

PUBLISHED WHENEVER A LITTLE CORRAL DUST NEEDS KICKIN' AROUND

Riders Of The Alisal

FALL 2020

YOUR GUIDE TO FALL FUN



— A MESSAGE FROM KATHLEEN COCHRAN —

COMMITTED TO YOUR SAFETY AND ENJOYMENT

In these days of uncertainty, it is comforting to know that some things have remained the same. The team at The Alisal, that I have the honor of leading, is still working hard to make every guest feel safe and welcome. The wide-open beauty of the Ranch is still as scenic and inviting as ever. The great assortment of activities you look forward to when you come to The Alisal, are here and waiting for you to enjoy.

Keeping that carefree spirit alive in these times of increased regulations and Covid safety measures has been a challenge that has required exceptional effort from the entire

Alisal family. When we closed our doors to the public in spring our team was still busy planning for the modifications it would take to meet the enhanced safety standards. Our goal was to keep people healthy without detracting from The Alisal experience. The owners of the Ranch, the Jackson Family, committed significant financial resources so The Alisal could reopen this summer in compliance with all the state mandates.

Of course, there have been some changes, like mask wearing, increased distancing, enhanced cleaning protocols and outdoor.



dining, but the results have met and exceeded our guests' expectations. I truly value guest feedback. It allows me to monitor our success in creating the kind of vacation you are looking for. Recently we have received feedback that I was particularly pleased to read:

"The Alisal is a perfect getaway to unplug from the outside world and get present with your loved ones. - Our most recent visit this Summer, we experienced how well the resort has managed the Covid situation and we were VERY impressed and felt safe and comfortable the entire time. I recommend staying here to everyone!"

The dining staff left no stone left unturned when it came to staying safe and providing us with 5-Star meals. Visiting The Alisal was precisely the change of scenery we so desperately needed after 120+ days of "safer at home". We can't wait for summer 2021 and highly recommend this resort!!!"

Now, when increased distance is important for our health, The Alisal is happy to provide a place where you and your family can get closer. Even heading into this fall, when many schools are doing remote



teaching, we offer the Ranch as your country schoolhouse. We offer high-speed wifi so your kids

can put in their remote class time, and after classes you and your kids can simply walk out the door and enjoy the fresh air, great food and plenty of activities.

Any time of year is a great time to have you here at The Alisal. We look forward to seeing you soon and adding fun and relaxation to the end of your 2020.



Kathleen Cochran, General Manager

[View Fall Activity Guide](#) ➔

ENJOY THE SEASON WITH SPECIAL FALL PACKAGES

Fall is a fantastic time to visit the Ranch. The weather is mild and the pace is more relaxed. To make a fall getaway even more enticing, here is a special package worthy of a big- "yee-ha!"



ALISAL AWAITS PACKAGE

After the summer rush, the horses are rested and raring to go, our private lake is teeming with fish and the golf courses are groomed and waiting to challenge you. We invite you to come on out, cut loose and enjoy all the fall fun. Our Alisal Awaits Package includes some of our most popular activities and is perfect for a romantic getaway, a carefree family vacation, or a chance to get reconnected with friends. You'll also enjoy a nightly **\$50 Ranch credit** for use during your stay for use at the Spa, Mercantile, for additional activities, and more.

THIS VACATION PACKAGE INCLUDES:

- Breakfast & dinner as well as an impressive selection of alcoholic and nonalcoholic beverages consumed in our bars or restaurants.
- Golf green fees and cart
- Fishing pole + bait at Alisal Lake
- \$50 nightly Ranch Credit
- Group Trail Horseback Ride
- In-Room Welcome Amenity

Everything will be just right for you, and the whole team at The Alisal can't wait to welcome you back.



Executive Chef Anthony Endy

CHEF ENDY EARNS A PROMOTION AND RECOGNITION

When guests are asked– “What elements go into a memorable vacation?” Most travelers list: scenic location, variety of recreation, comfortable accommodations, welcoming atmosphere and delicious food. At The Alisal, for the last three years, the last item on the list has been the responsibility of our Executive Chef, Anthony Endy. His passion for fresh ingredients and his talent for grilled specialties have helped elevate the Ranch’s already famous reputation for outstanding dining. Over the years, Chef Anthony has taken on more and more of both the out front cooking leadership, as well as the behind the scenes planning and kitchen staff coordination. His hard work has recently resulted in a promotion to Director of Culinary Operations. He will still be running ever-popular events like the Ranch’s BBQ Bootcamps, as well as a new series of cooking events called the California Ranch Cookouts. Of course, he will still manage day-to-day dining operations. He has also

taken over the reins of the resort’s beverage team. He has great ideas for bringing new flavors to the beverage offerings, including plans for a custom blended Alisal brand

