

2018 FALL MAGAZINE

COAST_{TO} COAST



Colonial Living History

Virginia's Historic Triangle

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RICHARD VARR

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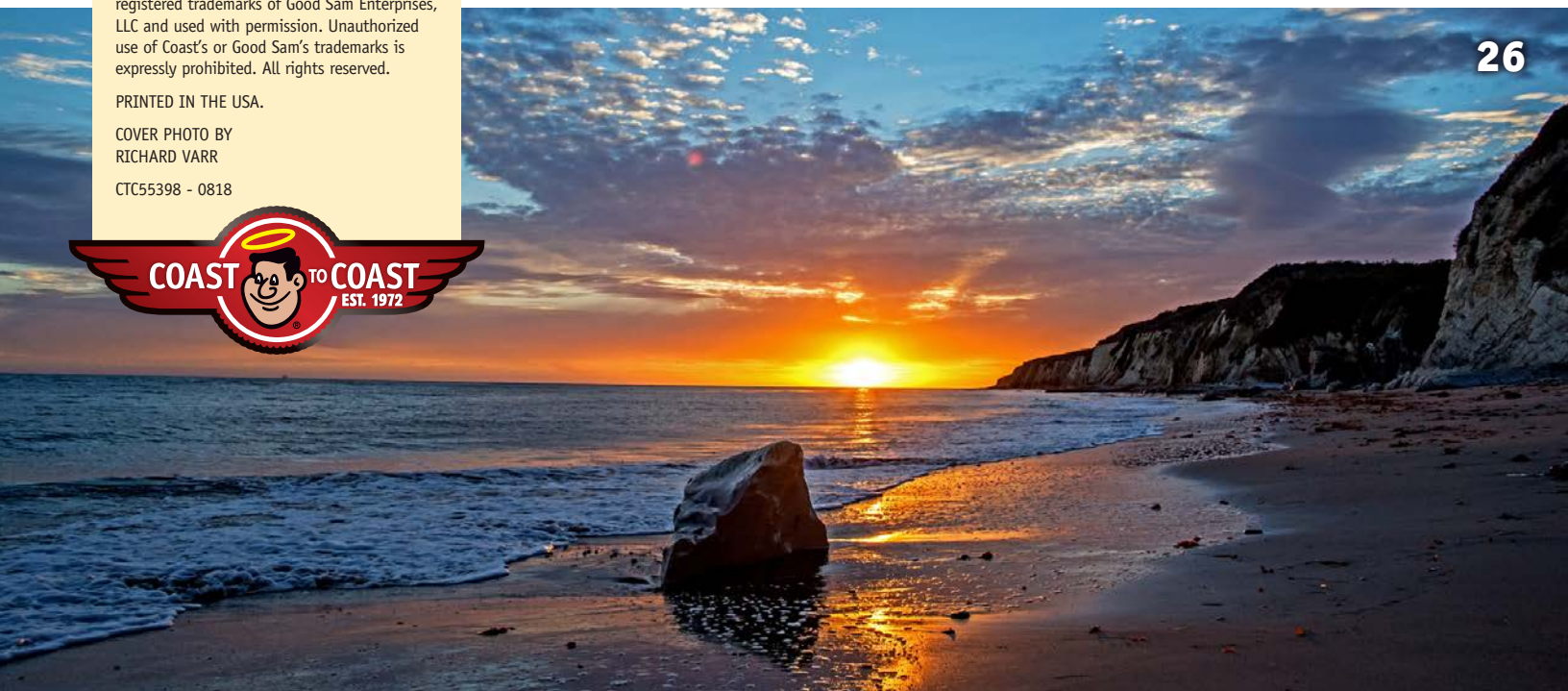
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FROM THE PRESIDENT

PUTTING MEMBERS FIRST

20 New Coast Affiliates Added to Network

This issue we are pleased to welcome 20 new Good Neighbor Parks (GNPs) to the Coast to Coast network. Situated all across North America, ten of these new GNPs are located in the United States and ten are located in Canada. To view the complete list of our new parks see page 5-6 of this issue, and to view comprehensive profiles of all these new facilities visit our online directory at www.CoastResorts.com.

As a reminder, starting this year Coast members make reservations directly with Good Neighbor Parks and pay GNPs directly as well. To make a reservation simply call the GNP at the number provided in the Coast Directory, identify yourself as a Coast member, check availability, and confirm your Coast member discounted rate. Coast members receive a discounted rate at GNPs that can range from \$15/night to a special discounted rate that is typically 20-25% off the GNPs normal rate.

Coast members can continue to make reservations at Classic, Deluxe, and Premier Resorts by using the Tripsetter reservation system on our member website or by calling Coast Member Services at 1-800-368-5721.

2018 Directory Update

Directory Update PDF Now Available on CoastResorts.com Website

One of our Coast members suggested that we add a PDF to our member website to recap all the resort and Good Neighbor Park (GNP) updates since the last directory. We think this is an excellent idea! So starting this month, you can find a "2018 Coast Directory Updates" PDF on the directory search page of our Coast member website, www.CoastResorts.com. This PDF lists all the resort and GNP changes since we printed the 2018 Coast Directory, including all the new GNPs announced in this issue as well as in the previous spring and summer issues.

Now that we have added this PDF to our member website, we will update it on a monthly basis or more frequently as changes occur. We hope you find this useful as you make plans to travel using your Coast membership.

Next year we plan to publish the first update to the 2019 Coast Directory in January, and then provide regular monthly updates during the year.

See this new feature on our website and then email your feedback to CCRPresident@CoastResorts.com. And if you have a suggestion for something else we can do to make your travel planning easier, please send an email to the same address.

Sunbelt Resorts and Good Neighbor Parks

Snowbird Availability List Added to Coast Member Website

Another member recently suggested that we provide a list of the sunbelt resorts and Good Neighbor Parks (GNPs) that have availability for Coast members during the peak snowbird months of January to March. Like the member idea on the directory update, we felt this was another excellent idea! So starting this month you can find a PDF on the directory search page of our www.CoastResorts.com website listing resorts and GNPs in the sunbelt that have availability for Coast members in the months of January, February, and March 2019. This should make it easier for our members traveling south in the first quarter to narrow their search for available places to stay using the Coast discount rate.

Keep in mind that while these affiliates have inventory available to Coast members in the first quarter, inventory is available on a first come/first served basis and therefore may or may not be available when you search an individual resort or call a specific GNP. Since spaces in the sunbelt are scarce in first quarter, particularly discounted spaces, the best policy is to make your travel plans as early as possible. Remember that the early (snow) bird gets the worm...or the RV space in this case!



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RESORT UPDATES

ADDITIONS AND CHANGES TO THE 2018 DIRECTORY

The 2018 *Coast to Coast Resort Directory* is packed with everything you need to navigate the network of Coast to Coast Resorts and Coast Good Neighbor Parks. To keep members up-to-date, each issue of Coast magazine includes any updates that have occurred since the last issue.

