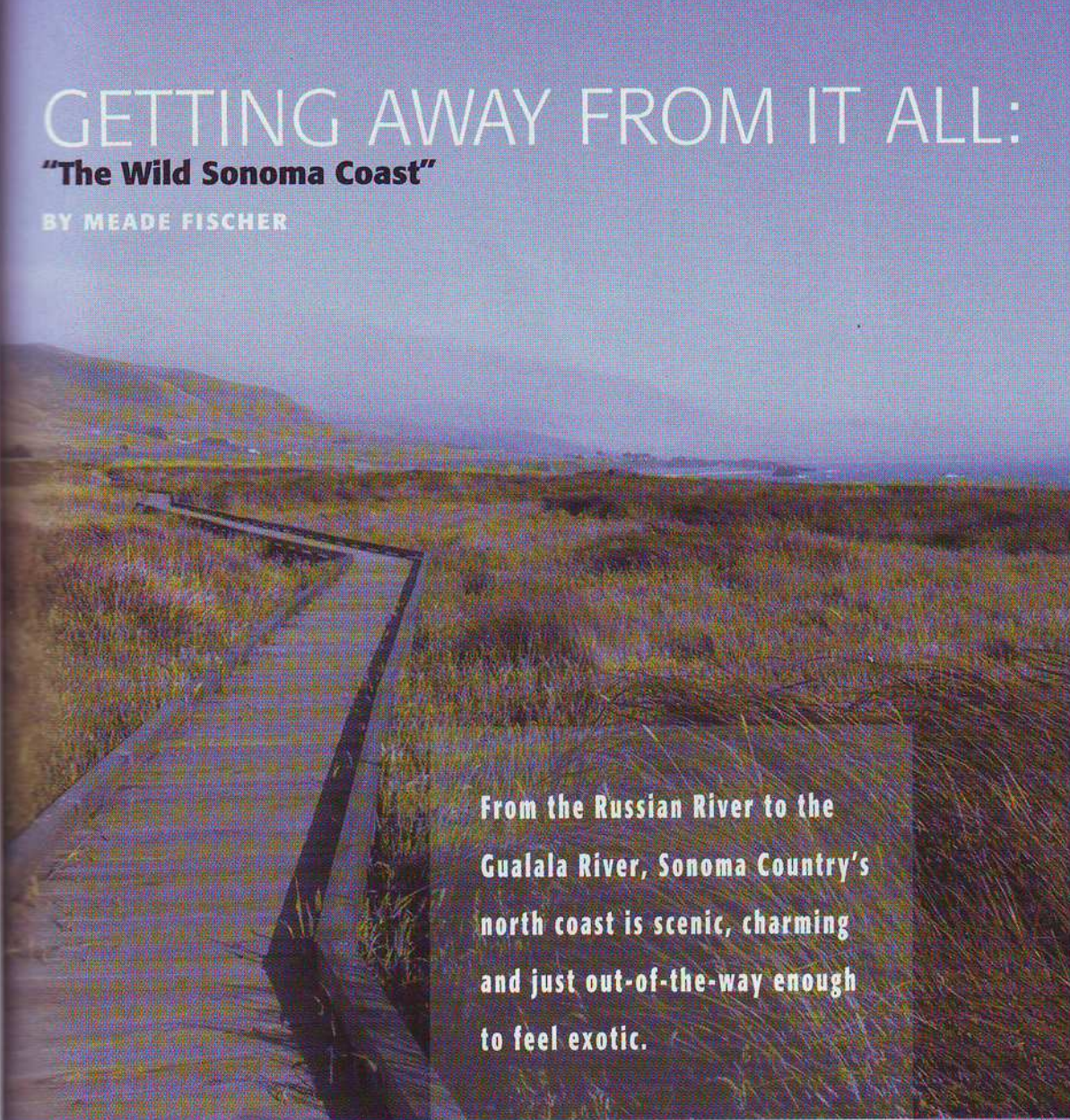


# GETTING AWAY FROM IT ALL:

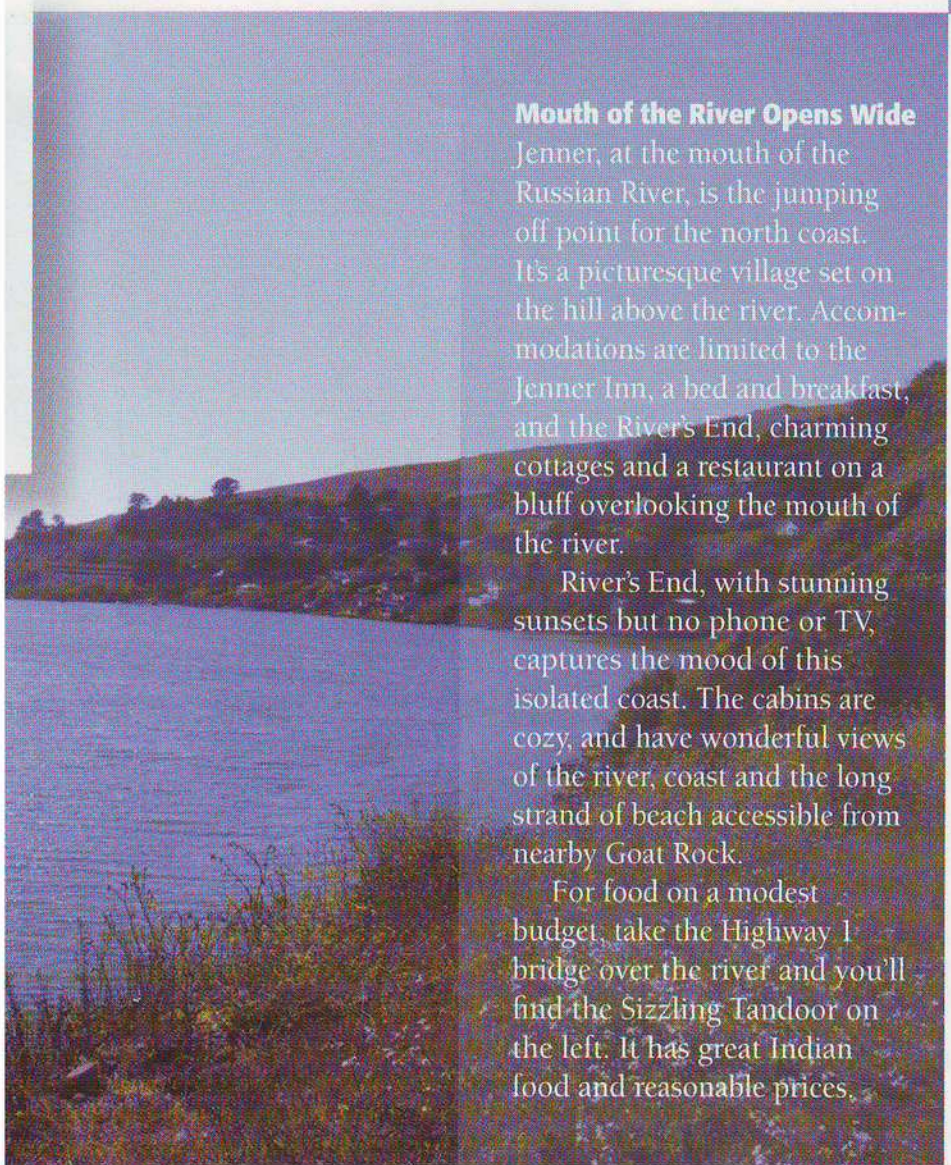
## "The Wild Sonoma Coast"

BY MEADE FISCHER



From the Russian River to the Gualala River, Sonoma Country's north coast is scenic, charming and just out-of-the-way enough to feel exotic.

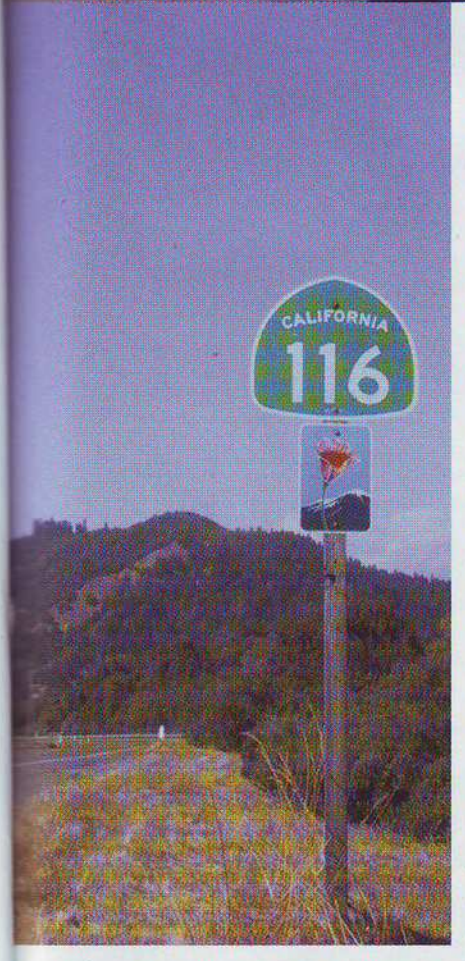
### Mouth of the River Opens Wide



Jenner, at the mouth of the Russian River, is the jumping off point for the north coast. It's a picturesque village set on the hill above the river. Accommodations are limited to the Jenner Inn, a bed and breakfast, and the River's End, charming cottages and a restaurant on a bluff overlooking the mouth of the river.

River's End, with stunning sunsets but no phone or TV, captures the mood of this isolated coast. The cabins are cozy, and have wonderful views of the river, coast and the long strand of beach accessible from nearby Goat Rock.

For food on a modest budget, take the Highway 1 bridge over the river and you'll find the Sizzling Tandoor on the left. It has great Indian food and reasonable prices.



Once you leave the Russian River resorts in the Guerneville area, the crowds thin out, and the space between destinations stretches out like a contented cat.



### Meander Your Way Up the Coast

Begin your journey in Duncans Mills, a few miles from the coast on Highway 116. While it looks like a wide spot along the road, it has a rich history that you can sample at the railroad station turned museum. There are also art galleries, kayak rentals, antique stores, and gift shops.

One of the best restaurants in the area, Cape Fear Café, serves breakfast, lunch and dinner, and the prices are reasonable to moderate. The menu is varied, with a good selection of wine and beer, and there is something for even the most sophisticated taste.