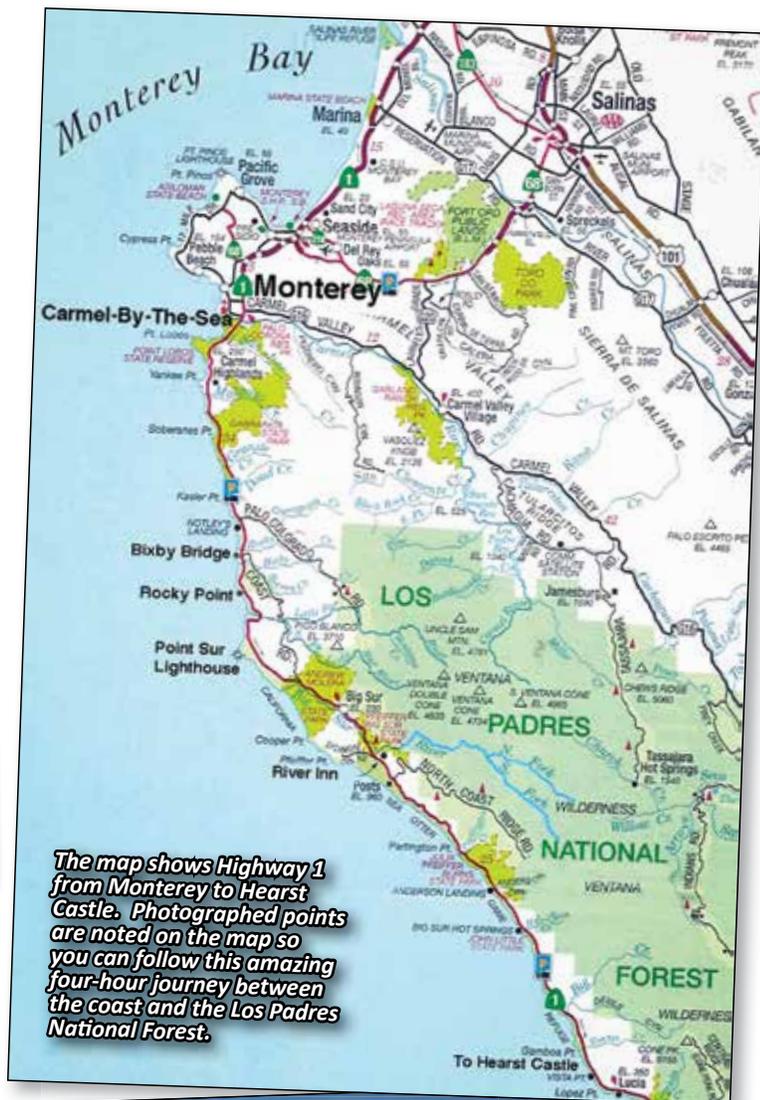


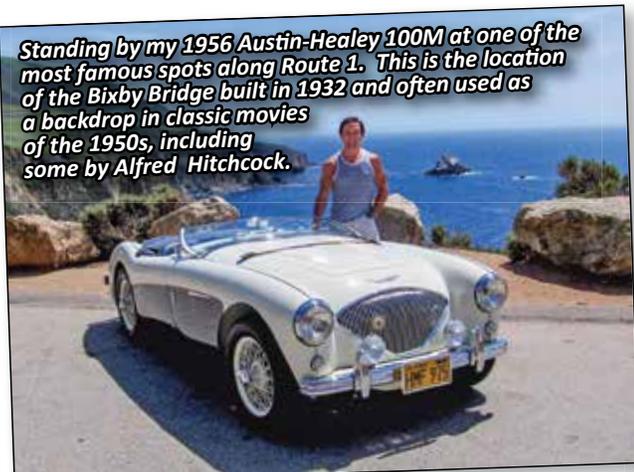
CRUISING ONE OF AMERICA'S MOST BEAUTIFUL ROADS CALIFORNIA ROUTE 1

**Bill Meade, Founder & Registrar
Worldwide 100M Le Mans Registry**

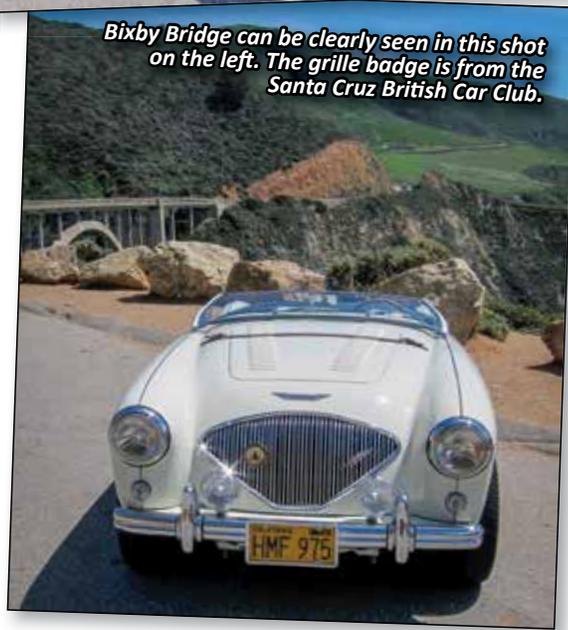
One of the most spectacular coastal drives in the USA (or the World for that matter) is unquestionably Route 1 from Carmel, California, to San Simeon, home of the famous Hearst Castle. I recently had the pleasure of driving this route again during May when the fields and mountains were in their most vibrant green and wild flowers abounded along the road.



Standing by my 1956 Austin-Healey 100M at one of the most famous spots along Route 1. This is the location of the Bixby