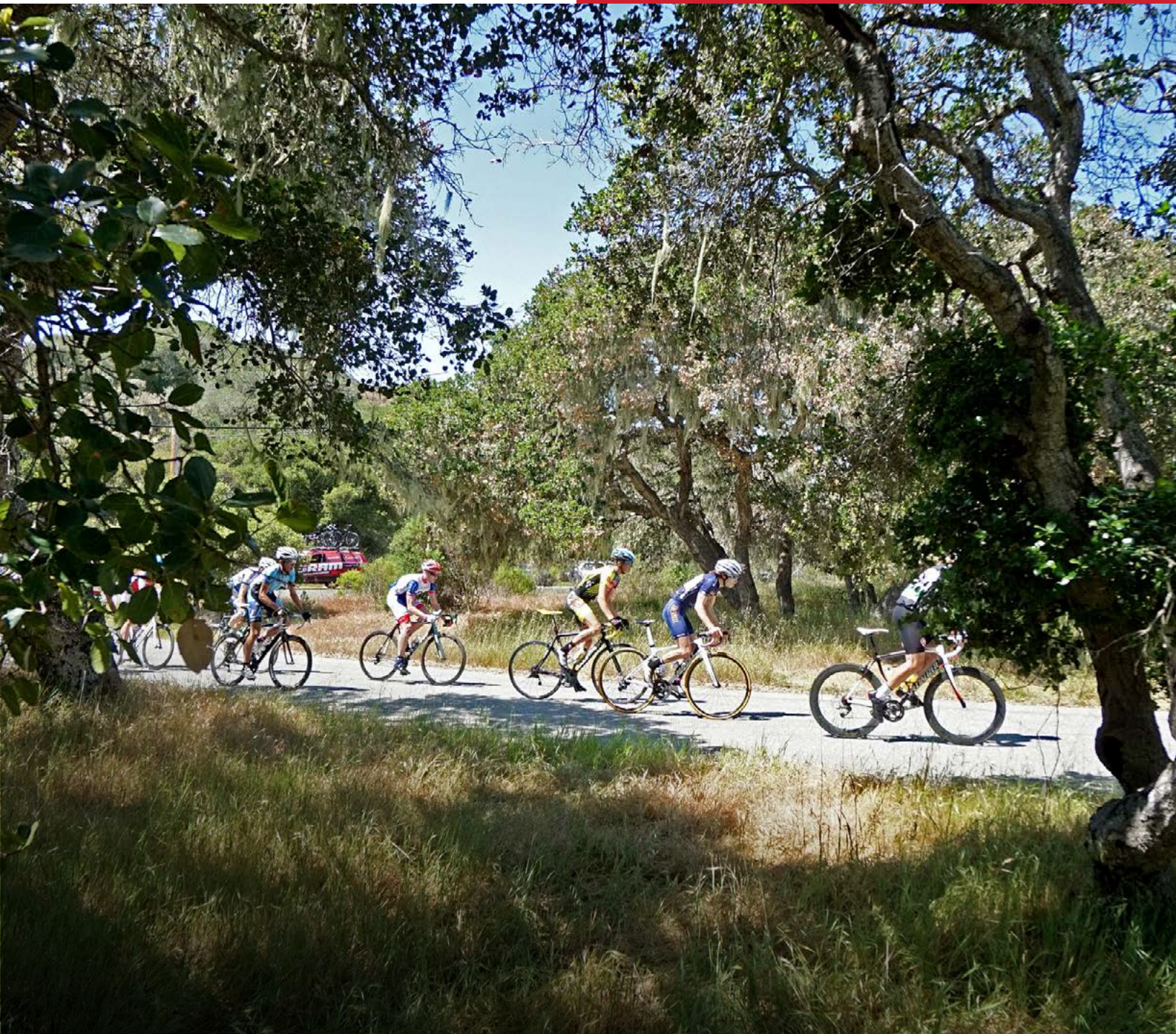


LIFETIME
SEA OTTER CLASSIC
PRESENTED BY
Continental

**THE GRAN
FONDO
CARMELO**

HOSTED BY CYCLING TIPS



OCTOBER 9 | 2021

LAGUNA SECA RECREATION AREA, MONTEREY, CALIFORNIA

Thank you for registering for the Gran Fondo Carmelo Ride!

We hope that this 91-mile recreational ride will be the highlight of your 2021 season. Enjoy the company of other riders while you savor the scenic vistas of Monterey County.

Gran Fondo, meaning “great endurance,” is a mass-start ride originating in Europe and gaining increasing popularity in the United States. Riders of all levels are welcome to participate in either of the Gran Fondos. Because Gran Fondos are untimed recreational rides, new riders can feel comfortable to ride at their own pace while experienced cyclists can push themselves to their limits.

The Gran Fondo Carmelo is unique in that it takes place during the four-day Sea Otter Classic festival. All participants receive a four-day pass to the festival, which includes an expo with over 450 exhibitors, an international food court and beer garden, and tons of bike demos, stunt shows and live entertainment. Bring the whole family as kids can take advantage of races, carnival games and a bike track just for them.”

Directions to the Venue

Whether you plan to arrive at Sea Otter via car, bike or public transportation, you should review the directions to the venue before you set out. Many roads surrounding Laguna Seca will be closed to traffic during the event so you should plan your route in advance and allow ample time when you arrive at Sea Otter to get to your destination.

