

Pacific Horticulture and Sterling Tours invite you to join *Natural History of Santa Cruz Island*

June 3-8, 2012

Join us on this rare opportunity to explore the unique flora and fauna of California's Channel Islands, home to species of plants and animals found nowhere else on Earth. Twenty-five miles off the coast of southern California lies Santa Cruz Island, the largest of California's eight Channel Islands. More than 1,000 species of plants and animals inhabit the island's high peaks, deep canyons, pastoral valleys and 77 miles of dramatic coastline. Once on the brink of ecological collapse, Santa Cruz Island now offers visitors a glimpse of what southern California used to be like hundreds of years ago.

Sunday June 3 Ventura, California

Check into the Holiday Inn Express at Ventura Harbor then gather late this afternoon to meet the other guests and your tour leaders for an informative session followed by dinner with wine. *Dinner*



Monday June 4 Santa Cruz Island

We'll park our cars at the Ventura Harbor then board our Island Packers boat for the 25 mile journey to Santa Cruz Island. Upon arrival, we are met and transferred to our home for the next 4 nights, the University of California Research Station, part of the Nature Conservancy reserve on the island. After we have unpacked and settled into our accommodations, our tour leaders will give us an orientation and plan for the next several days and then take us out for an afternoon exploration on foot. Later we will return for the first of our guest-prepared dinners. *Breakfast, Dinner.*

Tuesday June 5 thru Thursday June 7 Santa Cruz Island

Our days will be filled with opportunities to explore this fascinating island. With luck we will spot the Santa Cruz Island Fox and other wildlife unique to this and other Channel Islands. Our guides will also point out many of the plant species found only on this island. We'll explore on foot and by vehicle to make sure we see as much of the island as possible. *Breakfast, lunch, and dinner* will be prepared by guests each day.



Fri June 8 Ventura

By now you will be fully immersed in the island lifestyle, but sadly it is time to say farewell. Our Island Packers boat leaves this afternoon to take us back to Ventura Harbor and a return to civilization but with wonderful memories and photos of this pristine island gem. *Breakfast, Lunch.*

TOUR LAND COST PER GUEST:

Based on a minimum of 12 paying guests: \$845.00

Supplement to have single room at Holiday Inn on first night of tour: \$65

COSTS INCLUDE:

1 night's accommodation at Holiday Inn Express Ventura Harbor
4 night's accommodation in dorm-style bunkbed rooms on Santa Cruz Island
Roundtrip sea transportation from Ventura to Santa Cruz Island
Transportation from dock to lodging on Santa Cruz Island
All hotel taxes and service charges
5 breakfasts, 5 lunches, 5 dinners (see Special Conditions)
Guided sightseeing on the island by Glenn Keator
Escorted by Steve Gerischer, Pacific Horticulture
Donation of \$150 to Pacific Horticulture
Limited to 15 guests

COSTS DO NOT INCLUDE:

Airfare, Travel insurance, Items not specifically listed on the itinerary

Prices quoted are based on a minimum of 12 guests. In the event of lower numbers,

Sterling Tours reserves the right to adjust rates accordingly.

SPECIAL CONDITIONS APPLY TO THIS TOUR, SEE FOLLOWING PAGE

For more information and telephone reservations contact:



2907 Shelter Island Drive Suite #105-262 San Diego, CA 92106 Tel: 619 299-3010 800-976-9497

email: info@sterlingtoursltd.com www.sterlingtoursltd.com CST2023849-40

SPECIAL CONDITIONS APPLICABLE TO THIS TOUR

This tour offers guests a rare and unique opportunity for in-depth exploration of the flora and fauna of the Santa Cruz Island Reserve. Guests must be aware of the following special conditions, which are above and beyond the standard Terms and Conditions for this tour:

Accommodations: The first night is spent in a hotel room near Ventura Harbor. The next four nights will be spent in shared dormitory-style rooms with bunk beds and 4 to 6 guests per room. Guests are required to bring their own bedding (pillow and sleeping bag). Guests have the option of bringing and pitching their own tents to sleep outdoors. Bathrooms with showers are communal, separate for men and women

Voluntary Tasks: At the time of reservation, each guest will be required to volunteer for one of 4 activities: 1. Food shopping with the tour leader late afternoon June 3 (2 persons); 2. Preparation of dinner for the entire group one night of the tour (2 persons per night, 8 persons total); 3. Setting out and taking down breakfast and lunch each day of the tour (2 persons). 4. Cleanup of dining area and kitchen each day of the tour (3 persons total)

Dining: All meals are prepared by guests using a communal kitchen and dining area. Every person registering for this tour must volunteer for a task..... food shopping the 1st day of the trip, dinner preparation one night during the trip, or breakfast/lunch setup and cleanup. All guests are expected to clean up after each meal.

Housekeeping: All guests are required to assist with daily cleanup as well as the big final clean up on the day of departure. This includes, but is not limited to, mopping floors, cleaning showers, cleaning toilets, vacuuming, dusting. Guests are expected to leave the facilities as they found them.

Physical Ability: This tour includes moderate to strenuous physical activity, including but not limited to travel by sea on occasionally rough waters, embarking and disembarking from a boat to a dock, daily hikes of 3-6 miles on steep and uneven trails, and travel by vehicle on unpaved roads. This tour is not ADA accessible, the journey should not be undertaken by those whose physical condition will impede their enjoyment.

Ice Chest: Guests are required to bring an ice chest to help transport purchased food items from Ventura to the research station on Santa Cruz Island. Purchased food will be divided among tour members Sunday, guests will be required to store their stocked ice chests in their hotel room Sunday night.

Weather: Early June weather on Santa Cruz Island is variable. Often it is overcast, evenings and mornings can be cool. Rain is unlikely but occasional drizzle is possible, as is bright, warm, sunny weather during the day.