Bridge built in 1932 and often used as a backdrop in classic movies of the 1950s, including some by Alfred Hitchcock.



Bixby Bridge can be clearly seen in this shot on the left. The grille badge is from the Santa Cruz British Car Club.



The map shows Highway 1 from Monterey to Hearst Castle. Photographed points are noted on the map so you can follow this amazing four-hour journey between the coast and the Los Padres National Forest.

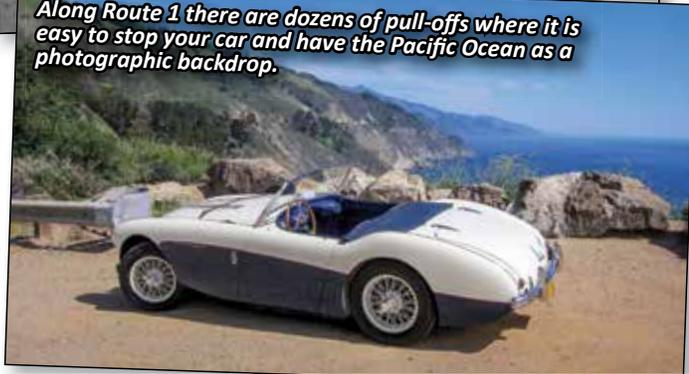
A wonderful place to stop for lunch and enjoy the panoramic views of the Pacific Ocean. The Rocky Point Restaurant was built in 1947.



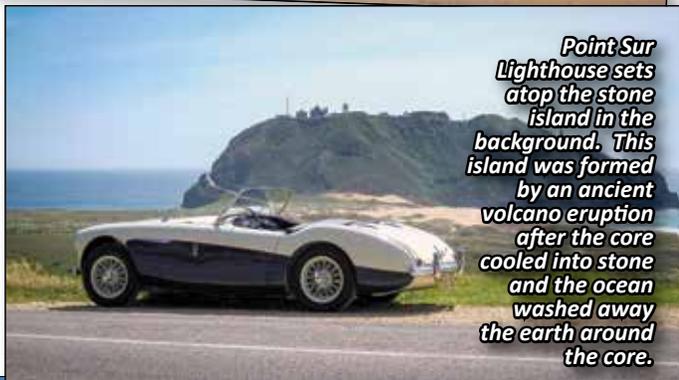
Approaching a fast left-hander with a shear drop to the ocean on the right.



