



CENTRAL COAST LIGHTHOUSES BY RAIL

FEATURING BIG SUR, SANTA CRUZ, MONTEREY, CAMBRIA, SANTA BARBARA, ANACAPA, *COAST STARLIGHT*

MAY 31–JUNE 4, 2015 ~ 5 DAY TOUR

TOUR PACE Leisurely On the Go ACTIVITY LEVEL Low High

~DAY BY DAY ITINERARY~



Join us as we go in depth along California's Central Coast – from Santa Cruz to Malibu by way of Monterey, Big Sur, Cambria and Santa Barbara. Travel by train and motorcoach along the spectacular Pacific Coast Highway. For centuries artists, poets, explorers and novelists have been drawn to the rugged beauty here. The crashing surf...the towering redwoods...the unspoiled wildlife...the historic lighthouses...the embodiment of the quintessential California spirit. We'll experience it all as we enjoy stays at quaint beach front hotels, tours of historic lighthouses and relaxing walks on the beaches – providing a true sense of timelessness and reconnection.

Sanctuary. Enjoy dinner on your own this evening at the hotel or at Monterey's **Fisherman's Wharf**.

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- ◆ Stay at three deluxe oceanfront hotels with easy access to the beach for leisurely walks and sunset views – the *Monterey Beach Resort* on the Monterey Peninsula, the *FogCatcher Inn* on Cambria's Moonstone Beach and *The Fess Parker DoubleTree* along Santa Barbara's beach
- ◆ Ride along California's coast between Oxnard and San Luis Obispo aboard the deluxe *Coast Starlight* train featuring a dining car and observation car for spectacular ocean views not seen from Highway 101
- ◆ Visit some of California's most historic and unique lighthouses along the Central Coast including Santa Cruz, Point Pinos, Piedras Blancas and lunch at Point San Luis, and see other lighthouses while aboard the train
- ◆ Travel the iconic Big Sur Scenic Highway (CA-1) and visit Pfeiffer Big Sur State Park with a picnic lunch in the Park
- ◆ Cruise to Anacapa Island amongst Channel Island National Park and disembark to walk the trails and see the Lighthouse



Coast Starlight Train

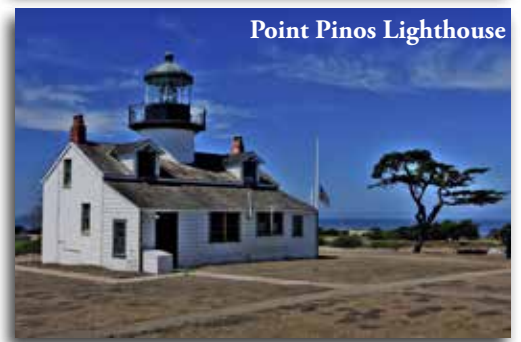


Point San Luis Lighthouse

Photo Courtesy Amy Joseph

◆DAY 1 ~ COAST STARLIGHT, MONTEREY◆

This morning we set out from our departure points for the tranquility of California's Central Coast. We'll travel by motorcoach to Oxnard to board Amtrak's *Coast Starlight* train. Here begins our first train adventure as we embark on a memorable journey along California's coastline and through its fertile valleys to San Luis Obispo. On this **four-hour rail journey**, we'll travel along **Point Conception** and through **Vandenberg Air Force Base** where you'll see the beautiful undeveloped coastline only visible by train. Be on the lookout for two lighthouses located on the coast – **Point Conception** and **Point Arguella**. You are free to move around the train, get lunch from the snack bar or enjoy lunch on own in the dining car. Check out the view from the observation car or just relax in your comfortable seat. Upon our arrival in San Luis Obispo, our coach will be waiting to continue the journey to the **Monterey Peninsula**. Enjoy two nights at a quaint hotel located on the beach in Monterey. This is the only full service hotel located on the beach in Monterey and boasts some of the most expansive views available in the Monterey Bay