COAST DELUXE

ARIZONA

Silver View RV Resort, Bullhead City (page 114)
Address: 1501 Gold Rush Rd

MINNESOTA

Forest Hills Golf & RV Resort, Detroit Lakes
(page 141) Email: office@foresthillsgolfrv.com

COAST CLASSIC

OREGON

Neskowin Creek RV Resort, Neskowin (page 163)
Email: neskowincreek@soundpacificrv.com

TENNESSEE

Breckenridge Lake Resort, Crossville (page 167)
Email: breckenridgerv24@gmail.com

GOOD NEIGHBOR PARKS

GOOD NEIGHBOR PARKS UPDATE

TEXAS

Hill Country RV Resort & Cottage Rentals - Sun RV Resorts, New Braunfels (page 218)
Street address: 131 Rueckle Rd

NEW GOOD NEIGHBOR PARKS – UNITED STATES

ARIZONA

Caravan Oasis Resort, 10500 N Frontage Rd,
Yuma, 85365 URL: caravanoasisresort.com; Email:

contact@carvanoasisresort.com; Reservation phone:
(928) 342-1480

CALIFORNIA

Cava Robles RV Resort - Sun RV Resorts, 3800 Golden Hill Rd, Paso Robles, 93446 URL: sunrvresorts.com; Reservation phone: (248) 234-6027

FLORIDA

Compass RV Resort - Sun RV Resorts, 1505 State Rd 207, St. Augustine, 32086 URL: sunrvresorts.com; Reservation phone: (248) 234-6027

IDAHO

Trail Break RV Park & Campground, 432 N Bannock St, Glens Ferry, 83623 URL: trailbreakrvpark.com; Email: camp@trailbreakrvpark.com; Reservation phone: (208) 366-7745

NEBRASKA

Area's Finest Country View Campground, 120 Rd East 80, Ogallala, 69153 URL: cvcampground.com; Email: camp@cvcampground.com; Reservation phone: (308) 284-2415

OREGON

Sunny Valley RV Park and Campground, 140 Old Stage Rd, Sunny Valley, 97497
URL: sunnyvalleycampground.com; Email: info@sunnyvalleycampground.com; Reservation phone: (541) 479-0209

SOUTH DAKOTA

Southern Hills RV Park & Campground, 24549 Hwy 79, Hermosa, 57744 Email: kstyles907@msn.com; Reservation phone: (605) 939-7609

TEXAS

Amazing Texas RV Resort and Campground, 17506 FM 782 N, Tatum, 75691 URL: amazingtexasrvresort.com; Email: amazingtexasrvresort@gmail.com; Reservation phone: (936) 204-0397



UTAH

Lakeside RV Campground, 4000 W Center St, Provo, 84601 URL: lakesidervcampground.com; Email: lakesiderv@aol.com; Reservation phone: (801) 373-5267

WASHINGTON

Cedar Glen RV Park, 16300 NE State Hwy 305, Poulsbo, 98370 URL: cedarglenmhp.com; Email: admin@cedarglenmhp.com; Reservation phone: (360) 779-4305

NEW GOOD NEIGHBOR PARKS – CANADA

ALBERTA

Camp Tamarack RV Park, 704063 Range Rd 62, County of Grande Prairie #1, T8W 5B3 URL: camptamarackrv.com; Email: reservations@camptamarackrv.com; Reservation phone: (780) 532-9998

NOVA SCOTIA

Dunromin Campground, 4618 Hwy 1, Annapolis Royal, BOS 1K0 URL: dunromincampsite.com; Email: office@dunromincampsite.com; Reservation phone: (902) 532-2808

ONTARIO

Flamboro Valley Camping Resort, 1158 Hwy (Regional Rd) 97, Flamborough, NOB 2J0 URL: flamborovalley.com; Email: info@flamborovalley.com; Reservation phone: (905) 659-5053

Davy Lake Campground, 400 Davy Lake Rd, Ignace, POT 1T0 URL: davylakecampground.com; Email: smorin@davylakecampground.com; Reservation phone: (877) 374-3113

Sid Turcotte Park, 750 Mattawan St, Mattawa, POH 1V0 URL: sidturcottepark.com; Email: stp@sidturcottepark.com; Reservation phone: (705) 744-5375

Upper Canada Campground, 13390 Upper Canada Rd, Morrisburg, K0C 1X0 URL: uppercanadacampground.com; Email info@uppercanadacampground.com; Reservation phone (613) 543-2201

Scott's Family RV Park, 8845 Lundy's Ln, Niagara Falls, L2H 1H5 URL: campingatcotts.com; Email: scottscamping@outlook.com; Reservation phone (800) 649-9497

Yogi Bear's Jellystone Park Niagara Falls, Canada, 8676 Oakwood Drive, Niagara Falls, 2LG OJ2 URL: jellystoneniagara.ca; Email: yogibear jellystoneniagara.ca; Reservation phone (800) 263-2570

Camp Hither Hills, 5227 Bank St, Ottawa, K1X 1H2 URL: ottawarvparks.ca; Email: info@ottawarvparks.ca; Reservation phone (613) 822-0509

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

Jellystone Park PEI, 23714 Trans Canada Hwy, Borden-Carleton, COB 1X0 URL: jellystonepei.com; Email: jellystonepei@gmail.com; Reservation phone: (844) 734-9644

GOOD NEIGHBOR PARK TERMINATIONS

ARIZONA

Dateland Travel Center, Dateland

ARKANSAS

Cricket Creek RV Estates, Omaha

CALIFORNIA

Redwoods River Resort & Campground, Leggett
Friendly RV Park, Weed

NEVADA

Bonanza Terrace RV Park, Reno

TEXAS

Twin Cedar RV Park, Porter

WASHINGTON

River Oaks RV Resort, Oroville



RESORT TYPE
Coast Deluxe

LOCATION
Lake Havasu City, Arizona

SEASON
September 15 – May 14

WEBSITE
www.coloradriveradventures.com/lake-havasu-resort

Lake Havasu RV Park

The lure of a desert lake and historic bridge draws visitors to Lake Havasu

Where else can you find desert climate, 400 miles of coastline, and a world-famous bridge? It's all in and around beautiful Lake Havasu RV Park in Lake Havasu City, Arizona.

The adjacent Lake Havasu hosts watersports such as fishing, water skiing, kayaking, and houseboating, and entices visitors to the area. It's also the perfect getaway for RVers, a fact recognized by Colorado River Adventures (CRA), parent company of Lake Havasu RV Park.

In addition to beautiful weather—300 days of sunshine a year—multiple golf courses and all the enjoyment a large lake offers, Lake Havasu RV Park has the distinction of being close to another historic Arizona landmark—London Bridge. Purchased in 1962 and rebuilt in Lake Havasu City, the bridge attracts 2 million guests annually.

Although there are many nearby attractions, Coast to Coast members don't have to leave the park to have a

wonderful time under the sun. The resort's sites are laid out with wide paved roads. Two pools, clubhouse, recreation hall, laundry, and restrooms are centrally located. A playground, pet walking area, shuffleboard, and horseshoes are also available.

Those venturing outside the gates will find a wealth of activities, including shopping and recreational opportunities. Lake Havasu City has fine dining and shopping. Throughout the season, Lake Havasu hosts many festivals and special events including Skat-Trak World Championships, Relics and Rods Run to the Sun, Festival of Lights, Winterfest, and London Bridge Days.

Recreation in the Lake Havasu area includes three 18-hole golf courses and a 9-hole course, five commercial marinas, a public boat launch area, five parks (Community Recreation Aquatics Center, Rotary Community Park, Jack Hardy Park, Island Ballfield, and the London Bridge Beach Park), Lake Havasu and Cattail Cove State Parks, and 47 miles of shoreline within the city limits.





RESORT TYPE
Good Neighbor Park

LOCATION
Orange City, Florida

SEASON
Year-round

WEBSITE
www.lunasandsresort.com

Luna Sands Resort

Guests at Luna Sands Resort are surrounded by the best of Florida

Treat yourself to a memorable Florida vacation at Luna Sands Resort in Orange City. Enjoy the natural beauty of Florida, as well as its top attractions, while staying at a resort with a family atmosphere that you can call your home away from home.

But, once set up on your beautiful site in the resort, there's no need to go off-site. The resort accommodates RVs while maintaining the natural beauty of Florida and all its wildlife that surrounds the property. This relaxing, shady spot with concrete patios and picnic tables offers you a wonderful break from a day of fun in the Florida sun with mature oaks, native palms, and tall pines. Stroll down to the pond and keep an eye out for the storks, ibis, cranes, hawks, eagles, and hummingbirds that all call the resort home!

Amenities include a convenience store, showers, laundry site, and 30- and 50-amp hook-ups. The pet-friendly resort has a spacious dog park for your four-legged friends. Take advantage of the playground, basketball

and volleyball courts, outdoor pool, and game corner with pool table and TV.

