Patagonia penguins, which are listed as a threatened species, are a must-see for any visitor. These penguins are one of the few species that live on the California coast, and they can be found at Trinidad Coastal National Monument.

The rocky cliffs and offshore rocks at Trinidad are home to a variety of marine life, including sea otters, harbor seals, and sea lions. These animals can be seen from the shore, or even up close with a pair of binoculars. The rocks also provide a safe haven for numerous bird species, including the pelagic cormorant and the冲冠海鸥.

In addition to the natural beauty of Trinidad, the area is also rich in cultural history. The Trinidad area was once home to the Yurok people, who lived on the coast for thousands of years. The Yurok people left behind a wealth of cultural practices and traditions, which are still celebrated today.

Today, visitors can explore the Trinidad area and learn about its rich history and natural beauty. Whether you're interested in hiking, birdwatching, or simply enjoying the ocean views, Trinidad is a must-visit destination for anyone who loves the coast.
Trinidad's Rocky Riches

Tsurai: Yurok Tribe's Coastal Village

Contact to Commerce

An Ever-Changing Landscape

At first glance, the offshore rocks may look grey and barren, but a closer inspection reveals that they are covered with life. Numerous plants have adapted to their environment and grow in the pockets protected from winter waves and drying salt-spray. Marine mammals and birds are the most visible occupants, as the rocks provide refuges from shore-based predators such as foxes, raccoons, and humans, and also provide an easy escape from marine predators such as great white sharks.

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Trinidad's Coastal Treks

- **Axel Lindgren Memorial Trail**—Access to Old Home Beach from Memorial Lighthouse. Good family beach walking, protected from the wind with generally small waves. Great views of Camel rock, oystercatchers, pelicans and harbor seals.

- **Trinidad Head**—350-foot elevation gain, best overall views of coastline and nearby rocks, great views of Flatiron rock and Pewetole Island, and great seasonal whale watching opportunities.

- **Parker Creek Trail**—Beautiful forested walk to Old Home Beach. Access to tidepools and close-up views of sea lions, marine birds and offshore rocks.

- **Elk Head**—Yurok named me'wil-e''g:rn meaning "elk stand—always". Level hike through spruce forest to coastal headland. Spectacular views of Pewetole Island, Trinidad Head, Green Rock and the coast north towards Patrick's Point. Look for harbor seals in cove north of point.

- **Trinidad State Beach**—Walk the beach northward from the neck of Trinidad Head. Great spot to view geology close up and to get a taste of tidepool life. More ambitious hikers can follow bluff-top trails to College Cove and Elk Head.

Wildlife Viewing Tips

- Watch quietly and avoid sudden movements.
- Bring binoculars to get a better view from a distance.
- If an animal notices your presence, back away.
- Do not attempt to rescue wildlife. If you think an animal is sick or injured, call the Northcoast Marine Mammal Center at (707) 465-6265.

Give Wildlife Space

Protect sensitive wildlife and their habitat—please do not climb on the islands or rocks.

The Memorial Lighthouse

offers breathtaking views of the Trinidad Coast and is a great viewpoint for whale watching and spotting your favorite birds. On winter mornings, crab fishermen often gather here to watch the winter storm waves. They use certain offshore rocks to gauge wave-height, and call this spot “Chicken Point” as this is where they debate whether it is safe or smart to go out to sea that day!

The HSU Marine Lab

offers public displays on marine ecosystems and several aquariums with local marine life.

The Intertidal Zone: Nature’s Aquarium

Imagine spending part of each day underwater, part exposed to sun and drying winds, and the rest of the day being pounded by crashing waves. This is the daily life of inter-tidal plants and animals.

Low tide is a magical time when you can walk on the bottom of the ocean to view some of these fascinating life forms. Trinidad’s best viewing of inter-tidal life is on the rocks along the north end of Trinidad State Beach and on parts of Old Home Beach. The most commonly seen creatures are barnacles, sea anemones, sea stars and a variety of kelp. Remember, they are extremely sensitive! Watch your step and avoid lifting or disturbing them.

Remember:

- Dogs on Leash!
- NEVER TURN YOUR BACK ON THE OCEAN

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