

**HISTORIC HOTEL DEL MONTE
HERRMANN HALL**

POCKET TOUR GUIDE



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We hope you enjoy the guide!

Historic Pocket Tour Guide
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The Naval Postgraduate School's scenic campus is built around the historic Hotel Del Monte, now called Herrmann Hall. Del Monte opened in 1880 and was the catalyst for Monterey's contemporary recreation and tourism industry. The hotel's architecture is a blend of 19th and 20th Century designs, shown in the composite image above.

YOUR POCKET HOTEL DEL MONTE TOUR

A visit to the Naval Postgraduate School or Naval Support Activity Monterey provides an opportunity to enjoy the history of Hotel Del Monte and its enduring legacy of art, architecture and culture. Hotel Del Monte was the catalyst for California's modern-day tourism industry and a trendsetter in sports and recreation. This guide highlights the pioneering resort that transformed Monterey from a quiet pueblo to a vibrant tourist destination.

HERRMANN HALL FRONT STEPS

Hotel Del Monte created the original 17-Mile Drive, a scenic and cultural tour named for the distance that hotel guests traveled during their excursion. The drive began and ended at Herrmann Hall's front steps.

MAIN FLOOR

Entrance Vestibule

The mahogany doors, red tile floors and elegant iron work are enduring trademarks for the main building's Spanish Revival architecture.

Welcome Center

The welcome center offers videos and displays on hotel and Navy history.

Lobby

Painted ceilings by Julian Ellsworth Garnsey and two magnificent murals by Francis McComas create warmth and a unique sense of place for hotel guests.

Offices

The ITT, Public Affairs and Protocol offices, along with the Peacock Shop, occupy former exclusive Hotel Del Monte shops that included I.Magnin, Gump's Antiques and the City of Paris Sports Shop.

McNitt Ballroom

Originally Del Monte's main dining room, the McNitt Ballroom is 210 feet long and 49 feet wide with a 27-foot high ceiling.

GROUND FLOOR

The ground floor once included a brokerage firm, railway office, news stand, cigar shop, soda fountain, drug store, barber shop, Turkish bath, shops, a game room, post office, auditorium, banquet and party rooms and a tap room.

Trident Room

Dozens of mugs hang from the Trident Room ceiling, formerly the Del Monte Tap Room and, in the era of Prohibition, the "Children's Play Room."

El Prado Room

Today's cafeteria was Hotel Del Monte's main party room - Bali Room. Big band performances were broadcast nationally via Mutual Radio Network and special event parties were held frequently here.

La Novia Room

Jo Mora's masterful diorama was added to this room in 1940. When completed, Mora wrote: "The...costumes are of the Spanish period (and) correct in every minute detail."

The black walnut case incorporates the escutcheon of the Count of Monterey, for whom the Spanish explorer Sebastian Vizcaino claimed this area and named Monterey Bay in 1602.

Want to research our local history? Schedule an appointment in the archives. Call 831-656-3346.

FOURTH FLOOR

Loggia

For a dramatic view of Monterey Bay and the Naval Postgraduate School campus, check out Key Number 1 from the Command Duty Office by the main entrance.

Then take the elevator to the Tower Room and from there the spiral staircase to the loggia for a 360-degree view of the grounds.

Tower Room

The Tower Room was used as a small banquet room. It is distinguished by its fresco of the Witch Tree on 17-Mile Drive. Once more famous than today's Lone Cypress Tree, the Witch Tree collapsed during a 1964 storm.

CAMPUS DESTINATIONS

Several sites on campus are within easy walking distance of Herrmann Hall. These include the:

Roman Plunge and Solarium

Built in 1915, this was a favorite swimming pool for celebrity guests, including Johnny Weismuller.

Arizona Garden & Del Monte Botanical Garden

Developed by Rudolf Ulrich, the Arizona Garden once had giant saguaro cacti and other rare desert plants. Ulrich also laid out a 125-acre botanical garden surrounding the hotel. Remnants of that setting are visible today as you walk the grounds.

Root Hall Timeline

Story boards on the history of NPS line the Root Hall arcade. Some of the boards also profile Hotel Del Monte. The historical timeline begins near the Dudley Knox Library.

PLEASE NOTE - The historic Hotel Del Monte now serves as the administrative building of the Naval Postgraduate School. Because it is a busy working building, some locations listed on this tour may not be accessible during your visit.