

Group Visits to Torrey Pines State Natural Reserve

REVIEW OF THE RULES

We hope you're looking forward to visiting Torrey Pines State Natural Reserve. Torrey Pines is one of only 16 **State Natural Reserves** among California's 280 State Parks. A special place deserves special consideration. Our primary mission is to protect our animals and rare plants; here, we humans are the guests in nature's home!

- ❖ **STAY ON TRAIL - Please stay on the marked, wide trails.** Cutting across switchbacks and going into closed areas causes erosion and damages native plants.
- ❖ **SMALL GROUPS** - Split up into **smaller groups** of 8 or fewer while hiking to make the experience more enjoyable for yourselves, our other visitors, and the animals who live here. We recommend 1 adult chaperone for every 8 children.
- ❖ **NO FOOD ALLOWED** - To keep our animals wild and the Reserve trash-free, there is **no food** allowed in the upper Reserve; all snacks and lunch must be eaten at the Beach level. There are picnic tables available along the southwest side of the Beach parking lot.
- ❖ **NO COLLECTING** - Everything in the Reserve is protected; **do not pick** or collect anything. Pinecones and flowers must be left as food for animals and to produce seeds to for new plant growth.
- ❖ **VISITOR CENTER** - The Visitor Center/Museum offers exhibits on the natural and cultural history and is staffed by knowledgeable docents who can answer many questions about the area and trails. Children enjoy visiting our Museum which includes many taxidermied animals found in the Reserve. Because the Museum is small, please bring no more than 20 people in at once.
- ❖ **CHECK TIDES** - If you plan a beach walk, please check the tide table first. During high tides, there may not be enough room to walk safely between the cliffs and the beach. Always keep away from the bottom of the cliffs: rock slides can occur at any time.
- ❖ **RESTROOMS** - Restrooms are available at the Beach level only; the west side parking lot across the street from the Visitor Center/Museum only has port-o-potties at this time.
- ❖ **CHANGES/CANCELLATIONS** - Please contact us immediately if you have any changes in your plans (numbers, times, etc) or if you need to cancel. Rain can cause trails to be closed to avoid damaging them and may require rescheduling your visit.

See you on the trails!

Torrey Pines State Natural Reserve
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