

# The Original Road Trip: California's Central Coast 10 days of Diverse Activities



## 10-DAY ITINERARY TRAVELING FROM LOS ANGELES TO SAN FRANCISCO

### DAY 1

*Arrive in Los Angeles*

### DAY 2

*Drive north to Oxnard, in Ventura County (62 Miles/100 Km; 1 hour)*

#### **Oxnard**

- Fresh. Fabulous. Retro. You'll find all three in downtown Oxnard at Fresh & Fabulous Café and Bakery located in the restored Woolworth Building. Retro-style vinyl booths and '60s-style lighting mix with modern-day healthy treats for a one-of-a-kind dining experience. After your meal, tour the nation's only Woolworth Museum located adjacent to the café. On display are lunch counter menus and memorabilia, original signs from the '30s, and a 1940s take-your-own photo booth. Journey further back in time to Heritage Square, just three blocks away, to tour an impressive collection of late 19th and early 20th century houses. [www.VisitOxnard.com](http://www.VisitOxnard.com)
- Central Coast wine tasting begins in Oxnard, just an hour north of L.A., at Herzog Wine Cellars, the nation's largest producer of kosher wines, and home to award-winning Mediterranean-inspired seasonal cuisine at the Zagat-rated Tierra Sur Restaurant. Herzog is the starting point for the Ventura County Wine Trail, which includes a stop at the picturesque Rancho Ventavo Cellars Tasting Room in Heritage Square. While there, visit the adjacent La Dolce Vita Restaurant, a great spot for lunch, dinner and monthly cooking classes. Oxnard continues to expand the Wine Trail with the addition of Magnavino Cellars and Strey Cellars, located next to each other and both very unique wine tasting rooms. And be sure to stop by the California Welcome Center in Oxnard to pick up the Ventura County Wine Trail map, and recommendations on great local restaurants. Plus, visitors can sample and or purchase many of the wines along the Wine Trail inside the Welcome Center's wine tasting room. [www.VisitOxnard.com](http://www.VisitOxnard.com)

*Continue north along the coast to Ventura (13 Miles/21 Km; 17 mins.)*

#### **Ventura**

- The Olivas Adobe is an outstanding example of a two-story Monterey-style adobe. Don Raymundo Olivas built the Olivas Adobe after he received a Mexican land grant in 1841. Visitors can tour the Adobe's lovely garden, which contains 100-year-old fuchsias and a grape arbor dating from the early California Mission period. Visitors can also see exhibits of the Olivas family photographs in the parlor and period furnishings in the other rooms. The Adobe's outside grounds are open daily, with docent-guided tours on Saturday and Sunday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. [www.Ventura-usa.com](http://www.Ventura-usa.com)
- Located on scenic Highway 101, Ventura Harbor Village is a seaside playground for all ages. Just 30 minutes south of Santa Barbara, one hour north of Los Angeles, and minutes off California's Highway One classic drive, Ventura Harbor Village encompasses the true California lifestyle with boutiques,

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local artisan galleries, over fifteen waterside restaurants, and family fun on the water. Entertainment weekly includes live bands, Village Arcade & Carousel, Ventura Harbor Comedy Club with top comedic acts, Greek dancing, and monthly festivals and events. Travelers can enjoy one of California's natural playgrounds at the Channel Islands National Park. It is here that visitors can experience world-class island diving, snorkeling, paddle boarding, hiking, kayaking, sea cave exploration, photography, camping, sea life (Bottlenose dolphins, Hammerhead sharks, magnificent blue whales) and wildlife viewing at one of the five gorgeous islands just off the Ventura coast booking with island concessionaires, such as Island Packers at Ventura Harbor. The Channel Islands National Park Visitor Center is also located in Ventura Harbor and offers free admission, including a short film narrated by Kevin Costner, daily. [www.VenturaHarborVillage.com](http://www.VenturaHarborVillage.com)

