



Electric Vehicles and Carless Travel Talking Points APRIL 2022

GOLDEN STATE IS PRIME TERRITORY FOR ELECTRIC VEHICLE DRIVING

- California leads the nation in the number of registered electric vehicles (EVs) on its roads, [according](#) to the U.S. Department of Energy.
- California boasts 42% of all EVs in the United States, and has by far the highest EV ownership rate in the nation – nearly 12 per 1,000 residents.
- To support its abundance of EVs, the state has more than [73,000](#) EV charging stations – about one-third of all the charging stations in the country – located in every major county from San Diego to Siskiyou.
- Many EV charging stations are located at or near hotels, shopping districts, restaurants, wineries, county parks and other attractions, so visitors can charge their vehicles while enjoying the Golden State’s offerings:
 - At [Yosemite National Park](#), visitors can enjoy the sights of Yosemite Falls while charging their vehicle at the Ahwahnee Hotel or the Village Store.
 - In Sonoma, travelers can take advantage of Timber Cove Resort’s [EV special](#), which includes VIP parking with a Tesla charging station, wine and stunning views.
 - Guests at [Madroña Vineyards](#) in Apple Hill can taste the estate's latest releases or wander over to High Hill Ranch for apple pie, cider and fishing in the trout pond while their car charges at the winery.
 - Travelers embarking on a drive down California’s Highway 1 coastline can stop at [Alila Ventana Big Sur](#) and [Post Ranch Inn](#) to enjoy sweeping views of the Big Sur coastline and mouth-watering restaurants while charging their vehicle.
 - State Parks, including [Will Rogers State Historic Park](#) in Palisades, [Hendy Woods State Park](#) in Philo, and [Fort Ross State Historic Park](#) in Jenner have also installed EV charging stations so visitors can plug in before unplugging in nature.
- EV ownership and access to charging infrastructure is expected to continue to grow in California as the state pursues policies and goals aimed at reducing emissions from the transportation sector.

RENTING AN ELECTRIC VEHICLE IS EASIER THAN EVER

- New EV inventory boosts and sustainability commitments at rental companies are changing the on-road experience for the long-run.

- In late 2021, Hertz [announced](#) a significant investment to offer the largest EV rental fleet in North America and one of the largest in the world. It includes an initial order of 100,000 Teslas by the end of 2022 and new EV charging infrastructure across the company's global operations.
- Meanwhile, Enterprise Holdings (behind the Enterprise Rent-A-Car, National Car Rental, and Alamo Rent a Car brands) is also bolstering its fleet's EV offerings, which already include thousands from manufacturers Tesla, Nissan, Hyundai and Polestar – many of which were added in early 2021.
- Other car rental companies, like Avis Budget Group, have also suggested adding more EVs to their fleets in the future.
- The rental car industry's increased investment in zero emission vehicles is poised to revolutionize vacationers' on-the-road experience for 2022 and beyond.

FUN AND UNIQUE TRANSPORTATION OPTIONS ACROSS THE STATE

- Even if visitors drive to their destination, leaving cars parked and taking advantage of bicycle tours, transit and walking makes for a truly immersive travel experience.
- Across the Golden State, there are plenty of unique ways to get around:
 - In [Napa Valley](#), travelers can hop aboard a train, trolley or even a Tuk-Tuk and enjoy wine country without renting a car or using rideshare services.
 - In [San Diego](#), guests can hop on Segways and zoom around downtown, the Gaslamp Quarter, Balboa Park, Coronado or La Jolla, all while soaking up the California sun and beach views.
- California ranks among the [top three states](#) with the most walkable cities.
 - Walk Score ranks West Hollywood, San Francisco and Hermosa Beach as the most walkable cities in the state.
 - West Hollywood's 1.9 square miles [offer](#) the most entertaining way to explore on foot with a walkable main street lined with iconic rock 'n roll and comedy clubs, trendy shops and restaurants.
 - Visitors can spend a day strolling through any of San Francisco's [diverse districts](#) and experience a whole new side of the city on foot.
 - [Hermosa Beach](#) has an iconic pier that also serves as a boardwalk, offering great opportunities to enjoy the fresh air and explore areas around the beach on foot.
 - Additionally, the Golden State has many distinct advantages when it comes to cycling – year-round mild temperatures, varied terrain and natural beauty.
 - The [California Bicycle Coalition](#) outlines bike laws to know before riding and has a solid list of [free online maps](#) for cycling routes from Humboldt County to San Diego.
 - Visitors can also rent bikes across the state: [Napa Valley Bike Tours](#) in Yountville, BCycle in [Santa Barbara](#), [Blazing Saddles](#) in San Francisco's Fisherman's Wharf, [Yosemite National Park Bike Rentals](#) and more.

GETTING AROUND CALIFORNIA WITH PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

- Public transportation can be an efficient, affordable, safe and eco-friendly option to travel around the state.

- [Amtrak's](#) extensive network of rails and thruway buses offer a comfortable and convenient way to travel to top destinations and attractions across the state.
 - Particularly notable lines for visitors include:
 - San Joaquin, which will take visitors straight into Yosemite via bus transfer.
 - Coast Starlight and Pacific Surfliner trains that roll along scenic routes up and down the coast.
 - Capitol Corridor which travels east-west from the Bay Area to the scenic Lake Tahoe area.
 - Though it's the most extensive, Amtrak isn't the only rail service. [Caltrain](#) operates regionally in the Bay area and [Metrolink](#) connects much of Southern California.
- [Greyhound](#) is the nation's primary long-distance bus company, offering routes linking big cities and rural destinations statewide (and heading out of state too).
- Many destinations in California boast their own public transportation options such as the [BART](#) and [Muni](#) in the Bay Area, subway and light rail lines of Los Angeles Metro Rail, the [Coaster](#) and [Trolley](#) in San Diego and the light rail in Sacramento.