

EXPLORE YOUR SANTA BARBARA COASTAL TRAIL

- LEGEND
- PUBLIC RESTROOM
 - PARKING
 - BEACH ACCESS
 - WATER FOUNTAIN
 - PICNIC SITE
 - MAJOR STOP
- * 6.2 +/- miles between stops 1 and 11

1

Arroyo Burro Estuary Once utilized by the native Chumash as a coastal access point for fishing and traveling to the Channel Islands and other coastal Chumash settlements. The estuary plays an important ecological role filtering out pollutants that would otherwise enter the ocean, plus acts as a barrier against ocean flooding.



2

La Mesa Park La Mesa Park is a popular neighborhood park attracting young families and often used for small gatherings. Situated on the Mesa, this area is known for its historical uses related to the Chumash, farming, and onshore oil drilling.



3

Thousand Steps Built around 1923, the Steps are the oldest of three important bluff-top coastal access points between Leadbetter Beach and Arroyo Burro County Park. The steps descend 85 feet to the beach below providing a first-hand look at bluff geology, including small landslides and the point at which the white Monterey Shale of the cliff comes into contact with the marine terrace sediment.



4

Shoreline Park Shoreline Park offers unprecedented views of the Santa Barbara Channel and is one of Santa Barbara's most popular parks. The land was saved from development in the 1960's with the help of a passionate citizen's group.



5

Leadbetter Beach The construction of the harbor and breakwater halted the movement of sand down shore. Ten acres of newly accreted land deposited west of the harbor and filled in what is now the City College track and Leadbetter Beach. The State Legislature deeded this new land to the City in 1937. Today, it supports a natural beach ecosystem and attracts paddle boarding, surfing, and wind surfing, and other activities.



6

The Harbor Completion of the harbor in 1929 confirmed Santa Barbara's place as a fully functioning coastal community, able to provide a protective anchorage to fishing vessels, freighters and personal yachts. Yet, construction had a significant impact on the natural ecology, interrupting the natural drift patterns of sand along the coast. Today's harbor is a mix of recreation and boat-supporting industries, including a 100-year-old, \$12 million-dollar-a-year fishing industry. Seasonal dredging removes deposited sand from the mouth of the harbor, keeping it open and functioning for boats.



7

Ambassador Park This half-acre park, nestled between beachfront hotels with views of the harbor, was once the site of a large Chumash village. The Syuxtun story circle, a mosaic art piece across the street in the sidewalk, commemorates the Chumash culture and their strong ties to the coast.



8

Stearns Wharf The oldest working wood wharf in California was built in 1872 by John Peck Stearns to facilitate the transfer cargo and people from ships to shore. Today, the wharf is one of the most visited sites in Santa Barbara and home to multiple restaurants and the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History Sea Center.



9

Chase Palm Park Chase Palm Park was established in the early 1900's. A 1998 expansion includes the historic Hershel Carousel and shipwreck playground. The Arts and Crafts Show, held Sundays since 1965 between Stearns Wharf and Calle Cesar Chavez, features art and crafts by local artists.



10

East Beach A popular beach for sunbathing, East Beach boasts over a dozen beach volleyball courts. The historic Cabrillo Pavilion was built in 1926 as a community social and recreation center. The facility is a hub for youth and adult sports, summer camps and social gatherings.



11

Andrée Clark Bird Refuge Once a natural salt marsh with fresh water and tidal influence, the 42-acre park plays an important role as an artificially managed estuary with marsh, riparian woodland, and coastal sage scrub habitat.



RULES AND REGULATIONS

Rules and regulations vary along the trail, so please be aware of and read all posted signs.

- General rules include the following:
- Park hours are sunrise to a half-hour after sunset
 - No littering
 - Pick up after pets
 - Observe posted dog-leash, bike, skateboarding, and rollerblading rules

EXPLORE YOUR COAST

THE SANTA BARBARA COASTAL TRAIL MAP

ABOUT THE SANTA BARBARA COAST

Santa Barbara includes roughly 6 miles of accessible beaches, a variety of coastal habitats and an abundance of wildlife. Due to the mild climate, ocean-related activities are year-round and include sailing, surfing, kayaking, swimming, fishing and more.

As a result of early community vision and civic engagement, Santa Barbara boasts bluff-top

beach access staircases, walking paths, active parks and diverse recreational facilities.

Use this map to explore Santa Barbara's coastal culture, history and ecology. While you walk, venture to featured sites and visit the City's website to access informative podcasts and videos.

LEARN MORE

Podcasts & Maps
bit.ly/ExploreYourCoastSB

Video
bit.ly/ExploreYourCoast-InsideSB

State Coastal Conservancy
www.scc.ca.gov



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Parks & Recreation



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PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT
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EXPLORE YOUR SANTA BARBARA COASTAL TRAIL



ARROYO BURRO ESTUARY TO DOUGLAS FAMILY PRESERVE AND MESA LANE STEPS WALK

Distance: 2 miles round trip / ~ 40 minutes
Difficulty: Medium
Before any beach hike, remember to check the tides. Starting at the Arroyo Burro County Beach Park, follow the path along the estuary and back parking lot to the oak woodland trail and top of the Douglas Family Preserve. Dogs allowed off leash in some areas. Follow the dirt trails to Medcliff Road, Mesa Lane, and the Mesa Lane beach access stairs. Descend 243 steps to explore the beach below. Head west to return to the estuary. Head east along the beach for two more miles to reach Leadbetter Beach, Shoreline Park and Harbor.

WATERFRONT WALK: STEARNS WHARF, HARBOR AND BREAKWATER

Distance: 2 miles round trip / ~40 minutes
Difficulty: Easy
Explore Santa Barbara's vibrant waterfront. Starting at Stearns Wharf, walk west along the multi-use path toward the harbor. The harbor supports 1,139 slips spread out over 4 marinas, restaurants and shops. Continue your walk to the breakwater, built in 1928, for excellent views of downtown, Stearns Wharf and the harbor entrance. Learn more about local history and wildlife at the Sea Center, Maritime Museum, or by reading educational signs located along Stearns Wharf and the Harbor.

CABRILLO PAVILION TO THE ANDRÉE CLARK BIRD REFUGE

Distance: 1.5 miles round trip / ~30 minutes
Difficulty: Easy
Enjoy a leisurely stroll to the Andree Clark Bird Refuge on this 1.5 mile out-and-back multi-use trail. Start at the historic Cabrillo Pavilion, cross Cabrillo Blvd. and walk east along the multi-use path. Once at the northern end of the Refuge, explore the short trails and three viewing platforms. Plus, stretch and exercise on the newly installed Stretch Station adjacent to the parking lot.

LEGEND

- MULTI-USE PATH
- DIRT TRAIL
- TRAIL FOLLOWS STREETS
- BEACH ACCESS
- MAJOR STOP - SEE BACK FOR DETAILS
- PARK

* 6.2 +/- miles between stops 1 and 11