

5 MUST-SEE REDWOOD GROVES IN NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

Best for:

First-time visitors

Weekend trips

Nature lovers

Experience level:

All levels (mostly easy walks)

Locations:

Mendocino

Humboldt

Del Norte Counties

Best time to visit:

Year-round (spring–fall ideal)

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

is home to some of the tallest and oldest trees on Earth, but with so many parks and groves to choose from, it can be hard to know where to start.

Whether you're planning your first visit or looking to explore beyond the most popular spots, this guide highlights five of the most memorable redwood groves in Northern California.

Each offers a slightly different experience, from easily accessible walks to quieter, more immersive forest settings.

PRO TIPS



Visit early in the morning for fewer crowds and softer light



Wear comfortable shoes (even easy trails can be uneven)



Take your time, these spaces are meant to be experienced slowly



Expect cooler temperatures under the canopy



MONTGOMERY WOODS STATE NATURAL RESERVE

Best for: Quiet Less crowded experience

Trail type: Easy loop walk

Home to some of the tallest known trees in the world, Montgomery Woods offers a peaceful and immersive redwood experience without the crowds found in more popular parks.

Ideal if you want something calm and awe-inspiring.



ARMSTRONG REDWOODS STATE NATURAL RESERVE

Best for: Easy access Iconic redwoods

Trail type: Well-maintained paths Flat

One of the most accessible redwood groves in Northern California, Armstrong is perfect for first-time visitors and those looking for a relaxed walk among towering trees.

Great for all ages and ability levels.



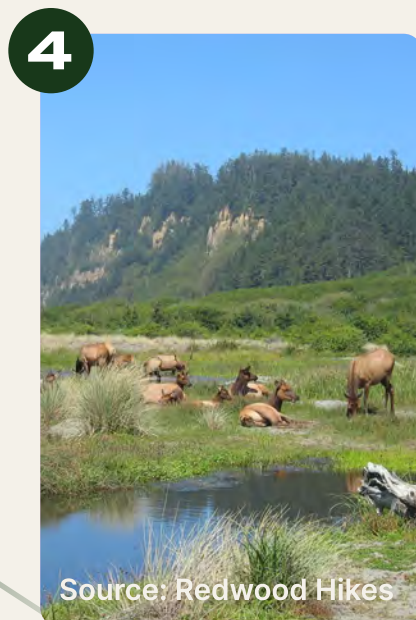
HUMBOLDT REDWOODS STATE PARK (FOUNDERS GROVE)

Best for: Classic redwood experience

Trail type: Short loop

Located along the famous Avenue of the Giants, Founders Grove features some of the most iconic old-growth redwoods, including the massive Dyerville Giant.

A must-stop if you're driving through the region



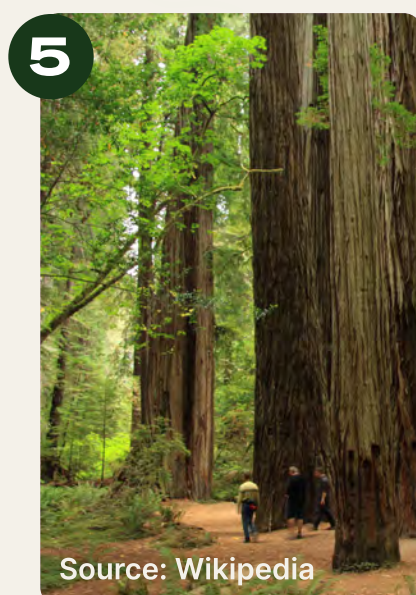
PRAIRIE CREEK REDWOODS STATE PARK

Best for: Redwoods + wildlife

Trail type: Multiple options

This park combines towering redwoods with open meadows and frequent wildlife sightings, including Roosevelt elk.

One of the most diverse redwood landscapes



JEDEDIAH SMITH REDWOODS STATE PARK

Best for: Deep forest immersion

Trail type: Easy to moderate

Known for its dense, lush forests and scenic drives, this park offers some of the most photogenic redwood groves in California.

Feels like stepping into another world



**IF YOU'RE VISITING
NORTHERN CALIFORNIA,
EXPERIENCING AT
LEAST ONE OF THESE
GROVES IS WELL
WORTH YOUR TIME.**