The resort is conveniently located minutes away from Blue Spring State Park and St. John's River for fishing and boating. The area also offers golf, flea markets, and beautiful beaches. A short 15-minute drive takes you to the antique shops of Deland, as well as Stetson University. If it's car racing you're after, the resort is just 30 minutes from Daytona International Speedway, New Smyrna Speedway, and Volusia County Speedway. Orlando, with its world-famous attractions, is just an hour down the interstate.

Blue Spring State Park is a designated manatee refuge and the winter home to a growing population of West Indian manatees. During manatee season, which runs approximately from mid-November through March, manatees can be viewed atop the spring's overlooks. During this time, the spring is closed to all water activity, including swimming and diving.



RESORT PROFILES



RESORT TYPE
Coast Deluxe

LOCATION
Champion, Pennsylvania

SEASON
May 15 – October 15

WEBSITE
www.roaringrunresort.com

Roaring Run Resort

Year-round fun in the Laurel Highlands of Pennsylvania

Set in the heart of Laurel Highlands, Roaring Run Resort in Champion, Pennsylvania, is surrounded by some of the most beautiful scenery in the state. Why else would Pennsylvania create so many state parks in the area: Laurel Mountain, Kooser, Laurel Ridge and Ohiopyle? Upscale resorts and ski resorts are also nestled nearby in the gorgeous mountains. If you like to add a bit of water to your vacation plans, there's quick access to many lakes, rivers, and streams. Bring your bike and hiking shoes along and take advantage of the 15 miles of biking and hiking trails, which lead into Ohiopyle State Park. If architect Frank Lloyd Wright loved the area and thought it was perfect for his signature home, Fallingwater, then it's probably perfect for you, too.

The owners and builders of Roaring Run Resort have put a great deal of planning and hard work into selecting and creating what they feel is a "superior resort." Once you've set up at your beautifully landscaped campsite, either

settle in at your site or take advantage of the many activities. Amenities and activities include plenty of sporting venues: Olympic-size swimming pool, children's wading pool, large children's playground, and an 18-hole miniature golf course.

Try your skill at bocce ball, horseshoes, shuffleboard, volleyball, tennis, and basketball. Grownups can enjoy the adult lodge while teens have fun at the teen center. Learn some new arts and crafts, play bingo, or take a hay-wagon ride. Grab your fishing pole and catch the big one at one of the many nearby fishing streams, or golf on one of more than 30 golf courses throughout the area.

There are options if you travel without your rig. Roaring Run Resort offers the perfect solution with cabins designed for the ultimate vacation getaway. The cabins come complete with fully-stocked kitchen, TV and cable, bedroom, loft, bathroom with shower, lounge, dining table, and futon.



RESORT PROFILES

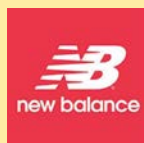


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Coldwater Creek

VAN HEUSEN

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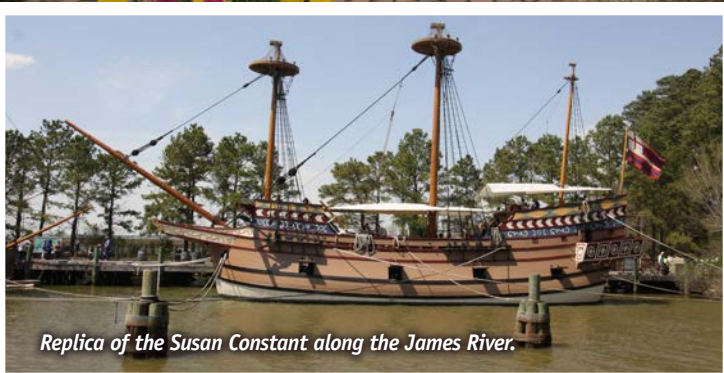
COLONIAL *Living History*

Virginia's
Historic Triangle
of Jamestown,
Yorktown, and
Williamsburg





Flower garden in Colonial Williamsburg.



Replica of the Susan Constant along the James River.

COLONIAL LIVING HISTORY

Story and most photos by Richard Varr

I can feel the undulations of the choppy James River aboard *Discovery*—one of her sails only slightly unfurled, but catching the blustery winds howling across the open waters.

“It’s not the real ship, but it’s very similar to it. You can touch it and feel the ship moving,” explains Carol Wiers, a historic interpreter at Jamestown Settlement, a living history museum detailing England’s first permanent settlement in North America. “It gets you that step closer to knowing what it was like being on a ship for four and a half months coming to Virginia.”

Berthed in a cove along the river, *Discovery* with its roped masts and creaking wooden deck is the smallest of the three recreated ships that brought colonists here in 1607. Alongside *Discovery*, the three-masted *Godspeed* and flagship *Susan Constant*—all fully operational, actual-size replicas—offer a glimpse of the hardships

endured by the 144 settlers who dared to cross the Atlantic Ocean to the New World.

“Crowded, cramped, boring, and relatively miserable—definitely not the Caribbean cruise you’re looking for in the modern world,” says Lara Templin, the museum’s assistant interpretive site manager. “You’re eating pickles, salt pork, salt fish, dry bread, hard biscuits. And the water turned green and smelled so foul that no man could abide it. So, they drank beer because that’s what would last.”

Jamestown Settlement is my first stop through Virginia’s Historic Triangle—a trip where I’ll walk in the footsteps of Capt. John Smith on the original settlement site. I’ll follow the pathways taken by Gen. George Washington’s Continental Army in 1781 as it surrounded Gen. Charles Cornwallis’ British troops on the Yorktown Battlefield. And in Colonial Williamsburg, I’ll cross the same streets as Washington and Thomas Jefferson when Williamsburg was Virginia’s capital during the 18th century. All three areas can be easily reached along the scenic, tree-lined Colonial Parkway, stretching 23 miles from Jamestown to Yorktown.

Jamestown Settlement and the recently opened American Revolution Museum at Yorktown, both operated by the



Statue of Captain John Smith at Historic Jamestowne, the actual settlement site.



Outline of the church where Pocahontas and John Rolfe were married in 1614.

state-funded Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation, and Colonial Williamsburg bring these key historic periods back to life with artifacts, interactive digital technology and outdoor living history exhibits manned by costumed interpreters.

Part of Colonial National Historical Park, nearby Historic Jamestowne is the exact site where the colonists built their settlement and fort. A statue of Capt. John Smith, who once told the settlers, “he that will not work shall not eat,” stands tall over the grounds of what was James Fort where archeological digs continue today. “The last time a shovel hit that spot there was in 1608,” explains Amber Phelps, Historic Jamestowne’s assistant manager of educational programs as we look down into an excavation pit. “That flat surface at the bottom was the layer that John Smith and Pocahontas were walking on,” she continues.

Excavations have unearthed evidence of both successes and horrors of settlement life. Wooden posts mark the outline of the church where Pocahontas, daughter of the Indian chief Powhatan, married planter John Rolfe in 1614. Another site reveals a 1608 kitchen with trash materials including eggs, tortoise and oyster shells, and sturgeon and deer bones. More gruesome artifacts there reveal a human skull and evidence of cannibalism,

most likely during the so-called “starving time” when, surrounded by hostile Indians, the colonists holed up in the fort during the winter of 1609-1610.

At Jamestown Settlement, an outdoor recreation of James Fort depicts how it looked from 1610-1614, its wooden-façade building recreations based on archeological research and written sources. “You’re seeing basically a little tiny chunk of England plunked down in the wilderness of Virginia,” notes Templin.

Reconstructed buildings include an Anglican church, guardhouse, and storehouse. The Governor’s House was the most lavishly decorated, because the governor brought his furnishings at his own expense. Gunfire erupts with matchlock musket-firing demonstrations. An adjacent Powhatan Indian village features huts recreated with water reeds weaved into mats and secured on a framework of sapling branches. Inside, furs cover wooden frames used as beds.

Historic interpreters at both sites don period costumes, including the likes of breeches and petticoats, painstakingly sewn together by the Settlement’s costume shop. “I think the clothing gives interpreters instant credibility,” says Historical Clothing Manager Chris Daley. “We try to build everything the visitor sees



Historical interpreters help visitors see how early visitors lived.



by hand—anything on the outside of the garment—including button and ornamentation stitching, because there were no sewing machines.”