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- Known for Ventura's best Fish N' Chips, Fish Tacos, hand-crafted Clam Chowders, and cocktails overlooking the water, Ventura Harbor Village features a variety of coastal cuisines to choose from: Seafood, Italian, French, Coastal American, Mexican, Cuban and Greek. A unique shopping attraction, Ventura Harbor Village boutiques feature coastal décor, fashion, art and outdoor gear. Add in beautiful beaches with free parking and spectacular island sunsets at Harbor Cove Beach or Surfer's Knoll Beach, Ventura Harbor is a must-see destination along California's Central Coast. Weekends and peak seasons include harbor boat tours, with year-round daily electric boat, kayak, stand up paddle board, and pedal boat rentals. [www.VenturaHarborVillage.com](http://www.VenturaHarborVillage.com)

## ***Overnight in Ventura***

### **DAY 3**

***Depart Ventura for Santa Barbara (28 Miles/45 Km; 28 mins.)***

#### **Santa Barbara**

- Few cities can claim architecture as unique as Santa Barbara's. One of the most fascinating ways to gain an appreciation for the Santa Barbara architectural-style is to walk the self-guided Red Tile Walking Tour through downtown. Encompassing a 12-block area of downtown, the tour highlights the city's major red-roof landmarks, among them the Santa Barbara County Courthouse, Casa de la Guerra, El Paseo and its famous "Street in Spain," and the Lobero Theatre. [Click here to download a podcast.](#) [www.SantaBarbaraCA.com](http://www.SantaBarbaraCA.com)
- The Urban Wine Trail is made up of 25 tasting rooms in the Santa Barbara area. A majority of those are within walking distance of each other in an area just blocks from downtown and near the beach called the Funk Zone. In addition to wine tasting rooms, there are restaurants, art galleries, surf shops, a distillery, brewery and guitar bar. Another group of tasting rooms on the Urban Wine Trail is the new Wine Collection of El Paseo located in the heart of downtown Santa Barbara. The Wine Collection of El Paseo showcases six premium tasting rooms that offer a variety of locally-crafted distinctive wines in an historic building. The Urban Wine Trail was created by a group of like-minded wineries and offers both novices and aficionados the opportunity to learn about and taste wines of

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many different varieties and styles crafted from Santa Barbara County's best vineyards.

[www.UrbanWineTrailSB.com](http://www.UrbanWineTrailSB.com)

- Discover Santa Barbara's numerous gardens, offering visitors a slice of solitude while surrounded by the history and natural beauty of The American Riviera®. Traverse through a meadow, canyon and redwood forest as you explore the 65-acre Santa Barbara Botanic Garden. Located in the foothills, it also offers sweeping ocean views. Tour Madame Ganna Walska's Lotusland, a 37-acre estate in Montecito filled with rare plants and exotic gardens. Designated as a National Historic Landmark, Casa del Herrero is a preserved 1920s villa designed by George Washington Smith and surrounded by extensive Moorish-styled gardens. Many gardens are open year-round, but come back in May for Santa Barbara Public Gardens Appreciation Month when special activities are offered.

[www.SantaBarbaraCA.com](http://www.SantaBarbaraCA.com)

- Santa Barbara is synonymous with the outdoors. With a full spectrum of natural facilities—mountains, hills, ocean, lakes and streams—plus a mild climate and 300 days of sunshine per year, outdoor activities are part of Santa Barbara's lifestyle and can be done year-round. From hiking and biking to beach activities and dining al fresco, much of one's time in Santa Barbara is spent outside. Water sports such as surfing, stand-up paddle boarding, kayaking and whale watching are all popular activities for novices and experts alike. For adventure seekers, a visit to the Channel Islands National Park is a must. The Islands are prime whale watching grounds and on the Islands visitors can hike, kayak, snorkel and even scuba dive. The Channel Islands is one of the country's most unique national parks; it is an archipelago featuring an amazing ecosystem of marine life, crystal clear water, and is home to the largest sea cave in the world. [www.SantaBarbaraCA.com](http://www.SantaBarbaraCA.com)