“It was a fun, nerve-wracking experience. The camera’s roll, the pressure is on...”

whiskey. If all this wasn’t enough, Anthony has also had to create special protocols, to ensure that dining at **The Alisal meets all state mandated Covid requirements**. Based on guest feedback, visitors have appreciated the changes and have felt safe and very satisfied with the modified dining set-up at The Alisal.

While Chef Endy has had his hands full at the Ranch, he did take a little

time off awhile back for a working vacation, to compete on the wildly popular Food Network’s **“Beat Bobby Flay.”** The television show pits guest chefs against renowned chef and host Bobby Flay. In April 2019 the showed taped. After besting another well-known chef in the preliminary round, Chef Endy went head-to-head against Chef Flay, as both prepared their best beef tri-tip sandwich. When the smoked cleared, the panel of judges declared Anthony the winner. When asked about the show (which aired in June 2020), Anthony replied, “It was a fun, nerve-wracking experience. The camera’s roll, the pressure is on and it makes you really think on your feet. Bottom line, it was a

blast and a great honor to challenge myself against the best.”

So feel free to work-up a big appetite riding the trails, or driving the range and know when you settle down for a meal at The Alisal, you can look forward to some winning tastes, courtesy of Chef Endy and his amazing kitchen team.



Executive Chef Anthony Endy on Food Network’s “Beat Bobby Flay”

Visit Dining 

CALIFORNIA RANCH COOKOUTS A HOT TICKET



Great news! Some of America's hottest chefs are coming to The Alisal to team up with the Ranch's Director of Culinary Operations Anthony Endy, for a series of memorable California Ranch Cookouts. The focus will be on barbecued favorites, including savory meats, seafood, delicious roasted veggie dishes, and grilled decadent desserts.

"I am thrilled to be working with these amazing chefs to create this series of very special outdoor culinary events. I know you will love them," says Chef Endy.

The chefs participating in the California Ranch Cookouts have been highlighted on television's top cooking shows, and are stars of their own restaurants. This fall they are heading to The Ranch to serve

up memorable feasts just for you. The bar will be open for beverages, the atmosphere will be festive and the outdoor dining will surround you with the beauty and California ranch heritage of The Alisal. If you already will be staying at The Alisal when these events occur, there will be no extra charge for your attendance. If you don't yet have an accommodation reserved, this is a great excuse for a getaway. The

Cookouts are only open to guests and Signature Members. If you are an Alisal Signature Member, space at the Cookouts can be reserved without an overnight stay at a cost of \$95 per person. The first summer events, featuring noted chefs Neal Fraser, Nyeshia Arrington and Burt Bakman, were big successes. Don't miss out on the sure-to-be-tasty upcoming cookouts:



Saturday, September 19th, 2020 Chef David Lentz

[Learn More](#) →

David Lentz is the chef and owner of the critically acclaimed Hungry Cat restaurant in Los Angeles. David grew up and began his culinary career on the East Coast, but eventually settled in Los Angeles in 2000. In LA, Lentz gained widespread acclaim as opening executive chef at Firefly and Opaline restaurants.

In 2005, Lentz opened his first solo restaurant project, The Hungry Cat, in Hollywood, where he earned a reputation for preparing outstanding seasonally inspired seafood and bi-coastal American classics. In May of 2006, Star Chefs named Lentz the Rising Star Chef of the year.

California Ranch Cookouts is a perfect opportunity to experience the kitchen artistry of David Lentz surrounded by the beauty of The Alisal.



Saturday, October 24th, 2020 Guest Chef: Kristen Thibeault

[Learn More](#) →

Kristen Thibeault is the Co-Founder and Executive Chef of a premium high-performance catering company, Nybll, featuring a menu of plant-forward meals known to promote a culture of health. With clients over the years ranging from Fortune 500 companies to championship sports teams, to celebrities like Richard Gere and Sting, Thibeault is a pioneer of the modern plant-based food movement. She is also a distinguished vegan chef and certified sports nutritionist.