The museum building highlights the complete story of Jamestown and colonization through the 17th century, from departing England in 1606 until 1699, when the capital of Virginia moved from Jamestown to Williamsburg. With 900 or so original 16th- and 17th-century artifacts including portraits, muskets, tools, furniture, and more, the museum explains the cultural mixing and clashes of settlers, Powhatan Indians, and Virginia’s first Africans, followed by the development of trade and how tobacco became the cash crop.

Key exhibits include an early 17th-century London street with living quarters—a tenement room with ordinary period jugs and plates, a shopkeepers’ space centered by a 17th-century desk, and a reconstruction to scale of the bow of the *Susan Constant*. “The illusion is you’re coming down a London street toward the docks and the ship is being loaded,” says the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation’s Senior Curator Tom Davidson. “We were very careful to reconstruct everything the way it would have been.”

One room includes original 17th-century portraits of

King James I and investors in the Virginia Company who sent the settlers as a business venture to find gold. Another exhibit highlights the chronology and southerly route of the first 1606-1607 voyage, following the winds down the coast of Africa and across the Atlantic to the Caribbean, and then finally on up to Virginia. And yet another explores the life and legend of Pocahontas. “She’s the one 17th-century Virginian everyone knows,” explains Davidson. “Pocahontas was the linking personality between the English and the Powhatan and becomes a kind of cultural emissary between the two peoples.”

Similar to Jamestown Settlement’s outdoor living history, the American Revolution Museum at Yorktown, opened in 2017, recreates a soldiers’ camp—tents evenly lined according to Continental Army regulations. “We encourage our guests to crawl in the tents, pull things out and try things on,” explains Interpretive Program Manager Homer Lanier. “We’re a hands-on museum.”

I follow his advice and use a quill pen to sign an army enlistment form. “You get a whopping \$6.50 a month in pay, and if you agree to stay for three years, you’ll get a \$20 bounty or bonus,” pitches historic interpreter Lee Ann Shelhorse, sporting simple colonial-style garb.



Inside the George Wythe House, Colonial Williamsburg.



Inside the Governor's Palace in Colonial Williamsburg.



Shot along Duke of Gloucester Street in Colonial Williamsburg.



A Powhatan reconstructed village, part of living history in Jamestown Settlement.



Interpreter in Indian garb.

The mock camp also includes circular cooking pits, where a hearty meal would have included salt pork, beans, and hardtack; and the surgeon's tent, where wounded soldiers would be treated with opium-based laudanum to ease pain. Gunshots echo through the camp with flintlock musket demonstrations, and a recreated Virginia farm is based on an actual homestead. "The tastes, the smells, and even the ducks and chickens are the same breeds as in the 18th century," says Lanier.

The main museum building puts the entire American Revolution in perspective, from the earlier French and Indian War to the start of the new nation. Some 500 original artifacts—weapons, documents, period furniture and more—fill display cases along with detailed historical interpretations. Original portraits include England's King George III, Lord Cornwallis, Founding Fathers, and perhaps the rarest item in the museum's collection, a painting of African Ayuba Suleiman Diallo. "This is probably the earliest portrait done from life of an individual enslaved in North America," says Davidson.

I couldn't help but notice the ornately-trimmed pistols once carried by the Marquis de Lafayette, the French military officer who came to the aid of the American rebels. An original copy of a 1776 Declaration of Independence, printed in Boston from a Philadelphia

copy, is viewed under low light.

The 1781 Battle of Yorktown that ended the Revolutionary War thunders to life in the museum's experiential theater with its 180-degree surround-sound screen, where seats rumble and cannonballs seemingly fly by in a smoky haze. Another exhibit depicts the less-known but important Battle of Great Bridge, where the patriots' victory drove out British rule from Virginia in 1775. "That's kind of the Lexington/Concord of Virginia," explains Davidson. "It's shown in full scale because the battle takes place on a 20-foot-wide causeway, with British troops marching across and Americans at the other end defending it."

Just a five-minute drive from the museum is the actual Yorktown Battlefield, also part of Colonial National Historical Park. A driving tour traces the British fortifications or redoubts, with stops explaining how American and French forces cornered the redcoats with no escape against the York River. Gen. Washington's original sleeping tent is within the park's Visitor Center, as is an original British cannon with an obvious dent in its shaft caused by a cannonball. "It's called the Lafayette Cannon because when he came back to the United States and toured the East Coast, Lafayette saw that cannon, recognized it, and got quite emotional," explains Park Ranger Linda Williams.



Inside the recreated James Fort—costumed interpreters demonstrate musket firing.



Defense posts on the Yorktown Battlefield.

My introduction to Colonial Williamsburg comes with a tour led by Martha Dandridge Custis Washington—actually, a historic interpreter portraying Mrs. Washington when George Washington would often visit the former Virginia capital after his election to the House of Burgesses. We walk along shaded streets lined with both reconstructed and original structures, some of them around 300 years old.

“We have a tendency, especially with our Founding Fathers, to cast them in marble, and we forget they’re real people,” says interpreter Katharine Pittman, elegantly dressed in a sunburst colonial-style dress and a flat-crowned hat with a stitched blue pattern. “With Mrs. Washington, one of my goals is to make her human and to remind our guests that she had an entire life, emotions, thoughts, feelings, happy times, and sad times, and that she wasn’t this very stoic person you see in a portrait.”

Within Colonial Williamsburg’s 301 acres, 88 restored original 18th- and early 19th-century structures still stand, with others reconstructed on original foundations thanks to support from philanthropist John D. Rockefeller Jr. starting in the late 1920s. The capitol dominates the view down Duke of Gloucester Street and is home to what were the chambers of the upper and lower houses

of the legislature, the Council and House of Burgesses, respectively. Another expansive view stretches down Grassy Palace Green to the Governor’s Palace noted for its chandeliered ballroom. The original 1715 Bruxton Parish Church with its 1769 tower still has an active parish today.

Taverns were community centers of sorts as venues for lectures, plays, dining, private gambling and parties. The reconstructed Raleigh Tavern has six rooms for socializing, while the “great room” of Wetherburn’s Tavern served as an informal town hall. The central Courthouse has mock sessions every 30 minutes, where justices preside over re-enactments of actual 18th-century cases. The 1715 Public Magazine, where cannon firing demonstrations take place, has an impressive collection of muskets and pistols.

The original Wythe House retains the same wooden floors where Thomas Jefferson once walked while studying law under the tutelage of legal scholar George Wythe. George Washington also slept there when planning the Continental Army’s Siege of Yorktown. Equally impressive, the maroon-colored, original Peyton Randolph House hosted the likes of Randolph, Patrick Henry, Washington, and Jefferson around the dinner table.



Fife and drum regiments in Colonial Williamsburg.



Carriage passing the Governor's Mansion in Williamsburg.

Williamsburg's Art Museums, all under one roof, are well worth a visit to see 18th-and 19th-century architectural fragments like etched window panels and wood shingles, and folk art, silver, and Delft and Chinese dinner sets. There are pianos, harpsichords, and smaller spinets. Don't miss the original Gilbert Stuart portraits of Washington, Jefferson and presidents James Madison and James Monroe.

Trade shops were a part of everyday 18th-century life—blacksmiths, cabinet makers, tailors, and printers. In the apothecary, an interpreter shows me 18th-century antacids made from ground oyster shells and chalk. "We can flavor them with cinnamon or sugar," he quips. The wigmaker's shop displays powdered white wigs and others made from human, horse, yak, and goat hair. And silversmiths demonstrate how such colonial-era workshops made common everyday wares. "They were making small things like spoons, cups, and bowls," says journeyman silversmith Preston Jones amidst the background scraping sounds of filing metal. "It was work from sunup to sundown."



Replica of Continental Army encampment with cook at a cooking pit.



