



The Spa at Ventana

Ventana Inn & Spa
Big Sur, California

NEED TO KNOW

Nestled within the redwood forests on Central California's iconic coastal hills is Ventana Inn (ventanainn.com), a 245-acre property that includes a 60-room hotel and quaint spa. To allow visitors to fully take in the great outdoors, all of the spa's communal facilities—a Japanese-style soaking tub, dry sauna, heated pool—and one of its six treatment rooms are alfresco.

NOTEWORTHY

A brand-new Art & Seekers Program encourages guests to connect to their surroundings through craft and sound. Among the seven experiences are a glass creation workshop, outdoor charcoal drawing course and a drum circle session. "I believe that art is an amazing way to connect with the earth," says Alfonso Corona, the property's art gallery director. "When devising these offerings, we aimed to create a bridge of creativity to enable access to Mother Nature."

SIGNATURE SERVICE

The Ventana Inn bills itself as a romantic getaway, so it's only fitting that the **Couples Herbal Bliss** (110 min./\$550) is its most booked service. To begin, the duo picks one of three herbal balms: I am Happy, I am Blissful or I am Calm. After a Tibetan bowl sound clearing, each person receives a full body massage using warm herbal poultices for meridian-focused compression. "Couples get to leave with the balm they've chosen," explains spa manager Karena Kalinuk, "which reminds them of the romantic experience and healing process they enjoyed in Big Sur." 🍷