Kristen's background also includes, earning a French culinary degree from Le Cordon Bleu, and opening her first restaurant, Kombu in 2012 at San Francisco's Four Seasons Hotel. In 2013, she earned San Pellegrino's "Almost Famous Chef" award.

We invite you to experience the best in healthy grilled cuisine at this special Cookout event.

Book your next stay: (800) 425-4725 or visit Alisal.com

BBQ BOOTCAMP AT THE RANCH



Chef Hugh Mangum

Grilling Superstar, Hugh Mangum, Adds Extra Sizzle to The Alisal BBQ Bootcamp

Every year The Alisal BBQ Bootcamp has been the place to be, for anyone interested in great grilled cuisine and learning how to prepare it from the best pitmasters in the world. This **October 9-11, 2020**, the action at The Alisal will be hotter than ever, with the addition of "Firemaster" **Hugh Mangum** to the BBQ Bootcamp all-star lineup. This is the first time we have offered this event on the weekend so it's more convenient than ever.

You may recognize Hugh Mangum as the owner of **Mighty Quinn's Barbeque**, with 15 locations around the world (including Manhattan, Dubai, Manila, and Taiwan). If you are a fan of cooking shows, you have probably seen him in action on "Cook Like an Iron Chef," "Beat

Bobby Flay" and as a champion of "Chopped." Hugh will be sharing his personal secrets for creating slow-smoked creations with Bootcamp guests.

In addition to Hugh Mangum, the BBQ Bootcamp lineup will include award-winning cookbook author, and Austin-based chef **Paula Disbrowe**.

Also tempting appetites and teaching tasty tips, will be **Valerie Gordon** who is one of Los Angeles' top chocolatiers



and the author of the cookbook *Sweet*. She will serve as the fine dessert specialist at BBQ Bootcamp. Finally, we have **Bob Oswaks**, owner of Bob's Well Bread Bakery in Los Alamos. He will share his bread secrets to help you learn how to craft your own superior loafs. Rounding out the team of grilling experts, will be our own Director of Culinary Operations, **Anthony Endy** fresh off his winning performance on television's *Beat Bobby Flay*.



When you add up great grilling, ranch activities, complimentary wine

tastings (at nearby wineries) and tasteful BBQ Bootcamp swag, you have all the fixin's for an unforgettable getaway. If you're interested in participating, we urge you to sign up soon, because space is limited and the event sells-out mighty fast.

TO BOOK THIS PACKAGE:

Call (800) 425-4725

or [Book Online](#) ↗



FALL 2020

BBQ BOOTCAMP IN PICTURES



Sign Up for BBQ Bootcamp [➔](#)

tales from the
BARN



[View Horseback Rides & Programs](#) ➔

NEW HORSES AND 10,000 ACRES OF OPPORTUNITY

This fall the barn is riding high with some great new horses, and some new time-saving and space-encouraging practices. With 10,000 acres of wide open horseback riding opportunities, fall is a great time to saddle-up and head out for a great adventure.

According to Head Wrangler, **Meghan Taylor**, you might notice a few new faces among the four-

legged Alisal Family. For riders of all levels, there is **Mojave**, a beautiful dark red draft horse cross. Mojave is a bit smaller than a pure-breed draft horse, but good and sturdy with a temperament that will match with both newbies and experienced riders. Locally raised, Mojave has turned out to be a real winner. Joining Mojave in the barn, are **M&N** and **Tequila**. M&N was purchased from our wrangler Luis,

and is a very versatile horse. This big grey beauty can bow, do fancy walking and is a pro at trick roping events. When M&N is not showing off in the rodeo arena, he is great on trail rides accommodating riders of all skill levels. Tequila is a blue roan horse that comes to The Alisal from Montana. This 10-year old is a spirited addition perfect for advanced riders.

"Things in the barn have been going great," says wrangler Meghan. "We have staggered the ride times to increase social distancing and the result has been guests don't have to wait in lines to mount the horses." Masks are required until you get on your horse, but once you are on the trail, they can be removed. So get ready to "giddy-up" and enjoy the sweet smell of the great outdoors.

