

Big Sur Road Trip SEALS Chottings Page 4



I had always wanted to see seals in their natural habitat; I had seen them in zoos and aquariums but that wasn't the same - in fact, that seemed cruel somehow - these creatures needed the waters and wild terrain. Knowing today was the day, my heart thumped like a little drum eagerly beating an excited rhythm - at last I was going to see wild seals in their natural habitat with my own eyes!



At first it looked like the many miles of coastline we had driven past for days. Had we got the location wrong? However, on closer inspection I saw that what had looked like smooth rocks of different greys and browns was in fact a seal colony: seal upon seal lying still in groups or alone on the sandy beach.

You could write about the ones in the sea - what are they doing?



It was mesmerizing: for minutes at a time they slept so deeply, a grey one next to a brown one; one with a white belly curled around one with a silver ribbon around his neck. Their colours differed so subtly - hues and shades of brown, grey, white, almost black. Then suddenly one would move: twist her head around and stretch her neck elegantly or flick her flipper in one swift motion sending sand flying over her back.