



ORANGE COUNTY

FALL 2025

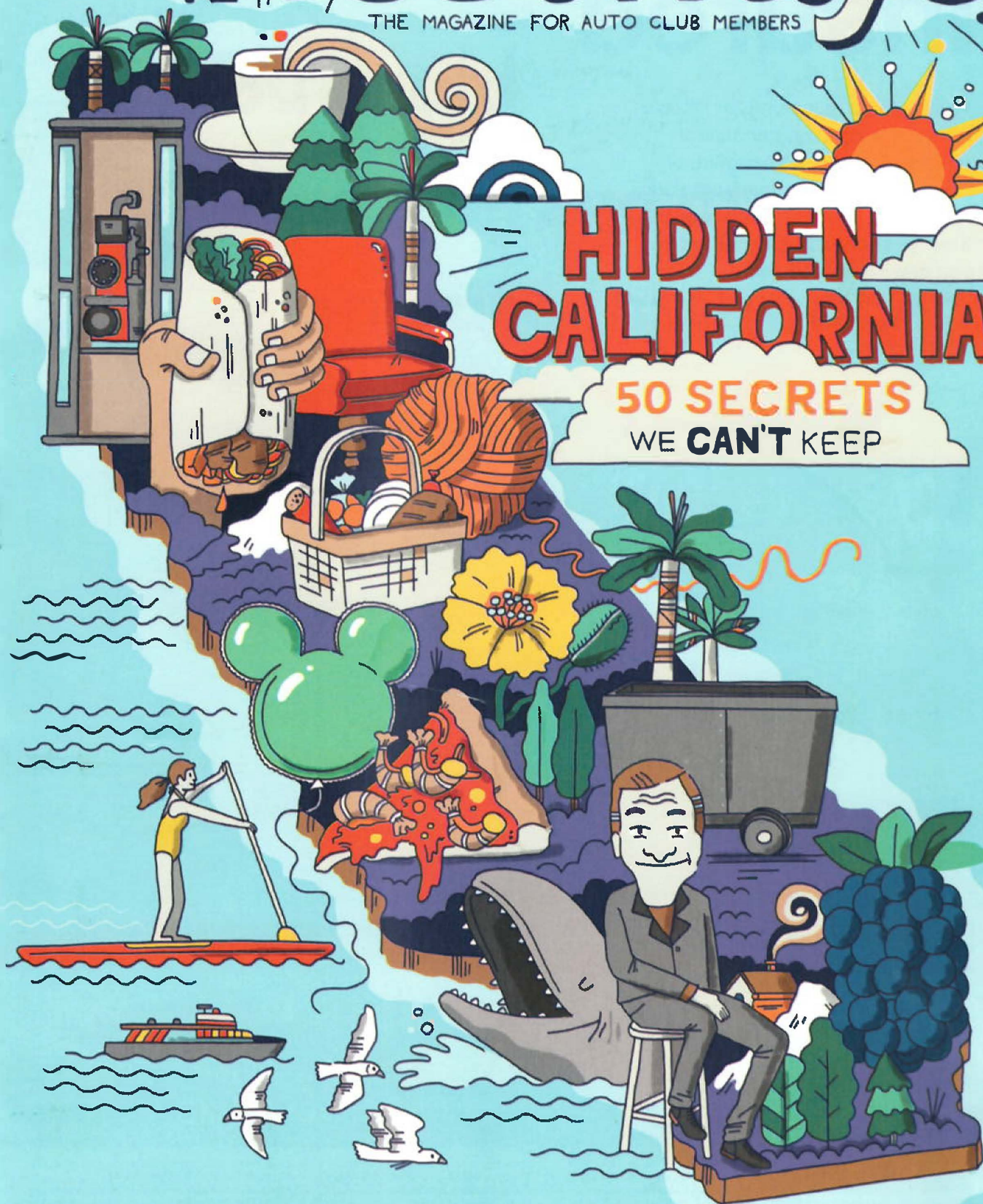
Westways

THE MAGAZINE FOR AUTO CLUB MEMBERS

HIDDEN CALIFORNIA

50 SECRETS

WE CAN'T KEEP



Orange County Westways

What's your favorite under-the-radar spot or experience in California?

