

# california

## meetings + events

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# Hotels with Meeting Facilities

BY JANET FULLWOOD

Nearby, the Beach House Hotel is a boutique, 54-room property with 1,800 square feet of function space split among four rooms, all with natural light, accommodating 10 to 40 for sit-downs. A pool, spa and direct access to the Coastal Trail for walks to town or the beach add special appeal. Because all rooms have a fireplace and a patio or balcony — many with ocean views — the property tends to attract groups that stay for more than just a day or two.

“Last year we had several groups come for a whole week, including a pharmaceutical group from Switzerland that was in town for a training program,” says Valarie Kenway, the property’s sales manager. The whole hotel also does pop-up day meetings, Kenway adds, pointing out that the hotel’s four function rooms are laid out around an ocean-view patio where lunch can be served to several groups at once. “It’s a stunning location with unobstructed views and it creates a loyal following,” she says. “A lot of people end their corporate meeting on a Friday and have their family join them for the weekend.

Michele King, program manager for Stanford University’s Institute for Immunity, Transplantation and Infection, found Half Moon Bay an ideal spot for the group of about 30 doctors she brought here in March. “It’s a lovely destination in itself, with lots to see and experience,” she says. “Our researchers are doctors and have very busy schedules so if they can get away and have a beautiful view from their conference, they’re not so tempted to run back to the operating room.”

King says her group elected to meet and stay at the Beach House because “it’s a small hotel, not overwhelming, and the conference room overlooking the ocean is magical. It promotes research in that the environment very much helps people think through problems and facilitate. The food was excellent, as was the staff. For our size and type of meeting, it was perfect.”

