



CALIFORNIA

SANTA CRUZ SINGLETRACK

MOUNTAIN BIKE TOUR



- Private Tours and Custom Tours
Solos, Couples & Friends
- Departure: San Jose, CA
- Tour Offered: Mar, Apr, May, Sep, Oct
- Departs On: Thursday

- Duration: 4 Days
- Lodging: Casual Inns
- Fitness Level: 3-4
- Technical Level: 3-4
- Elevation Range: 0 - 3,000 ft.

Nicknamed “Surf City”, Santa Cruz’s identity ranges from a college town, distinctive for its thriving counterculture, to big Redwood-groves, omnipresent greenbelts, and barking sea lions.

Our trip leans towards organic farms, the flourishing artisanal beer and wine scene, as well as long stretches of free spirited, primo singletrack. Wilder Ranch State Park, a 700-acre coast hugging preserve, boasts beautiful trails amongst Brussels sprout fields and towering Redwoods. Respectfully built around a 19th century dairy ranch, Gothic Revival farmhouses and a Victorian residence, Wilder Ranch is as much about cultural moorings as it is easy-on-the-eyes pastoral. From regal structures to beachcombing, big bluffs to inland canyons, we explore it all; places that come with their own informal history lesson.



From offbeat tolerant Santa Cruz, we head in a figuratively far different direction. At the Monterrey Bay beachfront, we find the immaculately groomed Fort Ord. It was here that over one million U.S servicemen trained from 1917-1944. As Wilder Ranch served as the opening act, the thick forest and cornucopia of trails we find at the “playground” in Soquel Demonstration State Park will flat-out steal the show.

From Mexican land grant turned logging company reserve turned state forest (1988), the Soquel Demo is now the Bay Area’s number one mountain bike park. The 19-signature trails here total 27-miles: they range from the advanced Braille DH (with bypasses) to six different Flow Trails, (think more intermediate). The highest trail reaches 2558-ft; conversely the down hills total 14-miles of distance. That’s a lot of whoop.

From 40,000-acres of lush coastal preserves to great spans of giant Redwoods, “Cool” Santa Cruz to the rich literary history around Monterrey, this plum-riding destination energies and harmonic resonances is unlike any other Escape Adventure.



THE ESCAPE ADVENTURES EXPERIENCE

For over 25 years, the hallmark of an Escape Adventures tour is personalized, hands-on service, before, during, and after each trip.

OUR PEOPLE

Our Trip Leaders are the best in the business. Trained personally by the owners, our WFR certified Leaders understand the areas you ride and the safety of the group.

OUR COMMITMENT

We don't just preach environmental awareness, we live it. We recycle 90% of our waste and run our LEED Platinum facilities with solar and wind power. Additionally, our facilities are net zero energy (we produce more energy than we consume) which makes us the only commercial outfitter in the world who is net positive energy.

OUR FOOD

Our Leaders prepare meals on the trip with an emphasis on fresh, local and organic foods, ensuring you have the fuel you need to ride, and a delicious, meal at the same time.

OUR SUPPORT VEHICLES

We provide a support van and trailer for every 9 guests on all of our trips so you can count on us to be there when you need us.





DAY 1 | Wilder Ranch State Park

After picking up at the San Jose Airport at approximately 10am we will drive 45 minutes to Santa Cruz California to Wilder Ranch State Park located on the beach of historic Santa Cruz California! Our ride begins with a beautiful climb through the countryside of Wilder Ranch up Wilder Ridge and Eucalyptus Loop then down Baldwin and Enchanted Trail. The ride finishes along the beach cliffs back onto smooth scenic Wilder Ranch. We will shuttle approximately 25 minutes to Watsonville.



Total Mileage | 18 Miles
Terrain | 70% Singletrack, 30% Doubletrack
Casual Inn | Comfort Inn

Feet Gain | 1242

DAY 2 | Fort Ord State Park

We head to the home of the world-famous Sea Otter Classic Mountain Bike race... Fort Ord State Park. The ride today covers the entire length of the Park on 28 miles of beautiful singletrack. Fort Ord State Park is wide open at some points, allowing you to see the winding trails for miles. An abundance of different types of terrain allows you to experience gravel, dirt and at times sand. You'll be twisting and turning with some fun yet fierce downhill portions and a few steep uphill climbs. We will shuttle back to Watsonville, approximately a 25 minute drive.