## ***Overnight In Santa Barbara***

### **DAY 4**

***Morning: depart from Santa Barbara to Santa Ynez Valley/ Solvang (62 Miles/100 Km; 1 hour)***

*\* Recommended to take Hwy 154 from Santa Barbara through the foothills into Santa Ynez Valley to experience breathtaking natural views.*

### **Santa Ynez Valley**

- Wildling Art Museum's facility in Solvang is one of eight Santa Ynez Valley Museums. The Wildling celebrates the nation's wild places as seen through the eyes of its finest painters, printmakers, photographers, and sculptors. It is the only museum in the United States with this sole focus. Other Santa Ynez Valley cultural attractions include the Santa Ynez Valley Historical Museum & Carriage House in Santa Ynez; History Rooms in Los Alamos and Buellton; Elverhoj Museum of History & Art; Hans Christian Andersen Museum; Vintage Motorcycle Museum and Old Mission Santa Ines Museum in Solvang. [www.VisitSYV.com](http://www.VisitSYV.com)
- The Santa Ynez Valley can fulfill your quest to see unique wildlife all in one day! Kids of all ages will enjoy these amazing animals. Start at Ostrich Land, a 33-acre breeding farm to see/feed more than

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100 ostriches and some emus. Just a few blocks to the east is Flag Is Up Farms, home of Monty Roberts, the “Man Who Listens to Horses.” Visitors are welcome to see the equine facilities and trainers in action. Proceed east on Highway 246 through Solvang and discover Quicksilver Miniature Horse Ranch, a fascinating breeding facility for 34-inch and under horses that welcomes visitors daily for free viewing. [www.VisitSYV.com](http://www.VisitSYV.com)

- When touring and tasting in the scenic Santa Ynez Valley, visitors quickly work up an appetite. Foodie favorites to indulge the senses in the heart of Santa Barbara County’s famed wine country include the delectable Root 246 in Solvang with Chef Bradley Ogden’s farm-to-table gourmet dishes; the Ballard Inn & Restaurant, with chef/owner Budi Kazali’s fusion cuisine; Santa Ynez Inn, offering Victorian elegance and Chef Heather Henry’s gourmet breakfasts; and luxe 4-diamond dinners at Willows Restaurant at the Chumash Casino Resort in Santa Ynez. [www.VisitSYV.com](http://www.VisitSYV.com); [www.SolvangUSA.com](http://www.SolvangUSA.com)

## Solvang

- Every summer from June through September, the PCPA (Pacific Conservatory Theater) productions of live, professional plays, musicals and comedies are performed under the stars at the Solvang Festival Theater, a 700-seat venue in the half-round. Located downtown within easy walking distance of hotels and restaurants, numerous overnight packages and dinner specials are available—for both individuals and groups. [www.SolvangUSA.com](http://www.SolvangUSA.com)
- Solvang is a Bicycling Mecca and Host of *Amgen Tour of California*. Discover what pro cyclists know who train and ride here—Solvang is an ideal cycling area. Riders can leisurely tour the roads made famous by the film “Sideways” or push their limits on a 40-mile hilly workout on the same route used by the world’s top pro riders. There are designated painted bike lanes on many roads plus a scenic bike path perfect for families on their way to a nearby playground. Solvang is the proud host of the *Amgen Tour of California* pro cycling race, as well as major amateur races throughout the year, attracting thousands of riders. The *Los Angeles Times* noted, “It is something of a cycling Mecca.” [www.SolvangUSA.com](http://www.SolvangUSA.com)
- Solvang was founded in 1911 by Danish educators seeking “sunny fields” to continue well-embraced traditions from the mother country. Today, Solvang is a walking smorgasbord. Feast your eyes and taste buds on homemade Danish pastries at one of 5 authentic Danish bakeries. Local favorites include the kringle, butter ring and famous Danish butter cookies. More than a dozen wine-tasting rooms and 30 charming eateries and authentic bakeries dot this undeniably Danish-themed town. Food lovers enjoy a diverse array of Danish, American and ethnic cuisine from gourmet to economical cafes. Scandinavian fare is readily available, including Danish aebleskiver and pastries, as well as smorgasbords. More info: [www.SolvangUSA.com](http://www.SolvangUSA.com)