A Powhatan reconstructed village, part of living history in Jamestown Settlement.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

www.colonialwilliamsburg.com
www.historicjamestowne.org • www.nps.gov/colo

Discover **LUBBOCK, TEXAS**

Rock 'N' Roll, Ranches, and more





The Steel House by Robert Bruno overlooks Lake Ransom Canyon just outside of Lubbock.



The inside of the Steel House by Robert Bruno offers stained glass panels, large windows, and steel jutting out at odd angles.

DISCOVER LUBBOCK, TEXAS

Story and photos by Neala McCarten

I carefully picked my way across the uneven surfaces and even a tiny chasm to the huge windows of the Robert Bruno house and gazed at Lake Ransom Canyon below. The bluff setting is spectacular as was the dream behind this sculpture-cum-house.

Lubbock may be Buddy Holly's hometown, but this west-Texas outpost offers more than rock 'n' roll nostalgia. Think quirky art district, ranching history, wind power museum, and a house of steel.

Buddy Holly Center

When Buddy Holly, Ritchie Valens, and J. P. "The Big Bopper" Richardson died in a plane crash on February 2, 1959 (along with pilot Roger Peterson), singer-songwriter Don McLean declared it the day the music died.

But in Lubbock, Texas, where Holly was born Charles

Hardin Holley on September 7, 1936, his music and his legacy are very much alive. You don't have to be a fan to be fascinated by the Buddy Holly Center. As an added bonus, visitors can also tour the J. I. Allison House—childhood home of The Crickets' drummer J. I. Allison and the place where he and Buddy Holly wrote many hits including, "That'll Be the Day."

Inside the center there's a detailed timeline and exhibits focused on Holly's life from his childhood, his marriage to Maria Elena, his signature glasses, and his band, even his Fender Stratocaster. You can even peek into his recreated bedroom.

Guided tours are available and since the heart and soul of the museum are the stories, don't miss the opportunity to hear what it was like on that unfortunate road trip that ended up costing Holly his life, or how his name changed from Holley to Holly, and the other fascinating bits of music history.

When in the Allison House, definitely ask about the phone conversation between Holly and his former producer. It's taped and available to "listen in" on the kitchen phone.

Additional Holly stops include the West Texas Walk of Fame at Buddy and Maria Elena Holly Plaza at 19th



Soto was a yucca-like plant used to construct early homes, one of which is on display at National Ranching Heritage Center



The interior of the El Capote Cabin at National Ranching Heritage Center.

Street and Crickets Avenue, right by the Buddy Holly Center (where you'll also find his statue).

Holly and later his parents were laid to rest in a local cemetery at 31st Street and Teak Avenue where fans still pay their respects. Inside the gate to the right is a road that leads to his grave (left side of the road).

National Ranching Heritage Center

Walk the history of life on the Texas range at the National Ranching Heritage Center (NRHC). Run by the Texas Historical Society and Texas Tech University, 19-acre Proctor Historical Park tells the story of the intrepid families who settled frontier Texas through the buildings they constructed and the houses in which they lived.

The loop road takes you past almost 50 buildings, each an example of how early settlers met the challenges of living on the range. A railroad depot and train underscore the importance of the railway system. Windmills scattered throughout the rolling landscape highlight the importance of water to keep the steam engines running and the animals watered. Barns, carriage houses, a schoolhouse, milk and meat houses all represent the difficulties and solutions to maintaining life on the frontier.

Walk past a half dugout home built into the earth for shelter and to save on the need for wood, and a dogtrot cottage built with an open area to stay cooler in the hot, humid Texas summers. There's a structure built of soto—a yucca-like plant— whose stalks were used to construct the first two rooms of one of the cabins. A Queen Anne confection of a residence reminds visitors that there was also gracious living.

The NRHC offers 30-minute trolley tours of the historical park at 10:30 a.m. every Thursday, April to October, for \$5 per person. But the walk is easy and allows visitors to spend plenty of time at each of the fascinating sites.

American Windmill Museum

Today giant turbines reach into the sky to grab the power of the wind transforming it into electricity, but long before these sleek white structures there were windmills that used the energy of the wind to pull water from deep out of the ground. The American Windmill Museum celebrates this sustainable form of energy—wind power still thrives.

Intrepid settlers certainly used wagons to bring them to the new frontier, but it was the railroads that opened the area to commerce and trade, a form of travel made possible by windmills. The steam engines that pulled



Windmills line the walls of one of the exhibit halls at American Windmill Museum.



The El Capote Cabin at National Ranching Heritage Center dates back to 1838.



Although we know him as Buddy Holly, his last name was actually Holley. He's buried in a local cemetery in Lubbock next to his parents.



A giant replica of Holly's famous glasses greets visitors outside the Buddy Holly Center.

the trains required water, which had to be supplied frequently and regularly, a need met by windmills.

There are about 200 windmills on display both inside the two huge exhibit halls and on the grounds of the museum. They cover the history of water-pumping windmills from the 1860s to modern versions as well as the history of their electric-generating counterpart. Another 100 await restoration. The museum has its own shop to overhaul and restore these beloved antiques.

The indispensability of water is underscored by the museum's scale model trains. The set-up is a delight for adults as well as children and depicts the early 1900s in the south plains of Texas, complete with those crucial windmills.

Windmills and water still go together today across vast swatches of prairie. The high cost of bringing in electricity to power water pumps makes wind power a highly affordable option.

Wind was also used to power huge stones to grind grain and the museum is proud of its Flowerdew Hundred Post Mill, a replica of the first wind driven grist mill in North America (originally constructed in 1621). Jump from the 17th century to the 21st century with the Vestas Wind Turbine, its tower reaching upwards 164 feet and

its stately turning blades providing a humbling sense of its height and power. Besides being fascinating to see up close, the Vestas generates the electricity for the museum.

Bruno Steel House

The Bruno Steel House (open by appointment only) doesn't feel much like a home with associations of cozy comfort, although its unconventional creator Robert Bruno did once live there.

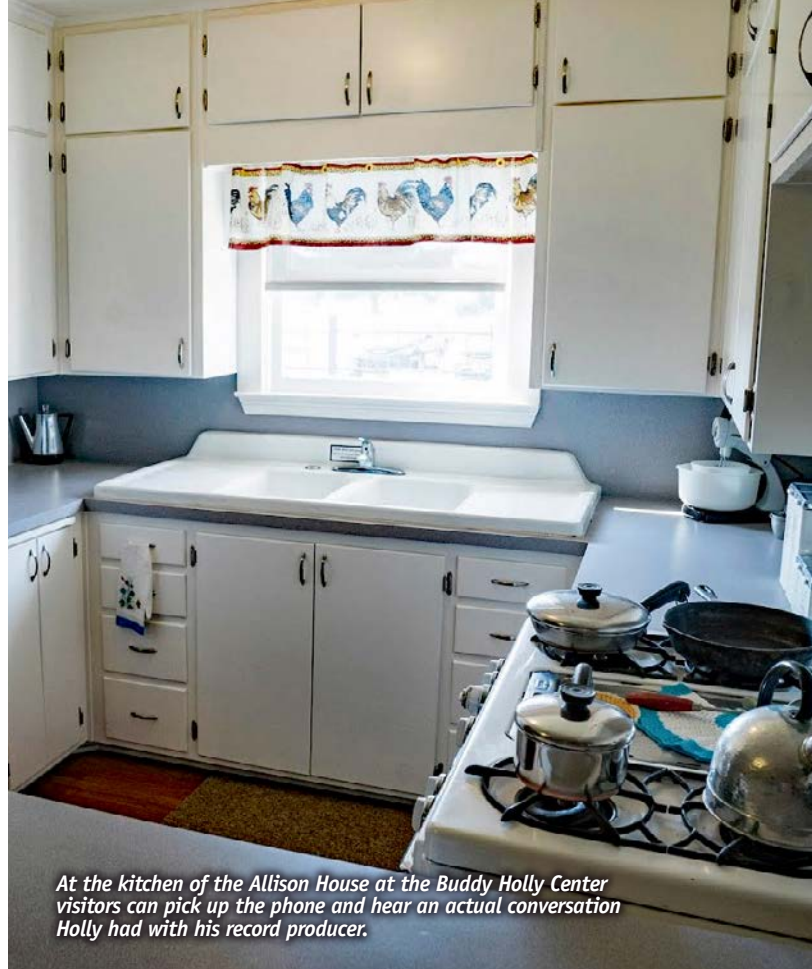
Instead it feels like walking through the inside of a giant piece of art—a 2,200 square-foot sculpture of 110 tons of steel highlighted by panels of stained glass and huge windows floating above the water of Lake Ransom Canyon.