Point Pinos Lighthouse

◆DAY 2 ~ SANTA CRUZ, MONTEREY◆

Following an included breakfast at the hotel this morning, we'll travel along the coast to **Santa Cruz** where our exploration of the Central Coast lighthouses begins. A visit to the **Santa Cruz Surfing Museum** housed inside the **Santa Cruz Lighthouse** at Lighthouse Point on the northern side of Santa Cruz Bay. The Santa Cruz Surfing Museum opened its doors in June 1986 as the first surfing museum in the world. The exhibits in the museum explore the surfing culture from its early origins in Hawaii through over 100 years of surfing in Santa Cruz. Enjoy time at leisure for lunch and browsing at the **Santa Cruz Boardwalk** and along the **Santa Cruz Wharf**. Built in 1914, it is the longest pier on the West Coast of

FINE HOTELS / GREAT LOCATIONS

- ◆ Nights 1-2 **Monterey Beach Resort** Monterey, CA
- ◆ Night 3 **FogCatcher Inn** Cambria, CA
- ◆ Night 4 **Fess Parker DoubleTree Resort** Santa Barbara, CA

TOUR INCLUSIONS

- ◆ 4 Nights deluxe hotel accommodations
- ◆ 9 Meals – 2 dinners, 3 lunches, 4 breakfasts
- ◆ Services of a professional GTT tour director
- ◆ Comprehensive sightseeing with local guides
- ◆ Admissions per itinerary
- ◆ Transportation on a deluxe motorcoach and aboard Amtrak's deluxe *Coast Starlight* train
- ◆ Luggage handling throughout the tour

PER PERSON PRICES

Double \$1,199 / Single \$1,599 • Deposit \$250
Travel Protection/Cancellation Plan – see reverse

RESERVATIONS

Santa Ana College
Community Services Program
1530 W. 17th St., Room S-201
Santa Ana, CA 92706

Phone (714) 564-6594
www.sac.edu/cms

Tour operated by *Good Times Travel*
California Seller of Travel License #: 2018390-40

PAYMENT INFORMATION

- ◆ Deposit due at time of booking to the address above (*Good Times Travel* will contact you for the travel protection)
- ◆ *Good Times Travel* will invoice you for the balance payment 6-8 weeks prior

TRAVEL PROTECTION / CANCELLATION

Travel protection/cancellation insurance is highly recommended for all multi-day tours. If travel protection has not been purchased, only recoverable funds less a cancellation charge of \$50 will be reimbursed once payment has been made. Amount of reimbursement depends on the date of cancellation.

If travel protection has been purchased and you must cancel prior to departure or leave the tour enroute for a reason approved by the insurance company, you will receive a full refund (or partial if enroute), minus the cost of the premium. Other benefits of travel protection include medical expenses for illness and injury, emergency transportation, and lost/stolen/damaged luggage. Pre-existing medical conditions are only covered if protection is purchased at the time of deposit. See travel protection plan for full details and exclusions.

DEPARTURE INFORMATION

Park and join this tour at one of the following locations:

Fountain Valley - Good Times Travel office
Long Beach - City College Lot "O"

Departure time depends on location
Exact times are provided 2 weeks prior to departure

ACTIVITY LEVEL / WALKING

Tour pacing and physical demands (walking/stairs, etc.) varies by each tour however every tour involves some walking and climbing stairs to enter/exit the motorcoach. On any tour you may stay on the motorcoach should you not wish to disembark at a specific location

FURTHER INFORMATION / TERMS

See *Good Times Travel* catalog
or www.goodtimestravel.com

the U.S. We return to the Monterey Peninsula this afternoon and travel to Pacific Grove to visit **Point Pinos Lighthouse** – a fitting name for the lighthouse that sits on the jagged rocky coast at the southern tip of the Monterey Peninsula with a covering of Monterey Pines. Here we'll embark on a docent-guided tour of the oldest operating lighthouse on the West Coast. The light here has guided mariners to safety since 1855...and is still active today. Enjoy dinner on your own this evening at the hotel or at **Cannery Row**. (Breakfast)



