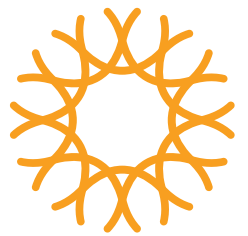




Coastal California

A Weekend of Discovery: May 19-21, 2023



CALIFORNIA
ACADEMY OF
SCIENCES

Join Academy scientists for an unforgettable weekend experience of discovery along the magical and nature-filled California coast. Plus, explore the Academy's *Thriving California* initiative, which aims to regenerate our home state's wondrous biodiversity.

The destination

The San Mateo coast encompasses a treasure trove of exquisite landscapes on the 40-mile stretch from Pacifica to the northern boundary of Santa Cruz County. Here is where the wild backcountry and deep canyons of the Santa Cruz Mountains transition into the warm, dry chaparral that meets the coastline—an area of natural beauty for millions of visitors each year. In addition to its stunning views, the coastline harbors a rich mosaic of features, including prehistoric fossils, a 19th-century lighthouse, historic ranch structures, and other features reflecting human uses of both terrestrial and marine environments through time.



The accommodations—retreat from the hustle and bustle

Costanoa is an eco-adventure resort where guests can retreat from the chaos of everyday life and discover the tranquil pace of nature. Costanoa has a reputation for providing genuine service, unique accommodations, California coastal cuisine, as well as a variety of spa and adventure activities using sustainable methods to create a quality experience for guests in a spectacular natural environment.

Surrounded by acres of undisturbed wilderness, rolling coastal hills, and secluded beaches, Costanoa is the perfect location to explore the extraordinary beauty of California's scenic coast. The cabins at Costanoa offer a unique and wonderful weekend getaway with incredible views for your weekend adventure.



Douglas Fir Cabins

Academy guests will stay in one of twelve Douglas Fir Cabins that overlook the stunning Chalk Hill Mountains, Whitehouse Canyon, and Ohlone Ridge. With either a king or two double beds these accommodations come with a ½ bath (toilet & sink) and access to a dedicated Douglas Fir Comfort Station which include restrooms, indoor hot showers, heated concrete floors, a 24-hour dry sauna, and outdoor fireplace. These duplex cabins have a common front porch and private back deck.

Douglas Fir cabins include:

- » Fireplace
- » Skylights
- » Bathrobes
- » Comfort Station Amenities
- » Mini Refrigerator
- » Radio/cell phone charging dock
- » Telephone
- » Coffee Station
- » Thermostat-controlled heat
- » Double French doors which open onto your private deck
- » Hot tub access

Spotlight weekend activities



We will spend two nights at Costanoa fully immersed in the natural beauty and wildlife that surround the area.

Saturday morning: Head out early for tidepooling led by Academy scientists. Here, we will learn how tides work, what the ecology of tidepools and oceans is like, the survival strategies of intertidal inhabitants along the California shore, and get tips for finding your tidepool organism of interest. We'll also use *iNaturalist* to collect biodiversity data and end the morning with a beach discovery walk.

Saturday afternoon: Join the plant walk with Academy scientists to learn about the ecology of coastal dune and scrub plant communities and hear about the unique plants that support biodiversity. We'll even explore California's most beautiful and iconic coastal plant species, *Lupinus arboreus* and *Castilleja latifolia*. Armed with hand lenses and our own phone cameras, we will document the plant species we encounter and discuss adaptations and survival strategies of species that live in these communities.

Saturday night: Dine at Pie Ranch, whose mission is to cultivate a healthy and just food system from seed to table! We'll take a tour of the ranch, drink locally produced wines, and enjoy a delectable meal prepared by Chef Diego Felix of Colectivo Felix that will focus on Latin American culture, edible biodiversity, and small-scale, ecological food producers. We'll end the evening with live music!

Sunday morning: Head back out the tidepools for some more intertidal adventures. After breakfast, it will be time to pack our things and check out, with plenty of time for more coastal exploration on your own as you make your way back home.



The schedule

Friday 5/19

- » Check in
- » Informational Gathering: Learn how to use iNaturalist and meet fellow travelers and Academy staff
- » Happy Hour
- » Dinner: complete with locally grown produce, wines, and sustainable seafood of the California coast.
- » Campfire and s'mores!

Saturday 5/20

- » Early wake up for tidepooling (snacks included)
- » Return to Costanoa for breakfast
- » Free exploration before lunch:
 - » Activities include: exploring the area, napping/resting, plant-pressing activity, chatting with Academy scientists, or trivia!
- » Lunch
- » Plant walk with botanists
- » Dinner at Pie Ranch



Sunday 5/21

- » Second tidepooling (optional)
- » Breakfast at Costanoa
- » Packing and check out
- » Final activities for you to enjoy on your own:
 - » Wine tasting
 - » Pigeon Point Lighthouse
 - » [Swanton Berry Farm](#)
 - » Explore the town of Pescadero
 - » Tour [Harley Farms Goat Dairy](#)
 - » See elephant seals at Año Nuevo
 - » Shop & catch some live music at the [San Gregorio General Store](#)



Thriving California

Thriving California is an Academy initiative that will harness scientific data, cross-sector collaborations, and broadscale community engagement to enable the Golden State to adapt to a warming climate and regenerate its wondrous biodiversity.

California is at the very heart of the Academy. We are the oldest science institution in the American West, established to understand and celebrate the state's stunning natural diversity. California is also on the frontlines of the ecological crisis, with many of its species and habitats severely threatened. In recent years, Californians have endured record-smashing temperatures, droughts, floods, and wildfires, with more records on the horizon.

Through three pathways—biodiversity science, environmental learning, and collaborative engagement—we will investigate the past, monitor the present, and create a future where healthy, resilient human and natural communities thrive together.





Know Before You Go

This trip is appropriate for children ages 13 and up and people with good mobility; Please consider that this trip will require some hiking over rocky terrain as well as walking on sandy trails and beaches; the tidepools are very slippery and require walking over uneven terrain: be prepared to walk in water up to mid-shin, and be sure to wear shoes with good tread that you don't mind getting wet (not flip-flops!); weekend will take place rain or shine.

Pricing

Per person (double occupancy) in Douglas Fir Double	\$1,150
Per person (double occupancy) in Douglas Fir King	\$1,050
Single occupancy in Douglas Fir King (only)	\$1,650
Per third and fourth guests in Douglas Fir Double (only)	\$450

\$500 deposit required to secure your spot by Apr 1, 2023

Final Payment due May 1, 2023

Refunds

100% refund before Apr 1, 2023

50% refund before Apr 15, 2023

25% refund before May 1, 2023

Refunds not available after May 1, 2023

RSVP

Reserve your spot by emailing donortravel@calacademy.org by **April 1, 2023** or by [clicking here](#) to make your \$500 deposit.

Space is limited to the first 20 guests.

calacademy.org/costanoa

Questions? Please email or call us at 415-379-5415

