

Family Fun in and around Mendocino County!

There's so much to see and do!

Exploring the Giant Redwoods

You'll head North on Hwy 101 and find lots of fun spots to stop.

Chandelier Tree Drive-Thru Tree Park is about 40 miles north of Willits. A beautiful setting in 200 acres of virgin redwood forest preserved in its natural state for your quiet enjoyment. Excellent gift shop, film, and restrooms, day use picnic area and nature walks through the forest. The Chandelier Drive-Thru Tree, still thriving, towering 315 feet into the sky with a 21 foot base diameter, is so named for its unique limb structure. And yes, you actually DO drive through the tree!

Confusion Hill is located 61 miles north of Willits on Hwy. 101. This tourist attraction boasts the World's Largest Redwood Chainsaw Sculpture, a Mystery House (where you can walk up a wall and watch balls roll uphill!), Mountain Train Ride (seasonal), The Redwood Shoe gift shop and snack bar (seasonal).

The Grandfather Tree is located 9 miles south of Garberville. You'll be able to watch a redwood stump be carved with a chainsaw into a cute bear or other critter. Giftshop and gallery have many redwood items. Picnic tables on the premises. Next door is the **One Log House** - a 2100 year old redwood that was hollowed out in 1946. It took 8 months of hard labor to hollow the 42-ton section into a room 7x32 feet.

The Avenue of Giants is just north of Garberville. This world-famous scenic drive is a 31-mile portion of old Highway 101, which parallels Freeway 101 with it's 51,222 acres of redwood groves. It is by far the most outstanding display of these giant trees in the 500 mile redwood belt and is accessible to all with convenient services provided along the way. The Avenue of Giants is surrounded by Humboldt Redwoods State Park which has the largest remaining stand of virgin redwoods in the world. Take time to picnic, hike, swim, fish, raft or bike ride in the cool hush of the redwood forest.

Next...

Skunk Train, Willits to Ft. Bragg

The Skunk line runs 40 miles from Fort Bragg on the coast to Willits on US Highway 101. Along the way, the tracks cross some 30 bridges and trestles and pass through two deep mountain tunnels. The half-way point of Northspur is popular lunch spot, giving passengers a chance to snack. With occasional whistles as it chugs through tunnels, over bridges and past open meadows, the train follows the coastal "Redwood Route" as it has since 1885.

Horseback Riding on the Mendocino Coast

Richochet Ridge Ranch is on the coast, just north of Ft. Bragg. Rides are available on the beach or through the redwoods. The drive over to Ft. Bragg winds through the redwoods and there are a couple of parks along the way for picnicking.