The house itself has been unoccupied since the death of the charismatic if somewhat mysterious sculptor who had made the structure his life's work. The austere look and bare furnishings remain.

The house had been closed to visitors, but Bruno's daughter Christina has recently allowed tours of this quite singular building. Arrangements must be made in advance with Bruno's business colleague, Henry F. Martinez, who will open the building and provide a brief



The dining room is the family dining room at the Allison House at the Buddy Holly Center. Photo Credit: Allison House



At the kitchen of the Allison House at the Buddy Holly Center visitors can pick up the phone and hear an actual conversation Holly had with his record producer.



When the digs are active visitors can observe an actual dig in process at Lubbock Lake Landmark. Photo Credit: Lubbock CVB



This is the actual recreated bedroom where Holly and Cricket drummer J. I. Allison composed some of the group's hit songs.



Life-size, 11-foot-tall Columbian mammoth mother and baby have been reproduced in bronze outside the visitor center at Lubbock Lake Landmark.



The walls of the Depot Art District are festooned with street art, and photographers enjoy taking pictures.

overview. You can contact Martinez via his cellphone 806-632-6938. There is a cost to explore this walk-through sculpture perched atop a hill.

Lubbock Lake Landmark

For thousands of years people have lived in the area now known as Lubbock Lake. Hunter-gatherers, prehistoric peoples, Native American tribes, and the animals they hunted are all part of the history of this National Historic Landmark. Visitors are even greeted at the entrance by life-size sculptures of the mammoths that once roamed the area.

Visitors can stroll the boardwalks and admire the prairie flowers, but the Landmark is also known for its archeology. In 2011, the Landmark celebrated 75 years of discovery that began with the accidental unearthing of a Folsom point in 1936 (an early spear or “projectile” point named after the town in New Mexico where one was first discovered). It is estimated that the site was used by these ancient people going back almost 12,000 years.

Self-guided tours of the prairie, the flowers, and the archeological digs that dot the site are available. Signs along the trail by the archeological sites tell the story behind the digs. When the digs are active, visitors can

also watch the volunteers work the sites.

Lubbock Arts District

Cornerstone of the Lubbock Arts District, the Charles Adams Studio Project (CASP) is the passion of gallery owner Charles Adams, providing artists with studio space, special equipment, and exhibition opportunities in return for opening their work and their space to visitors. The area’s First Friday is far more than the usual roundup of galleries open to the public. With a central location, art lovers can enjoy offerings of food trucks and musicians as well as wine and beer. The artists in residence not only open their studios, they provide mini-tours. It raises the whole experience beyond what most cities can offer.

Throughout the area are other art-centered business that offer classes and gallery space as well as walls that have become canvases for vibrant street art and murals.

Louise Hopkins Underwood Center for the Arts (LHUCA) theater and gallery provide year-round short-term exhibits and performances, literary talks, and film festivals. The Charles Adams Gallery offers a varied palette of contemporary and modern art in different media.



Historic train and windmill at National Ranching Heritage Center.



Mural of highlights of Buddy Holly's life at 19th and Buddy Holly Avenue in Lubbock's historic Depot District.

Food

If you're eating in Texas, you have to have barbecue—especially brisket. In Lubbock, the place to eat is Evie Mae. Pitmaster Arnis Robbins treats his brisket the way every pitmaster should. "You have to have patience" he says when asked the secret to his best-selling brisket, "it's not done until it's done." Of course, it's not just the brisket—ribs, sausage, and pulled pork are outstanding as well.

Arnis and his wife Mallory Robbins have also created a gluten-free menu that is immensely tasty. Her recipes for corn bread, puddings, and chocolate brownie/cake remove the flour and ramp up the flavor.

Next door to the Buddy Holly museum, the Castiron Grill is an iconic Texas establishment with down-home comfort food for breakfast and lunch that won't leave you wanting. Their pulled pork and cheese sandwich is a local lunch favorite. But for breakfast, their biscuits can't be beat. Save room for dessert—this place is famous for its pies.

West Table Kitchen and Bar offers an industrial vibe, an open kitchen and stellar food—with a changing menu depending on season and chef inspiration. It's upscale but not pretentious—in fact, it's downright friendly, in



Giant windmills dwarf visitors to the American Windmill Museum.

a professional way.

With a half-dozen RV campgrounds in the Lubbock area, it's both convenient and fascinating to visit this West Texas town.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

www.buddyhollycenter.org • www.depts.ttu.edu/nrhc
<http://windmill.com/> • www.robertbruno.com
www.depts.ttu.edu/museumttu/ll/ • <https://casp-arts.org/>



WEEKEND WALKABOUT

Sunny Santa Barbara



California poppies decorate many areas of Santa Barbara. Photo Credit: Mark Weber



Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History Sea Center focuses on entertaining aspects of science and the underwater world. Photo Credit: Mark Loehr

SUNNY SANTA BARBARA

Story and photos by Paula Loehr

In case you were wondering, California dreamin' is a real-life phenomenon. More than 40 fleeting years ago, my husband Dennis and I were fortunate enough to live and dream on the Pacific Coast in Santa Barbara, California. With its bright blue skies, perennial sunshine, and impeccable seaside location at the base of the Santa Inez Mountains, Santa Barbara fully deserves its complimentary nickname—The American Riviera. Although Dennis and I eventually relocated to the Atlantic coast of the Southern United States, we visit Santa Barbara as often as possible. It never ever disappoints us.

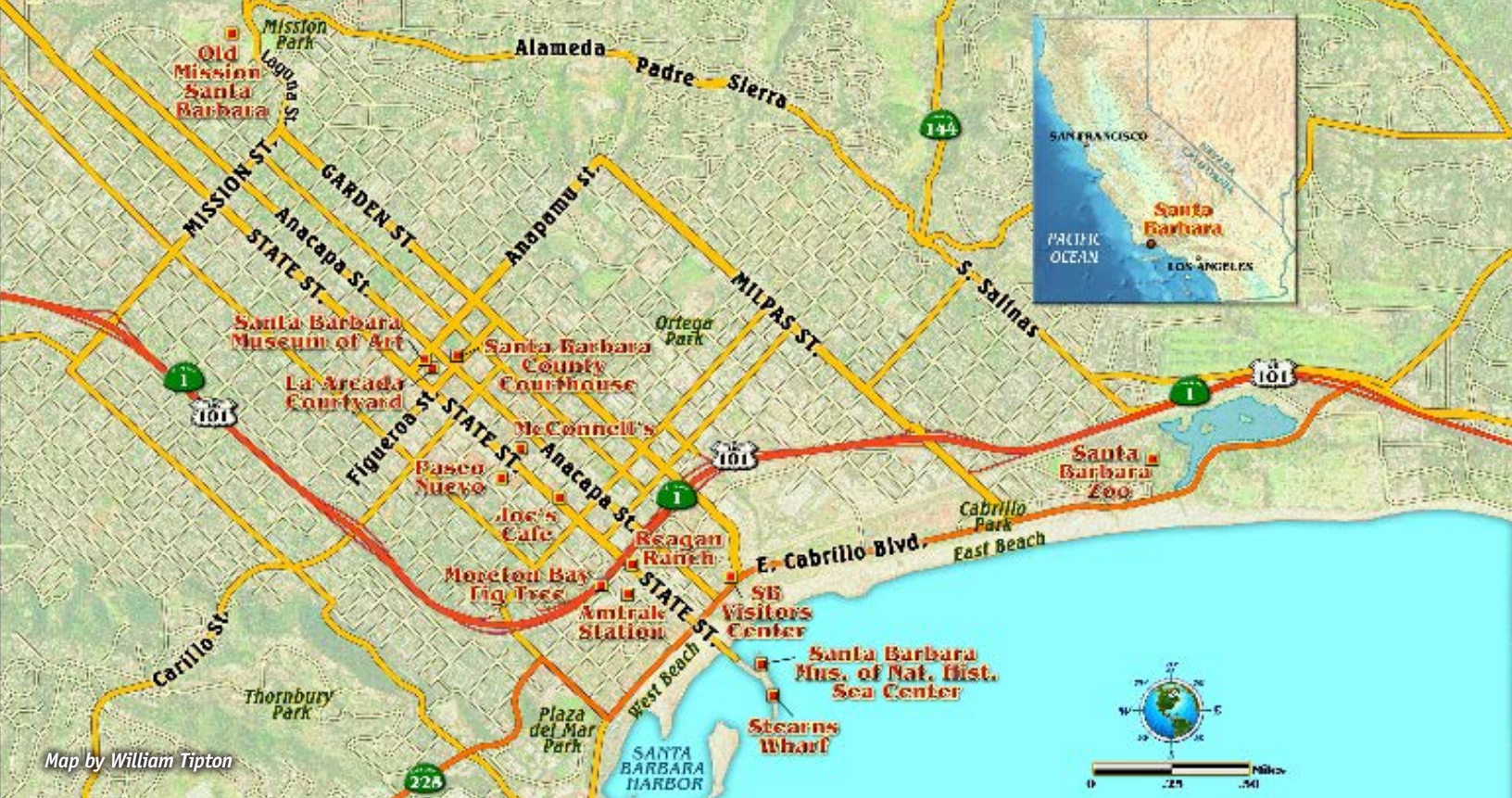
During a recent weekend on “The American Riviera,” we realized that a pedestrian can experience much of Santa Barbara’s magic in two or three easy days on foot. If you decide your feet need a break during your walkabout weekend, here’s a back-up plan. Santa Barbara operates Downtown-Waterfront shuttles that roll up and down State Street to the Cabrillo Boulevard beachfront.