[Click here](#) to see Directions.

Schedule/Package Pick-Up

REGISTRATION AND PACKET PICK-UP:

- Wednesday noon to 7 p.m.
- Thursday–Friday 7 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- Saturday 6 a.m. to 7 a.m. (Pre-registered athlete packet pick-up only. No registration.)

Registration packets must be picked up in person and you must present a valid photo ID. Gran Fondo Carmelo participants receive a four-day festival pass which provides access to the world's largest consumer bike exposition. Race packets also include the bib number, helmet sticker, ride wristband, and tickets for post-ride festivities.

RIDE START TIMES ON SATURDAY, OCTOBER 9

- 7:30 a.m. - Carmelo Route start

Ride starts at the Tire Bridge and finishes at the Raceway Paddock.

Rider Support

Gran Fondo Carmelo includes mechanical and SAG support (including mobile tech) along the way. Enthusiastic volunteers provide fuel and hydration at the rest stations that dot the course. Your packet contains a ticket for bike-and-bag valet service which you can take advantage of before and after the ride.

Children

Children age 16 and up are welcome to participate in The Gran Fondo Carmelo Ride when accompanied by a parent or guardian. Pedaling children only; no trailers allowed. Keep in mind that much of the 91-mile Carmelo route is remote. Consider the abilities of young riders before registering.

Post-Ride Support

All Gran Fondo Carmelo participants receive a celebratory lunch after the ride and a commemorative finisher's medal. A post-ride shower trailer is available and riders will also receive a ticket for one adult beverage at the Sierra Nevada Beer Garden.

Free Parking

Parking at the Sea Otter Classic is always free, whether you arrive by bicycle or motor vehicle. Follow the signs to Laguna Seca Recreation Area where friendly volunteers will direct you to the appropriate parking locations.

Rider Safety

For your safety and the safety of other riders and pedestrians on the course, please familiarize yourself with the following safety rules:

- *Obey all traffic laws.* Riders are required to be familiar with [California bicycle safety laws](#). Violators may be ticketed by local law enforcement, removed from the ride, or banned from future Sea Otter events.
- *Yield to those with the right of way.* All trails and roads within the Gran Fondo are open to the public. Please be courteous to other users and yield when necessary.
- *Ride safely and predictably.* This includes riding single-file whenever possible. Any rider found to be riding illegally, unsafely, recklessly, or discourteously will be removed from the Gran Fondo and banned from future Sea Otter events.
- *Helmets are required for all riders.* Only ANSI- or Snell-approved helmets are allowed.
- *No headphones allowed.*
- *Bicycles only, including tandems.* No tricycles, trailers, or other rigs. No personal support vehicles. No passengers allowed.
- *No unregistered participants.* All riders must display their Gran Fondo number (on jersey and handlebars) and wear their Gran Fondo wristband. Unregistered riders will be prohibited from accessing certain areas of the course and will not have access to refueling stations and post-ride activities.
- *Be prepared for all weather conditions.* Gran Fondo rides are held rain or shine. Sea Otter maintains the right to alter the route based on trail conditions.



Click here for
CARMELO ROUTE

Carmelo Route

Turn-By-Turn Directions

[Click here](#) for map of Carmelo route and mile markers for aid stations.

Please note that for safety reasons we do not want riders out on the road near or after dark. Therefore the Carmelo Route will adhere to predetermined rest stop close times to ensure all riders are back within a safe time period.

REST STOP CLOSURE TIMES

7:30 am Event start

10:00 am Gallo (Talbotts) Vineyards Rest stop 1 closed

12:30 pm Zabala Vineyards Rest stop 2 closed

3:30 pm Cahoon Summit Rest stop 3 closed

5:00 pm Los Laureles Lodge Rest stop 4 closed

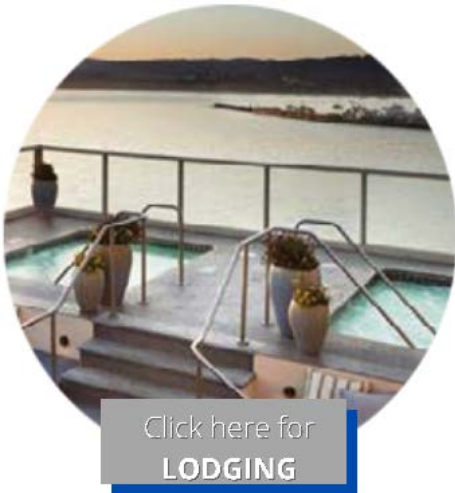
6:00 pm Finish Line / course closed.



Merchandise

We offer a full line of Sea Otter merchandise including race wear, festival passes, t-shirts, posters, and more.

[Click here](#) to see all merchandise.



Lodging

Take advantage of all the lodging options available in the Monterey area including hotels with exclusive discounts for Sea Otter attendees.

[Click here](#) to see the Lodging Comfort section.



Campsites

Camping at Sea Otter allows you to fully participate in all that Sea Otter has to offer, especially the camaraderie with other athletes and attendees. Wake up in the morning and you are already here – no need to sit in traffic or rush to make it to your event. Campers are closer to the action and more connected to all that is going on at Sea Otter.

[Click here](#) to see the camping adventure.