

The Chumash World



ITINERARY

SUNDAY, JULY 9

Arrive in Santa Barbara, California, no later than 4 p.m. Meet the group for dinner and program orientation with our scholars, Bryan Penprase, Ph.D., and Jennifer E. Perry, Ph.D. Overnight, Franciscan Inn, Santa Barbara. **D**

MONDAY, JULY 10

After a presentation from our scholars that builds a foundation for the week, we tour the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History and its impressive collection of artifacts from the central coast and Channel Islands. We go on to visit the Old Mission at Santa Barbara, founded in 1786 by Spanish Franciscans, where we learn about the complex interactions between the Spanish and the Chumash Indians. A short drive into the hills above Santa Barbara takes us to Cold Spring Tavern, established in 1865 and rich in atmosphere. After lunch at this historic locale, we drive a short distance to Chumash Painted Cave State Historic Park, where we see multicolored Chumash pictographs that are thought to date from the 1600s and earlier. We return to the coast for dinner on the wharf and sunset over the Pacific Ocean. Overnight, Santa Barbara. **B L**

TUESDAY, JULY 11

This morning we drive up the coast, through more of the Chumash coastal homeland, to Vandenberg Air Force Base. The base has been proactive in preserving Chumash cultural sites, and due to security and limited public access, many sites are virtually undisturbed. We have special permission to visit some remarkable rock art sites here. Later, in the nearby town of Lompoc, we visit La Purisima Mission, founded in 1787 and occupied for a brief period by the Chumash after the Chumash Revolt of 1824. Overnight, Santa Barbara. **B L**

WEDNESDAY, JULY 12

We head south to Burro Flats, one of the most well-preserved Chumash rock art sites in the Coast Range. The small rock shelter here is a winter solstice



Mission Santa Barbara



Chumash Painted Cave. Bev Sykes / Wikimedia Commons



La Purisima Mission

marker, with concentric circles that are bisected by sunlight on the solstice. Later in the day, we travel to Griffith Observatory to learn more about Chumash archaeoastronomy. Located on the southern slope of Mount Hollywood, 1,134 feet above sea level, the observatory is a Los Angeles landmark nationally known for public astronomy. Overnight, Ventura. **B L D**

THURSDAY, JULY 13

Today we cross the channel by boat from Ventura to Santa Cruz Island—the largest of the Channel Islands and one of California’s most protected landscapes. The island’s abundant natural and cultural resources are protected by Channel Islands National Park and the Nature Conservancy. The University of California’s Santa Cruz Island Reserve was established for researchers and students in fields including archaeology. Our first stop, the main port of Prisoners’ Harbor, was the site of a large Chumash village; we see shell mounds that are relics of thousands of years of occupation. Under Spanish rule, the island’s native population was decimated by illness; by the first decades of the 1800s, the last inhabitants had been taken to missions on the mainland. This tragic episode of American history may be best known through Scott O’Dell’s novel *The Island of the Blue Dolphins*. On a scenic hike to Pelican Bay, we learn more about the island’s prehistoric and historic sites, as well as native plants. We end the day at the UC Santa Barbara Field Station, a remote “dark sky” location. As we stargaze, we learn more about the skies in the ancient world. Overnight, Field Station, Santa Cruz Island. **B L D**

FRIDAY, JULY 14

Discover Santa Cruz Island’s fascinating history as we tour the historic ranch, museum, and chapel. As we search for more archaeological sites, we gain a deeper understanding of Chumash society. At the end of the day, we board a boat for the mainland, returning to Santa Barbara for a farewell dinner. Overnight, Santa Barbara. **B L D**

SATURDAY, JULY 15

Breakfast on your own. Depart from Santa Barbara anytime.



Griffith Observatory



The rugged coastline of Santa Cruz Island



Santa Barbara, California

B = breakfast, **L** = lunch, **D** = dinner

Itinerary subject to change

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