Total Mileage | 16 Miles
Terrain | Singletrack
Casual Inn | Comfort Inn

Feet Gain | 2950



DAY 3 | Soquel Demonstration State Forest

Today we head 2,500 feet above Santa Cruz to Soquel Demonstration State Forest Mountain Bike Park. Our ride will be a long day in the saddle as we ride the trails made specifically for mountain biking. Trails include the Ridge Trail, Braille Trail, and Sawpit Trail. After riding (and climbing) these trails, we will descend on the historic Soquel Road 15 miles downhill back to Santa Cruz.

Total Mileage | 24 Miles
Terrain | 80% Singletrack, 20% Dirt Road
Casual Inn | Comfort Inn

Feet Gain | 2806



DAY 4 | Wilder Ranch or/and El Corte Madera State Park

Our final day of riding will be either another fun ride in Wilder Ranch State Park on Zane Gray Cutoff Trail or we will head 1 hour north and ride El Corte Madera Creek Open Space Preserve. This trail is fantastic as it winds through giant Red wood Forests. The ride is mostly singletrack with a lot of climbing but well worth the views!

Total Mileage | 20 Miles
Terrain | Singletrack

Feet Gain | 1955



Daily Activities

| Day | Activity | Easy | | Moderate | | Seasoned | |
|-----|-----------------|-------|-----------|----------|-----------|----------|-----------|
| | | Miles | Feet Gain | Miles | Feet Gain | Miles | Feet Gain |
| 1 | Mountain Biking | | | 18 | 1242 | | |
| 2 | Mountain Biking | | | 16 | 2950 | | |
| 3 | Mountain Biking | | | 24 | 2806 | | |
| 4 | Mountain Biking | | | 20 | 1955 | | |

Mountain Bike Tour Technical Levels

| Level | Description |
|----------|---|
| Easy | 1 Maintained Gravel Roads, Easy Grades |
| | 2 Level 1 PLUS Unmaintained Dirt Roads, Maintained Singletrack Trail |
| Moderate | 3 Level 2 PLUS Moderate Grades, Some Unmaintained Singletrack |
| Seasoned | 4 Level 3 PLUS Rocky Terrain – PLUS Longer, Steeper Ascents & Descents |
| | 5 Level 4 PLUS Some Exposed Sections Of Trail, Some Loose Climbs & Descents |



Mountain Bike Tour Fitness Levels

| Level | Hours of Activity | Total Elevation Feet Gain | Mountain Bike Miles | Hiking Miles |
|----------|-------------------|---------------------------|---------------------|--------------|
| Easy | 1 1-3 | 700 | 5-10 | 1-5 |
| | 2 2-4 | 1200 | 10-15 | 5-8 |
| Moderate | 3 3-5 | 1800 | 15-25 | 8-10 |
| Seasoned | 4 4-6 | 2200 | 25-35 | 10-12 |
| | 5 5-7 | 3000 | 35-50+ | 12-16+ |



HOW TO PREPARE

MOUNTAIN BIKE

For optimal physical preparation, we recommend that you ride at least several hours per week during the month preceding the tour. During the tour you will be on your bike every day, and we can assure you that an unprepared bottom is a sore one! If you can't ride your bike, or don't own one, take a spin class at your local gym a few times a week.

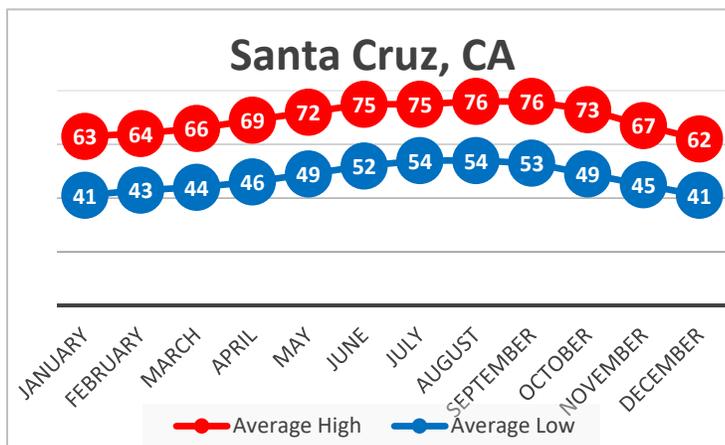
HIKING

To prepare for the tour, we recommend that you hike, jog or run at least several hours per week during the month preceding the tour. Walk/run in the shoes and sock you are bringing on the trip. This will help prevent blisters and sore feet.