Roadkill Fries from In-N-Out Burger's secret menu.
—Larini

Catching concerts at Garden Amp in Garden Grove.
—Linda

The peaceful oasis at Cal State Long Beach's Earl Burns Miller Japanese Garden.
—Meghan

Omakase at a restaurant inside a parking garage at Izakaya Osen in Irvine.
—Elisabeth

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The Ganna Walska Lotusland botanical garden in Montecito.
—Alyson

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PIER PRESSURE, P. 30



Mona Gable is a journalist and author who specializes in travel, culture, conservation, and science. Her work has appeared in

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» JAMES GULLIVER HANCOCK

HIDDEN CALIFORNIA, P. 34



A well-traveled illustrator known for his whimsical drawings, Australia-born James Gulliver Hancock garnered worldwide

attention for his project "All the Buildings in New York," an ongoing attempt to draw every building in the city. He loves to explore the world through visual creativity.

» RACHEL CHANG

HIDDEN CALIFORNIA, P. 34



San Jose native Rachel Chang started her career chasing celebrities as an editor for entertainment publications like J-14, Us Weekly,

and CosmoGirl. She then chased passport stamps, covering travel as a contributor to Condé Nast Traveler and Travel + Leisure. But her passion is combining the two, as she discussed on a recent episode of the Traveling With AAA podcast about "set-jetting" to filming locations around the world.

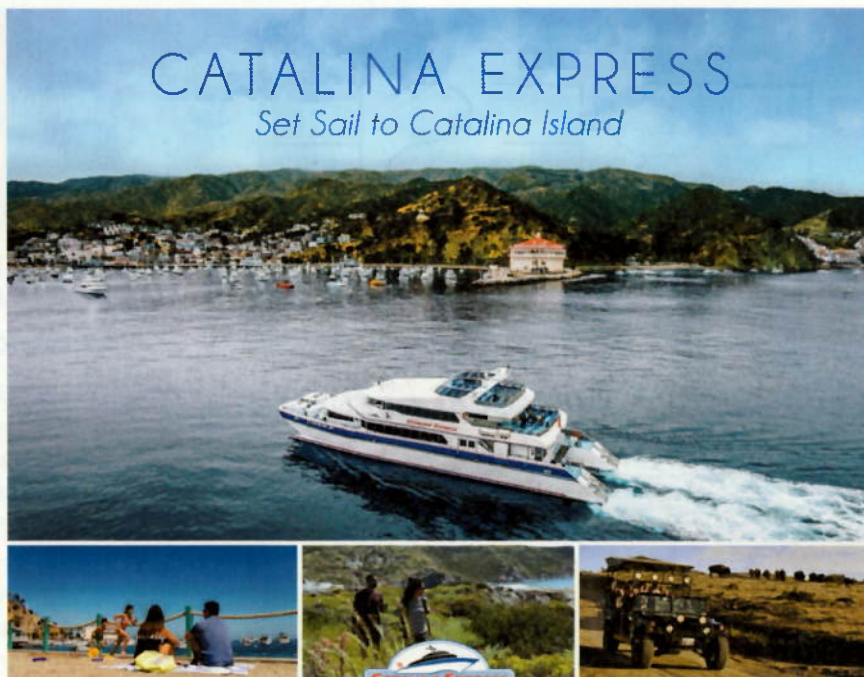


Beach Bliss

Come fall, **Crystal Cove State Park** breathes a tiny sigh of relief. The dwindling beach crowds and still-pleasant weather make autumn the ideal season to explore this untouched-by-time stretch of coast between Newport Beach and Laguna Beach. If you can't snag a reservation for one of the 38 restored vintage cottages, visit Cottage 35 just before 11 a.m. on any given day to check for cancellations. But even without staying overnight, a day in the park still feels like a vacation.

Start your morning with coffee and warm beignets on the sand at Beachcomber Café. Next, explore the tidepools, go bird-watching, or join one of Crystal Cove Conservancy's science hikes or historic district walking tours (both offered the fourth Saturday of the month, January through October). On the latter, you'll hear stories about the area's colorful past, which includes film shoots, martini flags, shipwrecks, rum-running, and uninsulated thatch-roofed shacks.

Japanese American farming families are also an integral part of Crystal Cove's history. A memorial garden near the park's Cultural Center (which once housed a Japanese-language school for local children) is in the works, and a 3-mile stretch of an existing trail will be dedicated as the Go for Broke Trail, honoring Japanese American World War II veterans. *Parking, \$15 per vehicle.* ➔ **AMY STEINBERG**



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