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Year-round spooky haunts

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Chad Ziemendorf / The Chronicle

A tourist peeks through a window on the second floor of the Winchester Mystery House in San Jose.

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It's that time of year when the faux ghosts and ghoulies come out, and the things that go bump in the night are trick-or-treaters. But what about getting spooked the rest of the year? Dig up these five spots to get your scream on anytime.

1. McMenamins Grand Lodge, Forest Grove, Ore.

With walls covered by creepy murals, historical photos and Masonic imagery - and even a resident spook, dubbed the "Lavender Lady" - the Grand Lodge is a live version of Disneyland's Haunted Mansion. Built in the 1920s as the Masonic and Eastern Star Home to house the poor, orphaned and disabled, it's now a funky hotel where apparitions aren't uncommon and many guests claim they're being watched. The staff tracks such encounters in a "ghost log." 3505 Pacific Ave., Forest Grove; (503) 992-9533; mcmenamins.com.

2. Queen Mary, Long Beach

Long Beach's most famous resident has a reputation for attracting those beyond this dimension. At Halloween, the ship transforms into a house of horrors, with five mazes and a "scare zone," but year-round you can take tours of the giant vessel, including a "Ghosts and Legends Show" covering the creepier history. It's a hotel, so sleep aboard - if you dare. 1126 Queen's Highway, Long Beach; (877) 342-0738; www.queenmary.com.

3. Manresa Castle, Port Townsend, Wash.

Built in 1892 for the mayor at the time, the castle later housed Jesuit priests and, eventually, hotel guests - and ghost hunters. It's said that Room 302 is where a priest hanged himself - and continues to clang and bang in the tower. Supposedly a woman named Kate committed suicide in Room 306 - and returns in her spirit form on occasion. Seventh and Sheridan streets, Port Townsend; (800) 732-1281; www.manresacastle.com.

4. Winchester Mystery House, San Jose

After a series of misfortunes in the 1800s - untimely deaths by her husband and infant daughter said to be caused by evil spirits - Sarah Winchester purchased a farmhouse and dedicated nearly 40 years of her life to renovating and expanding it to the spirits' specifications, including motifs around the number 13 and spider webs. While there are Halloween-specific tours, you can visit the house year-round. 525 S. Winchester Blvd., San Jose; (408) 247-2101; winchestermysteryhouse.com.

5. Pittock Mansion, Portland, Ore.

There were rumors of this place being haunted even before "The Haunting of Sarah Hardy" was filmed here. (The thriller "Body of Evidence" was filmed here also, but the horror there was Madonna's acting.) The 16,000-square-foot mansion, erected in 1908, was home to Henry Pittock, a portrait of whom is known to relocate itself from room to room. Smells of roses, Henry's deceased wife's favorite fragrance, are also said to waft through the house, even when no flowers are present. 3329 NW Pittock Dr., Portland; (503) 823-3623. www.pittockmansion.org.

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