The logical place to launch a self-guided walkabout is the Santa Barbara Visitors Center (1 Garden Street). It’s located near the end of State Street on the edge of the Pacific Ocean. The center’s friendly travel ambassadors provide maps, fact sheets, and practical tips to help you make the most of city activities.

A few steps from the Visitors Center down Cabrillo Boulevard in Santa Barbara Harbor, Stearns Wharf (built in 1872) is the West Coast’s oldest functioning pier. As you approach it, look for a lively dolphin fountain that greets guests at the wharf’s entrance. The 1,900-foot-long rustic wooden pier accommodates cars as well as foot traffic generated by diners, shopping buffs, and salt water anglers. Fresh seafood, bait and tackle, toys, candy, wine tastings, and souvenirs are all available there. Wharf walkers can glimpse sailboats gliding by, watch for migrating whales, or gaze at a golden Pacific sunset.

Also on Stearns Wharf, the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History Sea Center focuses on the entertaining aspects of science and the underwater world. At Sea Center, you can pet a shark, embrace a hermit crab, or track the graceful moves of a translucent blue jelly dancing across its aquarium.

Next up as you exit Stearns Wharf, walk inland (and slightly uphill) across Cabrillo Boulevard onto Historic



State Street. As downtown Santa Barbara's primary corridor, State Street is the ultimate pedestrian path to follow when touring the city's main attractions.

Predicting individual interests and tastes is difficult, so it's risky recommending best bets among the mind-boggling array of downtown retailers, wine-tasting rooms, and restaurants. Consider all the visible options as you walk up State Street so you can pop into stores, wineries and eateries that strike your fancy.

Personal preferences aside, Santa Barbara contains some nearly perfect attractions and commercial establishments that will likely appeal to anyone and everyone. The highlights that follow (in order of appearance on State Street as you walk away from the ocean) are pure winners, not to be missed.

Two blocks inland from Stearns Wharf, Reagan Ranch Center (217 State Street) contains four levels of classrooms, interactive exhibits, a library, and movie theater. The center's multi-media presentations and preserved artifacts portray the story of Ronald Reagan's Western White House—Rancho del Cielo, Santa Barbara—and explain how ranch experiences impacted Reagan's personal and political views as California Governor and U.S. President.

Just a few steps up State Street past the Ranch Center,

the Moreton Bay Fig Tree (Chapala and Montecito Streets) is an Australian import that gradually morphed into a quirky Santa Barbara icon. Planted back in 1877, it's currently the tallest and widest fig tree in the U. S. If you want a quick photo op with the BIG FIG, it's easy to access from the left side of State Street, just behind the Amtrak Train Station platform.

Joe's Café (536 State Street) is Santa Barbara's oldest running restaurant. Joe's has drawn enthusiastic crowds to its red and white checkered tabletops ever since it opened in 1928. Think all-American dishes like hearty breakfasts, classic soups and sandwiches, succulent steaks, and seafood.

To indulge in the smoothest, most delicious ice cream, made with local organic ingredients, order a double dip cone at McConnell's Fine Ice Creams (728 State Street), serving customers since 1949.

The courtyard at La Arcada Plaza (1114 State Street) offers a quintessential Santa Barbara tourist experience. La Arcada features art galleries, eclectic boutiques, breezy cafes, and a whimsical live turtle fountain.

Santa Barbara Museum of Art (1130 State Street) is one of Southern California's top regional museums. Its permanent collection includes 27,000 pieces that cover 5,000 years of artistry. From the pastel colors of



The Moreton Bay Fig Tree is the largest such tree in the USA.



State Street is Santa Barbara's primary pedestrian path.



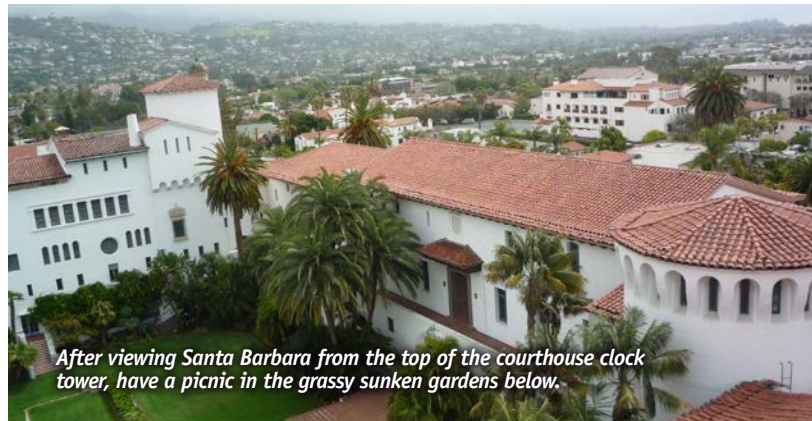
Old Mission Santa Barbara is "Queen of the Missions."



Reagan Ranch Center tells the story of Ronald Reagan's Western White House.



Santa Barbara County Courthouse is one of America's most beautiful buildings.



After viewing Santa Barbara from the top of the courthouse clock tower, have a picnic in the grassy sunken gardens below.

Impressionist works by Monet and Renoir to vivid Latin American murals to sculptures, ceramics, and textiles by Asian, European, American, and Native American artists, Santa Barbara's museum showcases creative efforts from the last three centuries.

After swinging through the art museum, it's certainly worthwhile walking a short distance beyond State Street to access two must see sights—the County Courthouse and Old Mission.

To walk from State Street to the Santa Barbara County Courthouse (1110 Anacapa Street), turn right onto East Figueroa and go one block to the corner of Figueroa and Anacapa Streets. Considered one of America's most handsome buildings, the circa 1929 Spanish Colonial Courthouse is a National Historic Landmark. Palatial details include white plastered walls, red tile roof, clock tower, black iron gates, curved archways, and superbly rendered murals. Complimented by a lush landscape with tall palms, tropical shrubs, and grassy sunken garden, the overall courthouse scene is simply gorgeous. Don't miss taking the stairs or elevator to the top of the clock tower to gain an open-air view of the area. Follow up with a lazy picnic on the grassy lawn below.