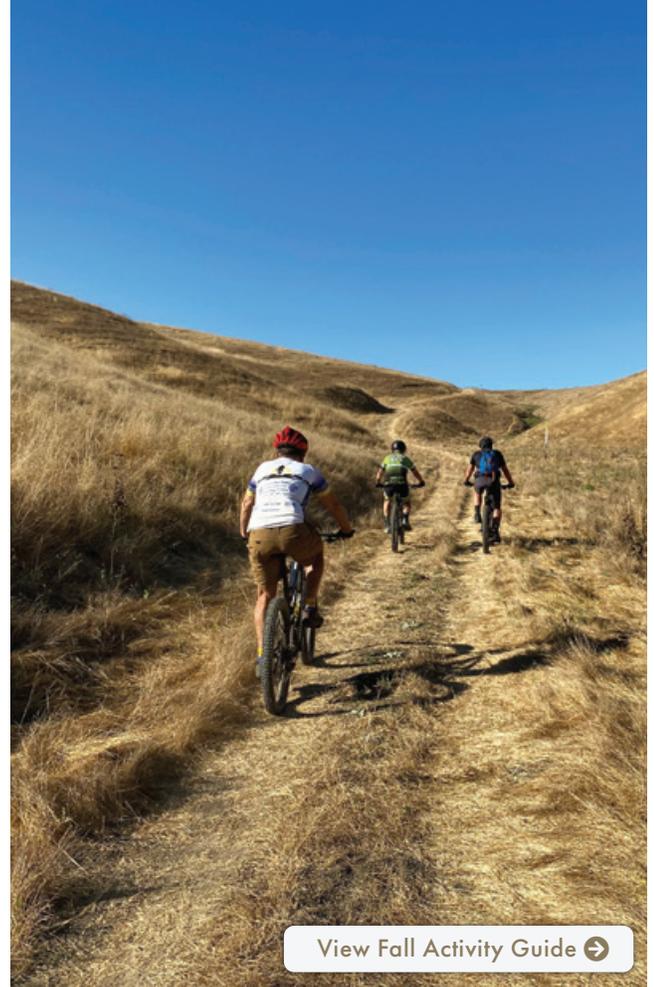


Off Road Adventures with Fat Tire E-Bikes



With 10,000 acres of scenic beauty to explore, The Alisal is excited to offer you a new fleet of fat tire electric-assist mountain bikes, perfect for getting out into our picturesque backcountry. Saddle-up one of our top-of-the-line Specialized Turbo Levo **fat tire mountain bikes** and the paths to adventure are endless. Each bike has oversized tires, full suspension and a sturdy, lightweight, whisper-quiet motor, to help out when the trail gets steep. These bikes are for intermediate to advanced mountain bike riders and all rides are led by a professional guide.

Take off for a two or three hour ride through beautiful oak-shaded valleys, and into the rolling hills providing picture perfect lake and mountain views. Rides should be booked through the Ranch Concierge with at least **24-hour notice**. To ride you must be a minimum age of 13-years-old and there is a maximum of six riders per group. Of course, we provide sanitized safety equipment and a whole host of kick-up-your-heels trails. We are pleased to put the "Yippee!" in e-biking. Give it a try and make some exhilarating fresh-air memories in the great wide open.



[View Fall Activity Guide](#) ➔

ALISAL RETREAT OFFERS THE HEALING POWER OF HORSES



It's a time of change, so if making a positive change in your life is one of your 2021 goals, then The Alisal's **Unbridled Retreat™** is a special opportunity not to be missed. The program will be led by Devon Combs, a noted Equine Gestalt Coach, whose work has been featured in *COWGIRL Magazine*, *Horse Illustrated Magazine* and others. The Unbridled Retreat offers a profound, life-changing experience. You will share moments – with horses and other women – that will transform the way you see yourself, reveal pathways you didn't know existed, and help you become your most courageous, authentic self. No horse experience is necessary.

When it comes to guiding women, this isn't Devon's first Rodeo. For years she has been helping women heal from their pasts, get clear on where they're headed, and find the courage to move forward in their lives. In a nutshell: she works with women on a spiritual path to help them get unstuck, reconnect with

their intuition, and begin to live an unbridled life.

She uses the **Equine Gestalt Coaching Method** – which is, in its simplest form, healing and awakening through horses. She has experienced the healing of horses firsthand. Her intelligent, empathic work with others grew directly out of her own journey through bulimia and depression, where at the crossroads, equine therapy saved her life. It opened the door to her life's work of connecting women to horses for healing and spiritual renewal. Now she spends her days bringing women and horses together in a safe space where she teaches people how to let go of self-sabotage and pick up the reins of their lives.

In the warm, inviting atmosphere of The Alisal there is no better place to heal and charge into the rest of your life with new confidence. Space is limited, so be sure to sign up for this transformational program soon.