***Depart Solvang for Santa Maria (45 Miles/72 Km; 45 mins.)***

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*\* Recommended to take Hwy 154 to Zaca Station Road. Follow the Foxen Canyon wine trail through the Santa Ynez Wine Country/ Santa Maria Valley. This drive will take you through the patchwork of farms, orchards, and vineyards that encompass the valley.*

## **Santa Maria**

- Hollywood props fly high at the Santa Maria Museum of Flight. Among the museum's featured movie props are an H1 Racer from *The Aviator*, a full-scale Wright glider from *Winds of Kitty Hawk* and a large radio-controlled model airplane that flew in the *Flight of The Phoenix*. Even the museum's main building is an original wooden hangar that was featured in the movie *The Rocketeer*. A custom acrobatic plane from *The Rocketeer* is also featured. However, there's much more than Hollywood at the heart of this little museum, which features a variety of planes, models, photos, memorabilia and exhibits, including a restored F4 fighter jet that served in Vietnam and a 1929 Fleet biplane. [www.smmof.org](http://www.smmof.org)
- Savor the sizzling flavors of Santa Maria-style barbecue at a number of legendary restaurants in the Santa Maria Valley on California's Central Coast. This 150-year-old regional culinary tradition is founded on native ingredients and local methods for a uniquely flavorful dining experience. Local landmark barbecue restaurants include the Hitching Post, Far Western Tavern and Jocko's, all of which have been going strong for more than 50 years. Today, no Santa Maria-style barbecue meal is complete without a glass of Pinot Noir or Syrah from the Santa Maria Valley wine country. For more information, visit [www.SantaMariaVisitor.com](http://www.SantaMariaVisitor.com)

## ***Overnight in Santa Maria***

### **DAY 5**

***Depart Santa Maria for Pismo Beach (30 Miles/48 Km; 30 mins.)***

## **Pismo Beach**

- Splash in for a bowl of award-winning clam chowder! Splash Café has been a Pismo Beach destination, attracting visitors and locals alike since the late 1980s. With a consistent line of hungry guests stretching around the block, it is easy to understand how this world famous creamy clam chowder has been winning awards for over 10 years. This casual beach-oriented café has been featured in several national publications and received requests from *Gourmet* and *Bon Appétit* magazines for the secret clam chowder recipe. Splash Café serves more than 15,000 gallons of clam chowder a year in their Pismo Beach café! This must-stop destination is definitely worth the wait. For more information on Pismo Beach, visit [www.ClassicCalifornia.com](http://www.ClassicCalifornia.com)
- The Great American Melodrama & Vaudeville offers visitors an atmosphere of old-time theater complete with cabaret tables, sawdust on the floor, and honky-tonk piano music. Professional performers present top-notch productions of great classic comedies, melodramas and thrillers. Fun for all! [www.ClassicCalifornia.com](http://www.ClassicCalifornia.com)

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***Depart Pismo Beach for San Luis Obispo (15 Miles/24 Km; 15 mins.)***

