

**Monterey's Fisherman's Wharf Association hosts FREE "Wharf Walks - Walking Tours at Monterey's Old Fisherman's Wharf" and the next Wharf Walk is on Saturday, May 9, 2026 with Monterey Bay Fisheries Historian Tim Thomas: *"The Rise and Fall of the Sardine Industry"*.**

Monterey, CA. April 29, 2026. Monterey's Fisherman's Wharf Association is continuing its Wharf Walks with noted Monterey Bay Fisheries Historian and author, Tim Thomas and these fascinating walks are free for attendees and are held on the first Saturday of every month from 10 am - Noon (**except this month when it's the 2nd Saturday!**). During his 2-hour tour, Tim will provide a cultural history tour of the Monterey Wharf and the surrounding neighborhood.

Tim's next free Wharf Walk will be held on **Saturday, May 9th** and more details will be available on [www.montereywharf.com](http://www.montereywharf.com). The theme will be **"The Rise and Fall of the Sardine Industry"** and Tim will share many fascinating stories with the group. Azorean immigrants played a vital role in the fishing industry of Monterey Bay and California, beginning with **whaling in the 19th century** and transitioning into sardine fishing and cannery work by the early 20th century.

Tours will meet at the head of Old Fisherman's Wharf (near the pink "Harbor House" store, #1 Old Fisherman's Wharf, Monterey).

The tour is for ages 10-adult only, with no more than 15 people.

**Reserve your free space at [monterey.gov/library/events](http://monterey.gov/library/events) or by calling 831-646-3933. The tour is recommended for ages 10 and up.**

**Note: Due to his involvement with the Japanese American Citizens League Hall Centennial Celebration on Saturday, May 2nd ([www.jaclmonterey.org](http://www.jaclmonterey.org)), Tim will be giving a Wharf Walk on the second Saturday, May 9th (instead of the first Saturday of the month just in May).**

### **About Tim Thomas**

Tim Thomas, fourth-generation native of the Monterey area, is a popular speaker and lively tour guide. For 16 years, he was historian and curator for the Monterey Maritime & History Museum and has worked with the Monterey Bay Aquarium, California State Parks and the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary. He is author of "The Abalone King of Monterey: 'Pop' Ernest Doelter," "The Japanese on the Monterey Peninsula" and co-author of

"Monterey's Waterfront." Tim is on the Board of Directors of the Japanese American Citizens League (JACL) and serves as the Curator of the new Heritage Center/Museum at the JACL.

### **About Wharf Walks**

For thousands of years people have made their living fishing the Monterey Bay, beginning with the Rumsien Ohlone, the Native People of the Monterey area. From abalone to rockfish, everything was fished and utilized and the Monterey Bay was a multicultural stew, made up of whalers from the Azores, squid fishermen from China, salmon fishermen and abalone divers from Japan, and Sicilians fishing sardines in the "dark of the moon." This entertaining tour of Old Fisherman's Wharf and the waterfront will take us back in time to explore the history of the Monterey Wharf, early history of the Monterey waterfront, The Rumsien/Ohlone People--Monterey's first fishermen, the abalone industry, whaling the bay and of course, the legendary sardine industry. Discover some of the people and cultures of Monterey's colorful past and hear fascinating stories about Old Fisherman's Wharf and those who worked and walked there. Learn more about the sardine and squid industry, too.

### **About Monterey's Old Fisherman's Wharf:**

Shown in the HBO hit TV series, Big Little Lies, Monterey's Old Fisherman's Wharf is open 365 days a year including during the holidays. Visitors to Monterey's Old Fisherman's Wharf will want to plan their visit to include lunch or dinner al fresco at one of the many Wharf restaurants.

A visit to the beautiful Monterey Peninsula just isn't complete without a rendezvous with Old Fisherman's Wharf in downtown Monterey that was built in 1845 for regular passenger and freight service. Known as the "Monterey Bay Whale Watching Capital of the World" and a top destination of visitors from around the world, Monterey's Old Fisherman's Wharf provides a wide array of award-winning dining, shopping, whale watching, bay cruises, a glass bottom boat, marine life, fishing and sailing, and strolling leisurely in a gorgeous setting overlooking the Monterey Bay.

Savor delicious cuisine at a myriad of fabulous restaurants featuring stunning views and award-winning Italian food, sustainable seafood, grass-fed steaks, including the region's famous clam chowder and calamari. Enjoy salt water taffy, homemade chocolates, caramel apples, cotton candy and many other yummy treats. View sea otters, sea lions, harbor seals, dolphins, whales, seabirds and other wildlife "up close and personal" that also share the Wharf. Watch people who have gone out and caught their own fish on the local and chartered fishing boats return with their own "catch of the day".

Celebrate the first location in Monterey County where tender abalone was cooked and served in a restaurant. Check out the many fun shops to find the perfect memento of your visit and a variety of unique gifts. Enjoy the exquisite views and the “best place to walk and people watch” in Monterey County!

Situated near downtown Monterey, Old Fisherman’s Wharf is conveniently located along the Monterey Bay Recreation Trail and has plenty of nearby parking in the Waterfront Parkign Lot. City of Monterey residents can participate in the City's residential parking program. **More**

**details:** [https://monterey.gov/your\\_city\\_hall/departments/public\\_works/parking/resident\\_parking\\_programs.php](https://monterey.gov/your_city_hall/departments/public_works/parking/resident_parking_programs.php)

For more information about Old Fisherman’s Wharf, go to [www.montereywharf.com](http://www.montereywharf.com) or call [\(831\) 238-0777](tel:8312380777).