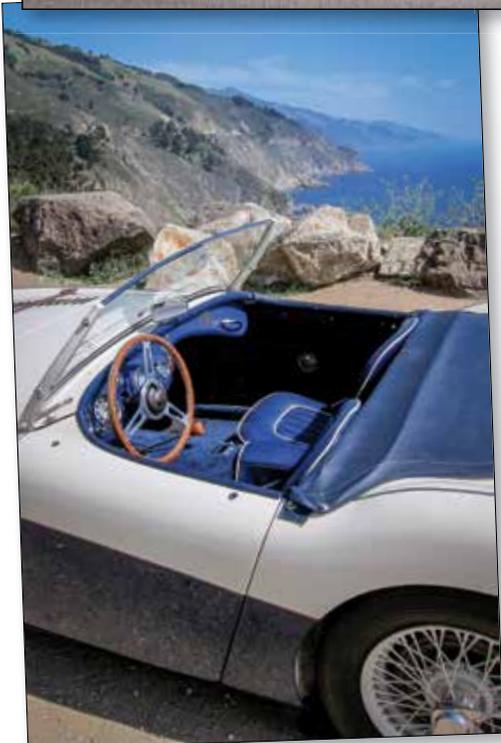
Along Route 1 there are dozens of pull-offs where it is easy to stop your car and have the Pacific Ocean as a photographic backdrop.



Point Sur Lighthouse sets atop the stone island in the background. This island was formed by an ancient volcano eruption after the core cooled into stone and the ocean washed away the earth around the core.

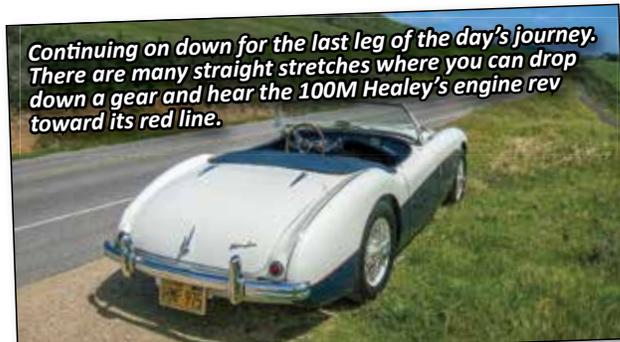


Another spectacular view of the mountains meeting the ocean combined with a detailed shot of the Healey's interior. This car is equipped with the optional leather-covered dash and cockpit surrounds.



An afternoon stop for hot coffee at the Big Sur River Inn. This location is about half way down the Route 1 drive. Behind the Inn is a swiftly flowing stream of fresh, cold mountain water. The Gerry Coker designed cloisonné badge is mounted on each side of this car, just where Donald Healey mounted his Drivers Club badge.

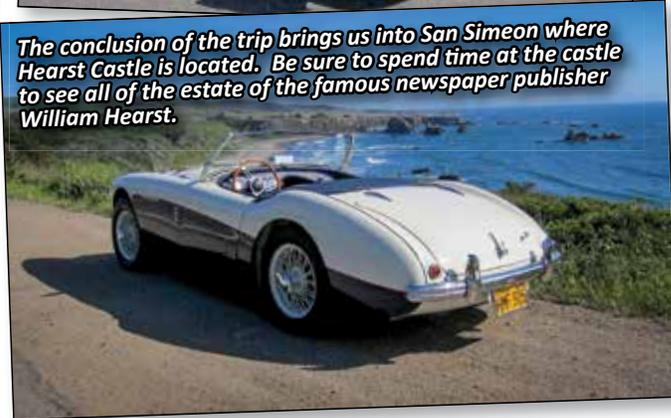
Continuing on down for the last leg of the day's journey. There are many straight stretches where you can drop down a gear and hear the 100M Healey's engine rev toward its red line.



This proud view of the Austin-Healey 100M shows the car from a lower angle, making it appear quite aggressive. Notice the small red M on the grille flash.



The conclusion of the trip brings us into San Simeon where Hearst Castle is located. Be sure to spend time at the castle to see all of the estate of the famous newspaper publisher William Hearst.



This drive takes about three to four hours, and traffic is normally very light along the winding two-lane road, especially on weekdays. If you stop for photographs and a meal, it becomes a full-day affair.

If you have never had the opportunity to drive this road, put it on your Bucket List. When you are in the beautiful Monterey area, (perhaps for the historic races and the Pebble Beach Concours) schedule yourself a day to relax and head on down the coast on Route 1. **HM**