

VISIT MENDOCINO

4TH ANNUAL MENDOCINO COUNTY PURPLE URCHIN FESTIVAL 2025

June 13 – 15

Join chefs, educators, experts and adventurous palates as we celebrate these delicious (and invasive) spiky creatures of the sea! Learn how purple sea urchin impact our kelp forest and discover how well they pair with Sake. Make plans for a most unique adventure, including demonstrations, tastings and special lodging packages.

EDUCATIONAL TALK

June 14, 11:00 AM

Van Damme State Beach (Little River)

Join the outdoor classroom at the beach for an **Educational Talk** about urchin, including demos on how to open urchin to get your own uni. Learn how kelp forests are slowly making a comeback as is the local abalone population. The talk and demo are free for all – and with a \$10 demo, you can try out your new skills and smash your own urchin for an uni delicacy.

URCHIN UNIVERSITY

June 14, 5:30 PM

Little River Inn / Deck of Abalone Room

Get schooled at **Urchin University** on everything uni, including opening your own! Nibble on uni bites, sip sake and get your hands dirty during demos of urchin preparation, sashimi slicing and other tidal hacks and delicacies. Proceeds benefit Mendocino Parks. Fee: \$65/pp.

LOW TIDE SEAWEED WALK & TALK

June 14, 7:00 – 9:30 AM

MacKerricher State Park (Fort Bragg)

Join commercial seaweed harvester Larry Knowles, along with Nathan Maxwell Cahn, for an early morning low-tide **Seaweed Walk & Talk**. As the proprietor of Rising Tide Sea Vegetables, Larry will share knowledge and experience in seaweed gathering for an in-depth understanding of the delicate intertidal ecosystem.

WALKING TOUR OF NOYO HARBOR

June 15, 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Noyo Harbor High Dock

Join the Noyo Harbor staff for a walking tour of **Noyo Harbor**. Learn about the various fisheries and vessels that operate out of the marina and how a healthy kelp forest relates to healthy fisheries and ultimately, healthy communities.

UNI TASTING ADVENTURES

Several Mendocino County restaurants are offering special Uni menus during Urchin Fest – from Uni Baked Oysters to Salmon with Champagne and Sea Urchin Beurre Blanc, and more. Participating restaurants include Sacred Rock's **Greenwood Restaurant** in Elk, **Izakaya Gama** in Point Arena, **SOBO Sushi** in Boonville, **KW Saltwater Grill** and Noyo Harbor Inn's **HarborView Bistro & Bar** – both in Fort Bragg. Look for other restaurants offering Uni specials.

STAY AWHILE – LODGING

A variety of hotels are offering package deals, uni menus, sea foraging and weekend value pricing including **Noyo Harbor Inn**, **Little River Inn**, **Nicholson House** and more. Find more **Deals & Specials**.