## **San Luis Obispo**

- Explore downtown San Luis Obispo by foot and on your smartphone! It's easy to drive through downtown San Luis Obispo, see Mission San Luis Obispo de Tolosa, and think you've seen it all. But within just the five or six blocks that make up the core of downtown, there lie mysteries, intrigues, and historic cultural sites and attractions that motorists may miss. And just because walking tours explore the city the "old-fashioned way" (on foot), doesn't mean that they're boring or antiquated; charismatic human guides or iPod, iPad, smartphone and GPS-led tours bring history and culture to life for tourists of all ages in SLO. Stop to smell the roses and enjoy the fresh air, sunshine and wide, welcoming sidewalks of downtown San Luis Obispo on a guided or free, self-guided walking tour. A free, 90-minute walking tour of historic San Luis Obispo, this podcast combines audio narrative with visual archival photos to lead visitors to a richly detailed and multi-layered look at the city's history. Download the tour for free to your iPad, iPod, most smartphones, or view the tour online. <http://www.SanLuisObispoVacations.com/Things-To-Do-Walking-Tours/>.
- Relax in California's natural escape by soaking in one of San Luis Obispo County's hot mineral springs. This type of rejuvenation began as a healing practice with ancient Egyptians and Roman roots and continues to serve our contemporary worldwide culture. The water found in the natural mineral springs are rich in sulfur compounds and trace minerals, which assist healing in a variety of ways. San Luis Obispo County offers visitors two distinct regions in which to experience the natural hot springs. In the northern portion of the county, the Paso Robles Inn offers guests a relaxing stay in their choice of Spa Rooms, complete with a private hot springs mineral spa tub. And since the inn is conveniently located in Paso Robles Wine Country, your relaxing experience will be complete with a glass of local wine. In the southern portion of the county, Sycamore Mineral Springs Resort offers guests the full wellness experience. Complete with mineral springs, yoga classes, and a meditation garden, this resort is a true escape. [www.SanLuisObispoCounty.com](http://www.SanLuisObispoCounty.com).
- Escape to the picturesque Montaña de Oro State Park, and enjoy the solitude and freedom found along the park's network of trails and secluded beaches. At roughly 8,000 acres, Montaña de Oro is San Luis Obispo County's largest State Park. Visitors can explore the mystic majesty of the area from many trails along the park's rocky coastline or from atop the magnificent coastal mountains for which Montaña de Oro gets its name, "Mountain of Gold." Located only minutes outside downtown San Luis Obispo, this excursion offers bicyclists, hikers and equestrians varied terrain with beautiful ocean and canyon views. [www.SanLuisObispoCounty.com](http://www.SanLuisObispoCounty.com).

***Depart San Luis Obispo for Paso Robles, also in San Luis Obispo County (30 Miles/48 Km; 30 mins.)***

## **Paso Robles Wine Country**

- Located along California's famed Central Coast is Paso Robles Wine Country. In Paso Robles, a day of wine tasting and touring begins with a scenic drive along the country roads. The rolling hills and rural setting make for a truly authentic wine country experience. Guests will discover an array of

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wineries—many, family owned and operated—with the owner or winemaker greeting you upon arrival. Pack your picnic lunch to enjoy on the winery grounds, chat with the winemaker, and explore California's fastest-growing wine region. A long growing season of warm days and cool evenings give rise to vibrantly ripened fruit with dynamic flavor that translate beautifully in your glass of Paso Robles wine. You'll experience premium wines and discover what makes Paso Robles Wine Country distinctly different. For more information on wine tasting in Paso Robles, visit [www.SanLuisObispoCounty.com](http://www.SanLuisObispoCounty.com).

## ***Overnight in Paso Robles***

### **DAY 6**

***Depart Paso Robles for Hearst Castle, also in San Luis Obispo County (45 Miles/72 Km; 45 mins.)***

*\* Recommended take Hwy 46 W from Paso Robles through the wine country to Hwy 1 to experience breathtaking natural views.*

### **Hearst Castle**

- Set atop the rolling hills in San Simeon is Hearst Castle®, one of the most popular tourist destinations in California. Originally built as the private estate of art collector and publisher W.R. Hearst, today it is recognized worldwide for its glamour, elegance and authentic art pieces. As a California State Park, it is open to the public daily for guided tours. Feel the allure of this fascinating country house, where Mr. Hearst entertained movie stars and business tycoons with lavish dinners, private film screenings and glittering parties. Tour reservations are strongly recommended and may be made by phone at 800-444-4445 or online at <http://www.HearstCastle.com>; [www.SanLuisObispoCounty.com](http://www.SanLuisObispoCounty.com).