To reach the Old Mission Santa Barbara (2201 Laguna Street) from the courthouse, continue two more blocks on East Figueroa, then turn left on Garden Street. After

16 city blocks, watch for the mission grounds on your right. The walk to the mission winds through residential neighborhoods with charming Spanish-style homes and well-tended gardens. During our May visit, all the plants on our path were blooming, welcoming us to town. The botanic delights we enjoyed en route to the mission were nearly as engaging as the grand church and vibrant flowers we saw when we reached our destination.

It's clear why the Old Mission Santa Barbara is called Queen of the Missions. Established in 1786 by Spanish Franciscans, the adobe church (another National Historic Landmark) boasts double bell towers and colonial-era interior with pastel accented archways, gilded window trims, and exquisitely detailed altars and statuary. Outdoors, the mission is surrounded by leafy floral gardens and an awesome view of the Santa Inez Mountains. It's hard to imagine a more scenic conclusion to a Santa Barbara walkabout than the grounds of the Queen of the Missions.

The next time you plan to visit Southern California, be sure to set aside a few days to encounter the walkable wonders of downtown Santa Barbara. You will never forget or regret visiting the American Riviera.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

santabarbaraca.com/plan-your-trip/know-before-you-go/visitors-center/



RV REVIEW

REVIEW AND PHOTOS BY HOWARD J. ELMER

2019 Sportsmen 240THLE A trailer that hauls toys & so much more

Have you heard of the Four Corners? This label refers to the four geographic corners of the continental United States. Among motorcyclists, it's an aspirational life goal to have ridden to all four. (For the curious these are: The southernmost point, Key West, Florida; the easternmost point, West Quoddy Head in Lubec, Maine; the westernmost point, Cape Alava, Washington; the northernmost point, Angle Inlet, Minnesota.)

Looking at the new floorplan from Sportsmen 240THLE I see a way to accomplish this goal without having to acquire another motorcyclists' badge of honor—the "Iron butt" award.

This unit will house you and your bikes till you are within comfortable striking distance of each of these points on the map. As most recreational riders know, you trailer to Sturgis—unload and then ride down the main street looking as if you just pulled a 1,000-mile haul to reach this South Dakota destination.

The label, toy hauler, speaks for itself—but, I like to think it's so much more than just a mode of transportation. So, though I've chosen to illustrate my point with

motorcycles, this trailer will obviously accommodate whatever motorized hobby you are addicted to—OK, bicycles included.

At almost 27 feet in length, this Sportsmen is ideal for two people and two bikes—though it will sleep four when needed. Its carrying capacity is 2,290 pounds (an important figure to consider if looking at this type of trailer), a number that needs to cover significant vehicle(s) weight plus the normal cargo items. The clear floor space inside, when configured for transport, is 17 feet, 3 11/16 inches.

The key to any toy hauler is the rear entry door/ramp. On the Sportsmen—the full rear wall drops down (73 x 88 inches) at a reasonable angle. A flip-down checker plate covers the gap and hinges as well for easy entry. Inside the setup requires just one cargo carrying modification—folding up the 72-inch bench/sleeper to lie flat against the wall. A freestanding table is easily moved to wherever it's needed. The flooring is an Armstrong Linoleum called "ToughGuard"—an important item for a trailer that's going to have motorized traffic pulling in and out. To secure your toys there are heavy-duty D-rings in the floor.

So, while transport is the primary function of the toy hauler, it's worth mentioning that security is another



less often considered feature. Normally, once at the campsite, toys are left outside. But they don't have to be, particularly if you are out somewhere with your tow vehicle. A couple of expensive Harley Davidsons is a tempting target for a thief. However, a few minutes not only puts them safely back inside the trailer for storage—but they are also out of sight.

A nice feature on this trailer, I noted, is a retractable screen wall (optional at \$580) that would let you keep the ramp open for light, air, and a feeling of inclusion at your campsite. There is also a storage rack mounted here at the rear wall of the bathroom—where items related to your hobby can be easily stored and accessed.

The layout of this trailer can only be described as utility-based. The bath and kitchen occupy the driver's side wall of the trailer, keeping the length as uncluttered as possible. Nevertheless, this size does accommodate a fixed queen-size bed in the nose with enough space on either side to allow for night tables and hanging storage—even an overhead shelf makes use of the curved trailer nose. (There is also a Murphy-bed option with this trailer if you need even more floor space). Below the bed there is a flip-up storage space and even a reasonably sized pass-through storage with two doors on the outside. The kitchen features a 3-burner cooktop, range hood

with light and exhaust fan, microwave with turntable above it, and large overhead cabinets. The acrylic sink has a goose-neck faucet and a hard cover that adds to the counter space when in place. Below is more storage space—and a spot for the optional oven. The two-door, three-way refrigerator is 6.3 cubic feet in size. Next to it is a tall, deep pantry with adjustable shelves.

The bathroom is what is surprising in this unit. By that I mean it's large. The shower is big—with a full surround. The toilet doesn't get in the way of movement and using it won't require any sideways maneuvers. Meanwhile the corner vanity/sink has a built-in medicine cabinet and also has enough floor space to actually allow two people simultaneous access to the facilities. Overhead there is a skylight and power-vent. Bathrooms, as we've seen at the RV shows, continue to climb higher on buyer's must-have lists and this one—if you think of the road grime you'll need to wash off—certainly fits that bill.

The HVAC and power system on this Sportsmen consists of a 13,500 Btu A/C unit, 30-AMP service, 20,000 Btu furnace, 6-gallon water heater and twin 20-pound LPG tanks. Insulation throughout the unit is listed as R-7, which makes it a three-season trailer. However, on my tester there was a Climate package that featured heated, enclosed, and insulated underbelly (\$428), being that



many road trips start in cold climates and head to say, oh, maybe Bike Week in Daytona in February. Well, these heated tanks will get you through the chilly states on your way south.

When it comes to standard comfort features—in general, I found the Sportsmen well equipped. This included the K-Z Convenience Package (which is a mandatory option) that includes items like the Smart Arm Awning (that has exterior controls and a wind sensor), magnetic cargo doors, an Omni directional HDTV Antenna, a black tank flush feature, LED light and battery disconnect in the storage area and LED lights in the exterior speakers. Speaking of outside, that awning is 18-foot long which will make the outdoor living space shaded and comfortable.

One last note—as these trailers sometimes need to get into “rough” campsite locations I noted that the checker plate on the nose will help with stone chips as will the covers for both the propane tanks and house battery.

By the way—my tow vehicle for this test was the 2018 Toyota Tundra. This pickup features the 5.7L i-force V8 that makes 381hp and 401 lb.ft of torque. It drives a six-speed transmission with a 4.30 rear axle ratio. Depending on the cab/bed configuration it can tow up to 10,000

pounds—so, it was more than adequate for the max weight of 7,000 pounds on my test trailer. Without an equalizing hitch, I experienced just one-inch of squat; very good.

As an aside, this trailer hits the towing sweet spot for almost every half-ton pickup currently on the market, making it that much more desirable.

Toyota’s tow package includes 4- and 7-pin connectors, a supplemental transmission cooler, trailer brake controller, tow-haul mode and a transmission fluid temp gauge. Also, front tow hooks—you never know. A relatively new feature is the 39 gallon fuel tank, a welcome change for Tundra. Note: if you want “tow mirrors” you have to order those separately.

2019 SPORTSMEN 240 THLE

GVWR: 7,000 pounds	FRESH WATER: 38 gallons
NCC (NET CARRYING CAPACITY): 2,290 lbs	WASTE WATER: 32 gallons
INTERIOR HEIGHT: 78"	GREY WATER: 32 gallons
EXTERIOR HEIGHT W/A/C: 10' 8"	LPG: 40 pounds
EXTERIOR LENGTH: 26'9"	TIRE SIZE: 14-inch
EXTERIOR WIDTH: 96"	

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