**Glenn Keator, Steve Gerischer, Pacific Horticulture, and Sterling Tours invite you to join
Natural History of Santa Cruz Island
June 3-8, 2012**

IMPORTANT: Submitting this form and paying tour deposit confirms you have read and accept the Terms and Conditions for this tour. Please review and be sure you understand the terms and conditions before registering for this tour.

RESERVATION FORM -----PLEASE COMPLETE ONE FORM PER PERSON TRAVELING

Full Name as on your traveling ID: _____

Name you prefer to be called: _____ Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms/Dr: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip, Country: _____

Telephone: _____ E-mail: _____

Emergency Contact Name and Phone # _____

Special Food or Physical Requirements: _____

HOTEL ROOM Please check appropriate room type

At Holiday Inn Express: Double Room, One Large Bed: _____ Double Room, Two Beds: _____

Sharing room with : _____

Single Room, I am willing to share _____ Single Room, not sharing _____

At Santa Cruz Island: Bunk bed accommodations in rooms sleeping 4-6 persons are the standard. (Bathrooms are communal, separate for men and women) Guests also have the option of bringing a tent and sleeping outdoors.

Volunteer Task preference (select one): Food shopping _____ Dinner preparation 1 night of tour _____

Breakfast/Lunch Setup & Take Down _____ Dining room and Kitchen cleanup crew _____

Travel insurance is strongly recommended to protect against accidents while traveling and cancellation fees. Quotation and offer of insurance will be provided prior to final payment due date.

TOUR PRICE AND PAYMENT (land only—airfare not included)

Tour Price is \$845 per person based on 2 people sharing a room at Holiday Inn and then shared dorm-style accommodations on the island. A supplement of \$65 applies for a single room at the Holiday Inn. A nonrefundable deposit of \$150 per person is required to register for this tour, balance due 60 days before departure. If paying by check, please make payable to Sterling Tours, Ltd and mail with this form to the address below.

If paying deposit by credit card please sign here: _____

Credit Card: **VI MC AX** Credit Card # _____ Exp: _____

Billing address: _____

Name on Card: _____ Security Code: _____

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Natural History of Santa Cruz Island
A Pacific Horticulture Tour
June 3-8, 2012
Terms & Conditions

This information is important. Please read it carefully. Submission of an online or printed Booking Form along with payment of required trip deposit indicates you have read and expressly agree to these Terms and Conditions. If there is something that you do not understand please ask us about it!

Reservations and Payments – A non-refundable deposit of \$150 per person is required at the time of booking. Written confirmation will be provided upon receipt of this deposit. The balance is due 60 days before departure.

Number of Guests: A maximum of 15 guests can be accommodated. A minimum of 12 guests are required to operate the tour at the quoted price. Purchase of non-refundable services outside of the tour itinerary (such as airline tickets) before minimum number of guests have registered is at the sole risk and expense of the guest.

Cancellations – All cancellations must be made in writing. As noted, final payment is due 60 days prior to departure and is non-refundable. Accordingly we strongly recommended that you purchase appropriate cancellation insurance.

Accommodations are shown on your itinerary. Sterling Tours reserves the right to change any accommodation through any circumstance---the substitute will be of equal or higher quality.

Scheduled Activities – Every effort will be made to provide such services as listed, but where unavoidable circumstances necessitate changes, the best substitute alternatives will be made at the discretion of Sterling Tours, the local escort, or the ground operator without financial compensation to tour members.

Service Fees, Tips & Taxes – Today there are frequently service charges and taxes imposed by hotels, suppliers, and governments. These fees and taxes are included to the extent possible, but where pre-payment is not allowed the amounts concerned must be paid locally by tour members. Tips to your guides and drivers are not included and are left to your discretion.

Baggage – Sterling is not responsible for loss, theft or damage to your baggage---travel insurance is strongly recommended to protect against loss. Guests are responsible for airline and government-imposed baggage regulations and fees. Guests are expected to assist with baggage handling during the tour.

Exclusions – Your arrangements exclude excess baggage charges, items of a personal nature such as laundry, communication expenses, room service, meals not specified in your itinerary, gratuities to guides and drivers, optional sightseeing and other excursions, and any items not listed in your documents.

Travel and Trip Cancellation Insurance – We strongly recommend that you purchase Travel Insurance.

Responsibility Clause – SterlingTours – the “Operator”, **Glenn Keator, Steve Gerischer, Pacific Horticulture Society** and or their agents or representatives, act only as agents for the various companies involved in providing services. They assume no responsibility or liability in connection with the service of any means of conveyance which may be used either whole or in part in the performance of its duty to the passenger. Likewise they will not be responsible for any act, error or omission or for any personal injury, damage, loss, accident, delay, irregularity or inconvenience which may be occasioned by reason of any defect in any vehicles, or through any act, neglect or default, or any company or person engaged in carrying out the purpose for which tickets or coupons are issued, whether negligent or not, including, but not limited to, any act of God, terrorism or war. In the event it becomes necessary or advisable for the comfort or well-being of passengers, or for any reason whatsoever, to alter itinerary or arrangements, such alterations may be made without penalty to the Operator. The right is reserved to withdraw any or all tours should conditions warrant, also to decline to accept or retain passengers as members of the tour. Legal proceedings against the company may be instituted only in a State or Federal Court within the County of San Diego, State of California, and any claim involved in such proceedings shall be decided in the County of San Diego, State of California. Any legal proceedings against the Operator must be commenced within one year following the date of tour completion. Neither the Operator nor Glenn Keator nor Steve Gerischer nor Pacific Horticulture Society shall in any case be liable for compensatory damages, and you hereby waive any right to punitive damages.

STERLING TOURS, LTD

A California Corporation

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