



# CRYSTAL COVE STATE PARK

**WELCOME!** The rolling surf, sandy beaches, tide pools, marine protected area, gently sloping hills, and wooded canyons and ridges of Crystal Cove State Park (SP) provide a delightful contrast to its urban surroundings. Located off busy Pacific Coast Highway between Corona Del Mar and Laguna Beach, Crystal Cove SP is one of Orange County's largest remaining examples of open space and natural seashore. The park's climate is characterized by moist, foggy summer mornings, with the fog burning off by midmorning to bring warm, sunny days and cool evenings.

Whether exploring the 2,400 acres of hiking trails, diving in the marine conservation area, touring the beach cottages of the Historic District, or simply relaxing by the ocean, Crystal Cove SP boasts many activities to cater to all park visitors.



**Crystal Cove State Park**  
8471 North Coast Highway  
Laguna Beach, CA 92651



**Day-Use Areas:**  
6 a.m. - sunset



**Day-Use Parking Fees  
Per Vehicle**

**Los Trancos Parking:** \$5/hour  
**Other Parking Areas:**  
\$15/day or \$20/day on holidays  
and summer weekends



**California State Parks  
Passes Accepted:**

Disabled Discount, Explorer,  
Golden Bear, Oversized  
Vehicle, Senior Golden Bear,  
State Library, Veteran



**(949) 494-3539**

711, TTY Relay Service

[parks.ca.gov/CrystalCove](http://parks.ca.gov/CrystalCove)



California State Parks supports equal access. Prior to arrival, visitors with disabilities who need assistance should contact the park at (949) 494-3539. If you need this publication in an alternate format, contact [crystal\\_cove\\_info@parks.ca.gov](mailto:crystal_cove_info@parks.ca.gov).

## ACTIVITIES

**Beaches**—Seven separate coves line 3.2 miles of beach in the park, offering swimming, surfing, diving, tide pool exploration, and sunbathing. The marine conservation area offshore is a haven for marine life and ocean recreational activities.

**Hiking**—There is a large network of trails that provide access to the backcountry as well as the coastal bluff. See back for park map.

**Concessions**—The Crystal Cove Shake Shack and the Beachcomber Café both offer visitors food and drinks while enjoying exceptional views of the Pacific Ocean. These concessionaires are operated by the park's nonprofit partner, the Crystal Cove Conservancy.

**Park-Led Activities**—Many free year-round educational programs are offered by park interpreters as well as through a partnership with the Crystal Cove Conservancy.

## EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES AND PROGRAMS

**Guided Field Trips**—Our park school programs are educational, interactive, and dynamic. They cover a variety of nature-based topics including tide pools, birds, animal adaptations, gray whale migration, and ecology walks.

**Virtual Opportunities**—Virtual field trips are available for K-12 students through the PORTS program (Parks Online Resources for Teachers and Students®). Teachers can sign up for one-on-one programs with a state park interpreter or enjoy a virtual monthly PORTScast.

**STEM Education**—The Crystal Cove Conservancy hosts STEM education programs to immerse students in environmental research. By taking part in conservation research projects, students develop science skills and actively help to further our understanding of how Crystal Cove SP is changing over time.

## PLACES TO STAY OVERNIGHT

Visit [ReserveCalifornia.com](http://ReserveCalifornia.com) or call (800) 444-7275 for reservations.

**Moro Campground**—This campground is open year-round and offers 58 sites with unparalleled ocean views. There are 28 hookup sites with water and electricity. Maximum vehicle length is 38 feet. There are 30 dry sites with a maximum vehicle length of 25 feet.

**Backcountry Primitive Campsites**—There are three hike-in campgrounds, with 32 campsites total. Campgrounds have vault toilets and offer NO water on site. Visitors must hike everything in and out. Campsites are first come, first serve at the location you reserve online or at the Moro Campground kiosk (all sites are a 3 to 4-mile hike from the parking lot). Check in is required at the campground kiosk to obtain a permit for overnight parking.

**Crystal Cove Beach Cottages**—Experience Crystal Cove as it existed from 1935 to 1955 by staying in one of the 36 cottages in the Historic District.

## PLEASE REMEMBER

**Pets**—Except for ADA Service Animals, no animals are allowed on the beach or in the backcountry. Where permitted, dogs must be kept on a leash of 6 feet or less.

**Collecting**—All natural, cultural, and historical park resources are protected by law and may not be disturbed or removed. Collection of shells and rocks is prohibited.

**Trails**—Stay on established trails. Do not climb or approach the cliff faces—they are unstable and may collapse. Children should be supervised closely.

**Fires**—No fires are allowed on the sand or in the campgrounds. Gas powered barbecues are permitted. Wood and charcoal are not permitted. Open flames are not permitted in the backcountry.

**Water Activities**—Use caution when entering the ocean. Conditions are highly variable, and the coastline is subject to high surf and dangerous rip currents. Consult lifeguard staff about daily conditions and safety hazards.

**Alcohol**—Possession of alcohol is prohibited except within designated concession and campsites at Moro Campground.



## THINGS TO DO

**If you have an hour,** park at the Los Trancos Parking Area and walk the half-mile nature trail through the tunnel to the Historic District (or take the shuttle). Stop at the visitor center cottage and learn about the 36 historic cottages. (ADA parking and beach wheelchairs are available.)

**If you have half a day,** park in the Moro Canyon Day-Use Area and check out the map at the Moro Canyon trailhead. Enjoy a mostly flat mile in and mile out hike in Moro Canyon. When you reach the junction with East Cut Across Trail turn back. After your hike, head to the beautiful beach and take a dip in the Pacific Ocean.

**If you have a full day,** park at the Moro Visitor Center and choose one of the suggested trails to hike or bike. After your hike, drive north on Pacific Coast Highway to the Los Trancos Parking Area, the gateway to the Historic District. Head through the tunnel and enjoy lunch steps away from the sand at the Beachcomber Café. After lunch, view the historic cottages, go for a swim and enjoy a picturesque sunset.



*Crystal Cove*  
CONSERVANCY

Crystal Cove Conservancy is the contracted nonprofit partner and concessionaire to Crystal Cove State Park, leading efforts to restore the Crystal Cove Historic District, providing conservation-focused community and school programs, and supporting park operations.

[CrystalCove.org](http://CrystalCove.org)