◆ DAY 3 ~ HIGHWAY 1, BIG SUR ◆

After an included breakfast at the hotel this morning, we begin our journey south as we travel one of the greatest stretches of coastline on Earth. The **Pacific Coast Highway**, stretching from Monterey to Cambria, offers excellent views of craggy canyons, wildlife, seashores and lighthouses. We'll journey along Highway 1, flanked by the Santa Lucia Mountains and sea-sprayed, rocky Pacific for a trip that will surely take your breath away. This area has often been described as the "the face of Earth as the Creator intended it to look." We'll take in views of **Point Sur lighthouse** and travel over the famed **Bixby Bridge** before we arrive in **Big Sur** with time in **Pfeiffer Big Sur State Park** to take a leisurely walk amongst the giant **redwoods**. This beautiful park also features conifers, oaks, sycamores, cottonwoods, maples, alders and willows – along with open meadows and abundant wildlife. Enjoy an included picnic lunch in the Park before we continue south past Ragged Point, Heart Castle and into the seaside village of **Cambria**. We'll stay overnight at a quaint thatched-roof inn (with fireplaces in every room) that is located on a spectacular stretch of rugged coastline and just steps from **Moonstone Beach**, offering an extraordinary array of tide pools and walk-able boardwalks. This evening we'll enjoy an included dinner at a local favorite. (Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

◆ DAY 4 ~ SAN LUIS OBISPO, SANTA BARBARA ◆

An included breakfast this morning before we visit **Piedras Blancas Lighthouse** for a docent-guided tour. Located on a rugged windswept point of land just north of Cambria, this lighthouse first illuminated as an aid to navigation in 1875. The lighthouse still casts a beam of light to guide mariners along the rocky California coast and will offer us a glimpse into history and a respite from the modern world. Later this morning we

continue south along Highway 1 through Cayucos and past Morro Rock to **San Luis Obispo**. Here we'll board a charming old world trolley and take in the breathtaking views as we travel along Lighthouse Road to **Point San Luis Lighthouse**, known as the "Jewel of the Central Coast." The historic Light Station Park, built in 1890, enjoys dramatic vistas stretching from Avila to Vandenberg. On a docent-led tour we'll learn what life was like for the Lighthouse Keeper and his family and experience a rich history as we tour the grounds, the beautifully restored Lighthouse, the Hornhouse, and see the lustrous original Fresnel lens. Enjoy an **included catered lunch on-site**. We continue south arriving in **Santa Barbara** this evening for an overnight at the **Fess Parker DoubleTree Resort** located directly across from Santa Barbara's south facing beach. An included dinner this evening at a local favorite. (Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

◆ DAY 5 ~ ANACAPA ISLAND, FAREWELL ◆

Following an included breakfast this morning, we'll continue along the coast to **Ventura Harbor** where we'll board a boat and travel to Anacapa Island to discover the natural environment of **Channel Islands National Park**. Just 12 miles from the California coast, **Anacapa Island** is a small volcanic island and the closest of the Channel Islands. The trip across the channel and back may be highlighted by sightings of sea lions, seals and island birds. Upon arrival, we'll disembark and enjoy four hours on the Island with stunning views of the coast and easy flat walking trails just 200 feet above sea level. Enjoy time at the small visitor center on the Island and an included boxed lunch at the picnic tables here. The historic **Anacapa Island Lighthouse** here was completed in 1932 and still helps to guide sailors through the precarious Channel waters. *Note that to access Anacapa Island and Channel Islands National Park it's required that you walk up 150 steps. Those that prefer not to access the Island may return immediately by boat to Ventura Harbor Village with time at leisure to browse the shops, enjoy the boxed lunch and visit the Channel Islands National Park Visitor Center near the Village.* Upon our return to Ventura Harbor we'll reboard the motorcoach and take the scenic route home along Pacific Coast Highway through **Malibu**. We return to our departure points this evening with incredible images and memories of our time exploring the beautiful lighthouses and California's coast while on this unique and exciting journey! (Breakfast, Lunch)