WEATHER

In Santa Cruz, the summers are short, comfortable, dry, and mostly clear and the winters are short, cold, wet, and partly cloudy. Please use the following location when checking the weather online: **Santa Cruz, CA**



PACKING

Luggage is limited to one small soft-shelled suitcase or medium/large sized duffel bag (no heavier than 40 pounds). Please ensure your luggage container is water repellant. We also suggest bringing a hydration daypack or small backpack for valuables.

A complete list of what we consider essentials for every trip, as well as items that can be rented from Escape Adventures, is available at www.escapeadventures.com/packing-lists/

BICYCLE RENTALS

Escape Adventures rents quality bicycles. We will fit you with a high quality, durable and safe ride. Our chosen bike is equipped with an aluminum frame designed for a smooth, comfortable ride. Our mountain bikes are full-suspension, lightweight, equipped with a dropper post and adjustable. Availability of bikes are specific to your destination and should be confirmed in your itinerary. For more information call 800-596-2953.

Specialized Stumpjumper - 29er



The new Stumpjumper is the ultimate trail bike. It's supple over small bumps, yet it possesses a firm mid-stroke and exceptional bottom-out support.

- All bicycle rentals are equipped with flat pedals and a complimentary water bottle.
- Helmet and clipless pedals are available upon request and are included in the rental.
- Please specify your individual needs when confirming your reservation.



Santa Cruz Tallboy - 29er



The Tallboy muddles the line between XC and trail. The Tallboy climbs almost as well as an XC bike, but shows its true colors when the trail turns downward.

Santa Cruz 5010 - 27.5



An agile trail whip that turns on a dime and loves to pop and play. Turning trails into pumptracks the 5010 begs to spend as much time above the ground as on it.

TRIP COST INCLUDES

All meals starting with lunch on the first day through lunch on the last day, support vehicles, snacks, first-aid, bike maintenance, community gear, and a custom sublimated Limited Edition Jersey.



TRIP COST DOES NOT INCLUDE

Airfare to and from departure point, lodging before or after the tour, personal camping gear (if applicable), or gratuities to Escape Adventures Trip Leaders. Tips to the Trip Leaders are given at your discretion and based on the quality of your experience. We suggest 10-20% of your trip cost to be divided between all Trip Leaders.

MEALS

Our Trip Leaders prepare all your picnic style lunches and breakfasts and dinners are served in the best local restaurants.