***Depart Hearst Castle for Big Sur (65 Miles/105 Km; 1+ hour)***

### **Big Sur**

- Watch for migrating whales, sea lions, and sea birds galore. Big Sur is a good place to stop, eat lunch and check out some of California State Parks: San Simeon State Park, Limekiln Beach State Park, Julia Pfeiffer Burns State Park, Pfeiffer Big Sur State Park, and Andrew Molera State Park (all parks info 831-667-2315). Just before Carmel-by-the-Sea is the Point Lobos State Park. All these parks are on Hwy 1.

***Depart Big Sur for Monterey – (29 Miles/47 Km; 45 mins.)***

## ***Overnight in Monterey***

### **DAY 7**

### **Monterey**

- Walk Monterey's Path of History as a free self-guided tour of Old Monterey, marked by easy-to-distinguish yellow tiles set in the sidewalk. This walk explores the fully restored historic adobes,

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gardens and sites of interest, such as Colton Hall, where the California Constitution was created and California's First Theater was built. Guided tours are also available to such sites as the Cooper Molera House and Garden, Custom House, Larkin House, Casa Soberanes. Prior to going on the Path of History, view a short film at the Monterey Maritime Museum that provides a good introduction to the history of the area. [www.seeMonterey.com](http://www.seeMonterey.com)

- Monterey County's Salinas Valley is the home of the "Salad Bowl of the World." Take an agricultural tour, wine trek or visit the nation's first (and largest) working organic farm—Earthbound Farms. Take public transit—Grapevine Express—to the organic gardens and wineries on Carmel Valley Road. Wine experts have identified the areas as "uniquely suited to raising high-grade grapes." There are 85 vintners and growers with over 43,000 acres to learn about. Year-round temperate climate, rich soils, and unparalleled infrastructure make this area an ideal place to learn best practices and to discover new ways of preparing Mother Nature's best. [www.seeMonterey.com](http://www.seeMonterey.com).
- Kayak or bike from Adventures by the Sea and explore the marine mammals of the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary. Take the Recreation Trail along 29 miles of gorgeous Monterey Bay shoreline, 95 percent of it is completely separated from vehicle roads. It goes from Pebble Beach to Castroville. For service and accommodations, go to [www.seeMonterey.com](http://www.seeMonterey.com). For the more adventurous, scuba divers can track the monsters of the deep—reportedly sighted just off the Big Sur Coast—or the giant squid spotted in the depths of Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary's underwater canyon, twice as deep as the Grand Canyon. Novices can sleuth the seas via Monterey Bay Dive Center with a full day Discover SCUBA program. Instruction and dives at the Sanctuary, Point Lobos State Park or San Carlos Beach offer insight into the region's rich diversity of sea life. For the younger set, Monterey Bay Aquarium's Underwater Explorers program treats kids 8 - 13 years to an aquatic adventure with a surface SCUBA dive in the Great Tide Pool on Monterey Bay. [www.seeMonterey.com](http://www.seeMonterey.com)
- Rooftop hot tubs overlooking Monterey Bay and serene tropical gardens are some of the picturesque environments that calm the soul naturally in Monterey County spas. They pride themselves on pleasing even the most discerning of customers in this world-class spa destination. The highly skilled and educated practitioners hold certifications from locally acclaimed programs, such as Big Sur's Esalen Institute, which boasts natural hot springs and baths perched in the cliffs over the Pacific Ocean. Treatments are available in Shiatsu and Reiki as well as cranial-sacral therapy, aromatherapy, and Swedish, sport and La Stone massage. Several types of facials, body treatments and beauty services like Vichy showers and hydrotherapy in specialized tubs are also offered. Truly a heaven-on-earth experience. [www.seeMonterey.com](http://www.seeMonterey.com)

