

CHANNEL ISLANDS

The Channel Islands exceeded my expeditions, thanks in part to an amazing company @islandpackers that safely escorted us to and from Santa Rosa Island. This ended up as a 10 hour day, 6 hours spent on the boat and 4 hours hiking. The ride out was smooth with perfect conditions, calm and full of wildlife - the 20+ whale sightings was amazing! The way home we were rockin' with 8ft + waves but the waters calmed at the entrance of painted cave and the captain drove our 40ft boat INSIDE! It was spectacular and an unexpected addition to our already amazing day.

The islands are also the homeland of the Island Chumash, along with their ancestors lived on the islands for at least 600 generations. Ranchers called the islands home for six generations. The ranch buildings still remain on the island but are closed except for escorted tours. Be aware of poison oak, "jumping" cholla cactus and ticks. When you are departing from the island be mindful of your time, with no cell service there is no way to reach someone and you will miss the only concessionaire trip that day, and they are not scheduled every day!



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OUR FAVORITE THINGS TO SEE AND DO

48th National Park Junior Ranger

Ventura to Santa Rosa Island Packers Cruise

Cherry Canyon Trail on Santa Rosa

Moderate, 3-mile loop with riparian vegetation and view of Bechers Bay

Water Canyon Beach

If the wind is not too strong, explore the wonderful 2-mile white beach sand beach. Enjoy a packed lunch on one of the picnic tables placed along the trails and near the ranch buildings! There are NO food facilities on the island but the island packers boat does offer snacks and drinks to purchase.

WHERE WE STAYED

We flew into Los Angeles (LAX), rented a car and drove the California Coastal Highway to Ventura, making fun little stops along the way in Venice Beach and Malibu. We stayed at a Marriott in Ventura the night before and night after which seems to be ideal with the 8am departure (7:15am arrive to boat dock) and returning close to 6pm (with an incredible ocean sunset).

HOW MANY DAYS WILL YOU NEED

I recommend a minimum of 1 day in order to explore the Channel Islands National Park.

Lauren
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