TRIP AMENITIES

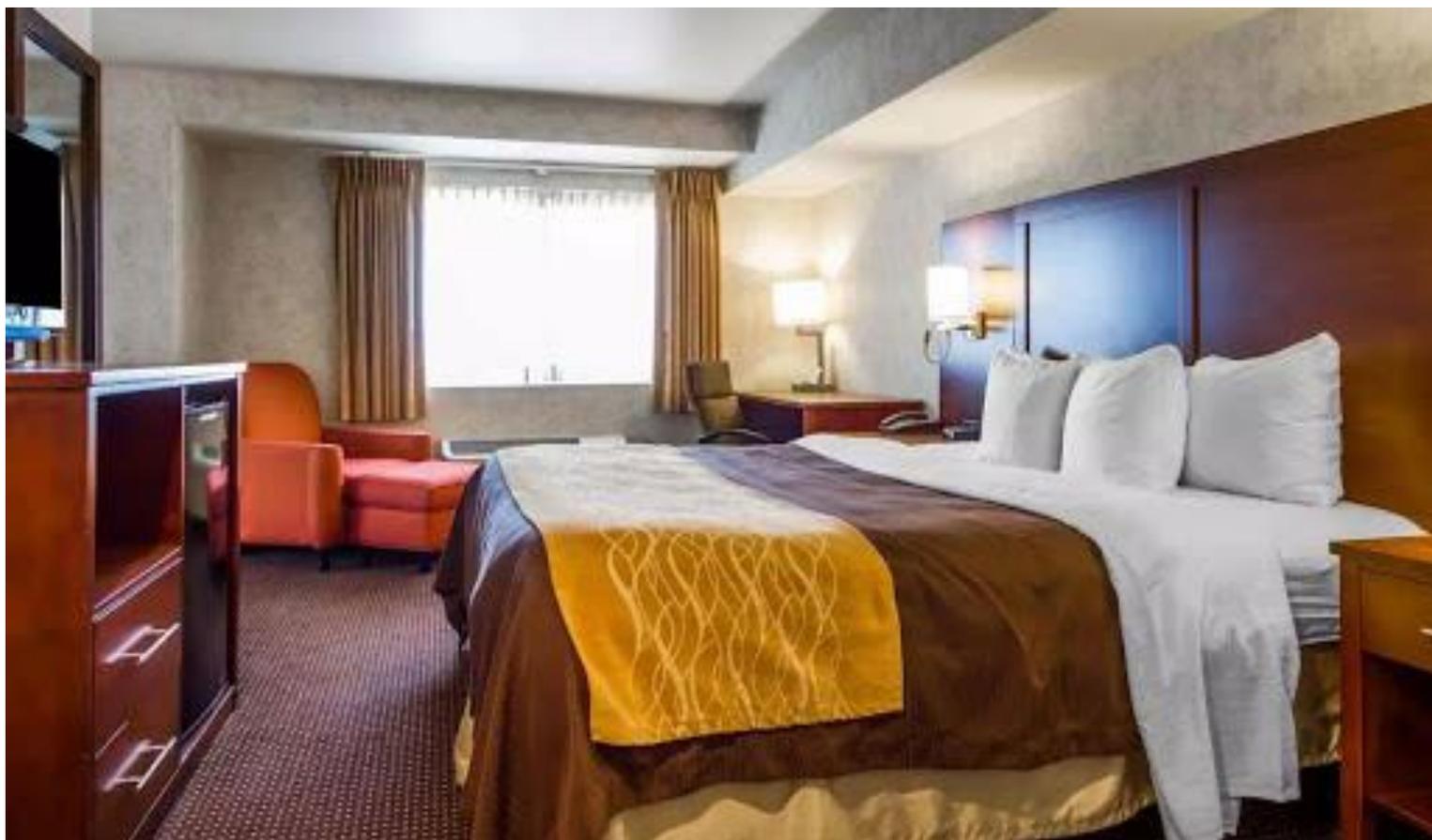
Inns on this tour are chosen for comfort, scenery, and proximity to our activities.



KEEPING YOU UP TO DATE

We are always seeking opportunities to enhance this itinerary. We'll notify you of any changes prior to departure; other changes may be communicated on the trip by your Trip Leaders.

This is a general itinerary and may vary. Escape Adventures reserves the right to make changes due to weather, local conditions, government intervention, or any other unforeseen reasons that may affect the quality of the trip and/or safety of the participants. Inns are subject to change.



COMFORT INN WATSONVILLE

112 Airport Blvd
Watsonville, CA 95076
(831)740-8689

<http://www.comfortinnwatsonville.com/>

Watsonville is situated in central California's Santa Cruz County. The area is home to a vibrant downtown district and features plenty in the way of fun from historic walking tours to golfing and wineries, making it the ideal destination for business trips and family getaways alike. Amenities include free WiFi, free hot breakfast, and free coffee. Guest rooms feature a microwave and refrigerator, premium bedding, work desk, flat-screen TV and coffee maker.



GATEWAY CITY: SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA

Grand Junction is a city in Colorado's Western Slope region. From breathtaking red rock scenery and thrilling outdoor adventure, to cultural attractions and farm-to-table dining, Grand Junction is a premier destination on Colorado's Western Slope. The city sits along the Colorado River. It's known as the hub of Colorado's wine country. The Museum of the West displays prehistoric pottery and 19th-century firearms.



SAN JOSE AIRPORT

NORMAN Y. MINETA SAN JOSE AIRPORT

1701 Airport Blvd, San Jose, CA 95110

(408) 392-3600

<https://www.flysanjose.com/>

Norman Y. Mineta San Jose International Airport is a city-owned public airport in San Jose, California, United States. It is named after San Jose native Norman Mineta, former Transportation Secretary in the Cabinet of George W. Bush and Commerce Secretary in the Cabinet of Bill Clinton.



SAN JOSE HOTELS

BEST WESTERN PLUS AIRPORT PLAZA

2118 The Alameda, San Jose, CA 95126

(408) 243-2400

<https://www.bestwestern.com>

QUALITY INN

875 N 13TH St, San Jose, CA 95112

(408) 287-9380

<https://www.choicehotels.com>

MEETING AND DEPARTURE INFORMATION

MEETING LOCATION

BEST WESTERN PLUS AIRPORT PLAZA

2118 The Alameda, San Jose, CA 95126

(408) 243-2400

https://www.bestwestern.com/en_US/best-western-rewards.html

DEPARTURE TIME

10:00 AM on the first day of the tour.