APRIL 25TH – 28TH, 2021

RETREAT INCLUDES:

- Suite accommodation
- In-Room Welcome Gift
- Breakfast, lunch and dinner daily, including hosted beverages during events
- Alisal Signature Breakfast ride on hay wagon to Historic Alisal Adobe
- Two full days of horse encounters including Equine Coaching and Horseback Rides

BOOK BY PHONE: (800) 425-4725 or

[book online](#) ➔





WISHING TWO ALISAL FAMILY MEMBERS WELL

The Alisal has always been more than just a pretty vacation spot. Its uniqueness comes from our rich Western history and the caring Alisal family members that make our guests feel so welcome. Recently a couple of those long time family members, Marcy Payne and Bill Powell, have decided to retire from The Alisal to write their next chapters.

to the Jackson family (owners of The Alisal) for making the Ranch feel like a home and treating all involved like they were part of their extended family.

Marcy still lives in the area and will be putting her great people skills to work in her family's home improvement business.

a long history of tickling the ivories it is not surprising that there have been many exciting memories. Bill recalls the night actor Fess Parker and his wife came in with the famous singer Rosemary Clooney, for an impromptu sing-along. Bill also recalls teaming up with McDonald's founder, Ray Kroc, for a few musical numbers.



MARCY PAYNE,
Activities Director

Marcy began at The Alisal on Easter Sunday in 1989. At the time, she was still a college student at University of Northern Colorado, studying recreational management. Her family had been Alisal golf members for years and Marcy had spent plenty of

time roaming the Ranch and attending special events. So when her aunt, who worked in the front office, told her about a job opening she jumped at the opportunity to fill her school vacation time and earn some spending money. When she graduated from college, her seasonal work at the Ranch turned into a full-time position as Director of Activities. Putting together programs for guests is something Marcy never tired of.

When asked what some of her favorite Alisal memories were, she said, "The beauty of the ranch was always something I looked forward to seeing, and the friends I made among co-workers and guests made my life richer." She also expressed her deep gratitude



BILL POWELL,
Piano Player

Watch any respectable Western and there's always at least one saloon scene with a piano man tinkling away at the piano. The Alisal's saloon piano man, for over 50 years, is Bill Powell. Bill has been an important part of the Alisal experience since 1968. With

While playing with celebrities makes for good stories, when we asked Bill what his favorite memories are of playing at The Alisal, he didn't hesitate, "I love the warm atmosphere at The Alisal and getting to play for the guests."

In Bill's next chapter, he is looking forward to spending more time with his family, learning a few new songs and chasing after his new labradoodle puppy, Cubby.

We tip our hats to both Marcy and Bill. Wishing you happy trails and all the best!

DREAMING OF THE ALISAL

For many who are part The Alisal team, or consider the Ranch their country home away from home, this is more than just a place to hang their cowboy hats. This is a place that is alive with history, good times and wonderful people. If you mosey over to the blog page on our website, you can peek in at their fond remembrances in a series of posts we call "Dreaming of The Alisal."

There are nine stories with entries from guests, Alisal team members, and other surprising contributors. Here are just a few examples to wet your appetite:

There is an entry from **Abe Aguilar**, our pancake perfectionist, who for years has greeted guests arriving from the Old Adobe Breakfast Ride, with piping hot stacks of griddlecakes. He shares memories of great guests who have become old friends and a fun food challenge that still remains unconquered.

Nate Turner, the celebrated interior designer, author and host of The Alisal's "I Love California" workshop, reflects on the Ranch's natural beauty that brought back cherished childhood memories. He shares how the welcoming Ranch lifestyle inspired his redesign of the Alisal Turner House Cottages.

There is even a fanciful entry from



our barnyard critters. They reflect on their four legged barn friends and dish the dirt on their two legged pals.

Check out all the fun and fond memories shared in the "Dreaming of The Alisal" blogs. Feel free to make and share your own Alisal highlights.

[Read more "Dreaming of The Alisal" →](#)

Nathan Turner *Design and Lifestyle Workshop* is scheduled for **April, 2021**. Be on the lookout for our announcement on the website coming soon!

SHARE YOUR MEMORIES



Everyone has their own unique story tell about their experience at the Ranch. If you want to share your favorite story or photos please send 'em our way, we can't get enough of them! Who knows, maybe you'll be in the next issue of *The Riders of the Alisal*.

Send stories and photos to: marketing@Alisal.com

Or just ping us on Social.