## ***Overnight in Monterey***

### **DAY 8**

***Depart Monterey for Gilroy (40 Miles/64 Km; 45 mins.)***



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## **Gilroy**

- Chitactac Adams Heritage County Park offers a unique view into the Native American culture of Santa Clara County before and after the arrival of the Spanish. A self-guided interpretive walk around the site, including eight stations with interpretive panels, is supplemented by an interpretive shelter with panels and displays. The trail panels include photographs and original art depicting Ohlone village life, Ohlone buildings, petroglyphs, Ohlone food processing, and the natural history of Spanish California and Ohlone culture in the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. Open daily year-round from 8 a.m. to sunset, this four-acre site is located just minutes from the cities of Gilroy and Morgan Hill on Watsonville Road. Admission is free. [www.GilroyVisitor.org](http://www.GilroyVisitor.org)
- Outdoor enthusiasts will find the lushly wooded Uvas Canyon Park, with more than 1,200 acres, has much to offer. The park has seven miles of hiking trails, including a one-mile Waterfall Loop that travels along Swanson Creek past many of the park's waterfalls. Available at the Ranger Station, a self-guided interpretive pamphlet highlights the flora of Uvas Canyon. Nestled on the eastern side of the Santa Cruz Mountains, this park is open year-round from 8 a.m. to sunset. [www.GilroyVisitor.org](http://www.GilroyVisitor.org)

## ***Overnight in Gilroy***

### **DAY 9**

***Depart Gilroy for Santa Cruz (35 Miles/56 Km; 45 mins.)***

## **Santa Cruz**

- History doesn't have to be stuffy! Explore a unique California Historic Landmark: the Santa Cruz Beach Boardwalk seaside amusement park. This park is home to two National Historic Landmarks, the 1924 Giant Dipper wooden roller coaster, and the 1911 Loeff Carousell. Admission to the park is free (rides are extra!), a walking tour brochure costs \$3. Interpretive signs are located throughout the family amusement park, and a historium is located upstairs in Neptune's Kingdom. Enjoy on-site restaurants, shops, a great beach, and of course, fun rides! [www.BeachBoardwalk.com](http://www.BeachBoardwalk.com)
- A visit to Santa Cruz County would not be complete without trying its signature sport: surfing! Year-round surf schools emphasize the basics of waves, how to safely navigate boards in the water, and how to stand on boards to catch a wave from a resting position. Cowell Beach, next to the Santa Cruz Municipal Wharf, and Capitola Beach are two of the best places to learn to surf. If you just want to capture the surfing spirit, stop by Lighthouse Point and watch surfers glide over the waves. The point overlooks Steamer Lane, Santa Cruz's legendary surfing spot. Another great surf spot is Pleasure Point, where experienced wave riders challenge themselves at "The Hook." Visit [www.SantaCruz.org](http://www.SantaCruz.org) for more information. In the evening, visit the Santa Cruz Beach Boardwalk every day from Memorial Day to Labor Day, and on weekends the rest of the year. [www.BeachBoardwalk.com](http://www.BeachBoardwalk.com)

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- Move over, hot stone massage - there's a new treatment in town, and it can only be found at the Spa at Chaminade, built high on a scenic mountain ridge. The Hot Shell Massage uses all-natural Tiger Clam seashells and other elements from the ocean along with a mixture of purified water, salt and lavender essential oils. The heat from the shells penetrates muscles, helping achieve a deep state of relaxation. The shells are also used in various deep-tissue and effleurage massage strokes to soothe tired muscles. This new trend in spa treatment is found exclusively at the Spa at Chaminade, which offers a menu that reflects the Santa Cruz County landscape: vineyard, farm, mountain and ocean-themed treatments. A signature scent has also been custom-designed for the Chaminade Resort, bringing guests the scents of aloe and the sea. Guests of the spa have access to Chaminade's hiking trails, pool, tennis courts and gym during their visit. [www.SantaCruz.org](http://www.SantaCruz.org)

## ***Overnight in Santa Cruz***

### **DAY 10**

***Depart Santa Cruz for San Francisco (60 Miles/96 Km; 1 + hour)***

***Depart out of SFO***