RETURN TIME

Around 4 PM on the last day of the tour.



CANCELLATION POLICY

In order to keep our tours affordable and provide proper notice to our lodging partners, we must adhere to this timeline, no exceptions. After our refund deadline has passed we cannot provide a refund for any reason, including circumstances beyond your control such as weather-related travel delays, family emergency, or injury. There is also no partial refund if you arrive late to your tour, or depart early. Insurance agencies however, offer a full or partial refund in many circumstances if you purchase travel insurance to cover your tour. Payment in full is due 60 days prior to trip departure.

| IF YOU CANCEL YOUR TRIP | YOU WILL RECEIVE |
|--|--|
| Up until 60 days prior to trip departure | 100% of what you have paid minus a \$200 processing fee per person |
| 59-45 days prior to trip departure | 50% of what you have paid minus a \$200 processing fee per person |
| 45-30 days prior to trip departure | 15% of what you have paid minus a \$200 processing fee per person |
| 29-0 days prior trip departure | No Refund |

TRAVEL INSURANCE

We strongly encourage you to purchase travel insurance to protect against extenuating circumstances such as illness and injury-believe us, they do come up! We have a special arrangement with TravelGuard insurance so that you may purchase reasonably-priced travel insurance at the same time you place your tour reservation. For a detailed description of the TravelGuard policy we offer, visit our website or call 866-385-4839 and ask about product **007715**.

TRANSFER POLICY

If you would like to change to a different tour or departure date after signing up, we will be happy to transfer you on a space available basis up until 60 days prior to your tour. Please provide your transfer request in writing - email is sufficient. Please note, a \$25 transfer fee will be deducted from your previous payments for each transfer, and if you later choose to cancel your tour, the cancellation deadlines will apply to the date of the originally scheduled tour.

TOUR CONFIRMATION

Escape confirms tours 60 days prior to tour departure; prior to this time, tours may be cancelled due to low enrollment. After your tour is confirmed, it will not be cancelled for low-enrollment, but in rare cases may be cancelled due to weather, government intervention, unsafe trail conditions, or any other reason that would affect the quality of the scheduled tour or the safety of its participants. If we are forced to cancel your tour, we will provide a 100% refund and work to add you to another trip that works for you.

TRAVEL PLANS

We advise you to avoid non-refundable flights and other travel arrangements and are not responsible for the costs of such arrangement in the event your tour is cancelled. The travel insurance offered in conjunction with our tours covers the cost of your tour but does not cover additional costs such as travel to and from your tour departure location, and hotel stays prior to or following your tour. Please consider purchasing additional insurance coverage.



SIMILAR TRIPS FROM ESCAPE ADVENTURES

LAKE TAHOE & THE LOST SIERRAS DAYLONG SINGLETRACK DESCENTS

Mountain Biking

-  Families with Older Kids
-  Private Tours and Custom Tours
-  Solos, Couples & Friends
-  Departure: Reno, NV
-  Tour Offered: Jun, Jul, Aug, Sep
-  Departs On: Monday
-  Duration: 5 Days
-  Lodging: Casual & Luxury Inns & Restaurants
-  Fitness Level: 3-5
-  Technical Level: 3-5
-  Elevation Range: 3,000 - 9,000 ft.

Bicycling Magazine named our Lake Tahoe/Sierras mountain bike tour as one of the "Fifty Best Trips on the Planet!" We see it simply as mastery of craft coupled with an extraordinary High Country landscape. Or, our gold standard set to mountain biking Gold Country.



BRIAN HEAD SINGLETRACK UTAH'S HIGHEST SKI TOWN

Mountain Biking

-  Private Tours and Custom Tours
-  Solos, Couples & Friends
-  Departure: St. George, UT
-  Tour Offered: Jun, Jul, Aug, Sep
-  Departs On: Monday
-  Duration: 5 Days
-  Lodging: First-Class Camping or Casual Inns
-  Fitness Level: 3-4
-  Technical Level: 3-5
-  Elevation Range: 7,000 - 11,000 ft.

Riding in Brian Head translates into long, vertical-mile descents set in crisp, head clearing mountain air and big, high altitude scenery.

