

ULTIMATE NATIONAL PARKS ROAD TRIP

# Sunset

CAMP IN  
STYLE  
IN ARIZONA,  
OREGON,  
BIG SUR &  
MORE

# 18 EPIC OUTDOOR ADVENTURES

SNEAK  
PEEK AT  
SONOMA'S  
NEW  
AIRSTREAM  
GETAWAY!

P. 19

ALL-AGES  
EDIBLE  
GARDEN

SUMMER  
POPSICLES  
FOR  
GROWN-UPS

+ No-Fail Backyard BBQ



SOUTHERN  
CALIFORNIA

# Your CHECKLIST



*"A white backdrop feels spa-like and lets plants pop."*

JOHANNA SILVER,  
GARDEN EDITOR



## PLANT

Do any transplanting in the late afternoon or evening. That way, plants have the night to begin to recover and establish their roots before they're hit with a full day of sun and heat.

Fill in garden gaps with summer-into-fall bloomers, especially alyssum, cosmos, and zinnia.



## MAINTAIN

Water and fertilize melon plants deeply once a week for juicy, fleshy fruits, but wait to irrigate them until about a week before harvest so their sugars will concentrate.

Prune chrysanthemums and poinsettias for the last time to encourage them to bush out instead of becoming scraggly by autumn.

For continuous rose bloom through fall, prune spent blooms weekly. Prune down to the first five-part leaf or a bit farther to gently shape the plant; then feed lightly and water.

Prop up fruit-laden tree branches so that the weight doesn't break



## GARDEN WE LOVE

### Pure and simple

In designing this Palm Springs backyard, Troy Bankord ([troybankorddesign.com](http://troybankorddesign.com)) let the modern architecture of the house lead the way. "You have to handle a midcentury home's garden delicately," says Bankord. "You can't let things get too busy." To that end, he stuck to a simple black and white palette for the furnishings and hardscaping, and chose structural plantings. In the raised planter bed, the forms of desert spoon (*Dasyliirion wheeleri*), prickly pear (*Opuntia robusta*), and 'Sticks on Fire' (*Euphorbia tirucalli*) pop against a clipped hedge of pink powder puff (*Calliandra haematocephala*). Agave, aloe, and succulents fill the oversize pots in the seating area.

them. An old rake makes a perfect support—tuck the branch between the tines (cushion it with layers of cheesecloth), and angle the handle into the soil so the branch can still swing in the breeze.

Water and feed your whole garden with a balanced fertilizer and either manure tea or fish emulsion every other week for

steady growth. Foliar sprays of liquid seaweed help trees, vegetables, fruits, and ornamentals withstand heat stress.



## HARVEST

Enclose ripening grape clusters in paper bags to protect them from hungry birds and wasps. Excluding light will not affect the ripening or sweetening of the grapes.

Pinch back herbs to encourage branching, and use the clippings either fresh or dry.

Place ripening melons onto upside-down aluminum pie pans or metal cans to keep them off damp soil, preventing rot. Additionally, the reflected heat and light help the fruits ripen evenly and faster than they do when shaded by foliage. ▽



Learn what to plant when with our year-round checklists: [sunset.com/checklists](http://sunset.com/checklists).