



TRAVEL GUIDE TO

# TRIBES ALONG THE JUAN BAUTISTA DE ANZA NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL

Map showing the trail route through Arizona and Southern California, with various tribal territories and landmarks labeled.

Map labels include:

- U:paḍ 'Oidag Acacia Field Kwa'ak Mat Acacia Land
- Wiitowisa Flower mountain
- Stoñ Su:daḡi Hot Water
- Xa Kupn Warm Water
- Kichikecha Little water
- Aki-muhl River
- Gila R.
- Ak-Chin Indian Community
- Grande Miginekwa
- Bwaawi Kawi Sharp Mountain (Picacho Peak)
- Yoem Pueblo
- Pascua Pueblo, Pascua Yaqui Tribe of Arizona
- Pascua Village
- Barrio Libre
- Wa:k
- Cew Du'ag Long Mountain
- Ali ak Infert or Little River
- Tumacácori
- Asul Blue
- Nogales
- Matkanyapa Black land people
- Shor O'o'ma Nation of Arizona
- Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument
- AIANTA American Indian Ancestral Trails Association

Logos for the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail and AIANTA are also present.

ARIZONA | SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA | NORTHERN CALIFORNIA







**Sherry L. Rupert,**  
Chief Executive Officer,  
AIANTA



**Naomi Torres,**  
Superintendent,  
Juan Bautista de Anza  
National Historic Trail

# Welcome Visitors and Friends

From the fiery sunsets of Arizona's Sonoran Desert to the rugged beauty of the California coast, the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail travels through some of the most breathtaking scenery in the world. These lands have been the homelands of many Native cultures since time immemorial.

What is known as the Anza Trail existed well before Spanish colonists set out from San Miguel de Horcasitas, Mexico, in 1775 to trek 1,800 miles to the San Francisco Bay. The 1,210-mile U.S. section that begins in Nogales, Arizona, passes through the lands of the many Indigenous Peoples who lived in the deserts, wetlands, mountains and coastlines of today's Arizona and California. Native communities had already created a vast network of trade routes, forging paths between their homelands long before European arrival. Villages shared these routes with Anza and supported the Anza Party as it crossed the Colorado River and sought other water sources along their journey. In addition to water, Tribes shared food, shelter and vital knowledge of the terrain. Without Native help, the Anza Party would have perished.

Today, the Native Nations through which the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail passes invite travelers to enjoy their resorts, restaurants and other hospitality enterprises.

They welcome guests to learn about their rich cultures in museums and cultural centers. They encourage visitors to better understand their ancient cultures, which remain vibrant today.

We at the American Indian Alaska Native Tourism Association are pleased to work with the National Park Service, Visit California, Visit Arizona and our Tribal partners to present this guide showcasing Native destinations and businesses along and near the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail. We wish you safe and happy travels and hope your journey provides a deeper understanding of the Native Nations through which the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail passes.

This new guide takes travel planning along the Anza National Historic Trail one step further. It includes traditional Indigenous place names and significant sites along the Trail, contributed by leadership and cultural advisors from the Nations and communities whose places they are. The names remind us that these lands are Indigenous homelands and have been so since time immemorial.

For more information about these Native Nations, please visit [NativeAmerica.travel](https://NativeAmerica.travel).

— Sherry L. Rupert  
Chief Executive Officer, AIANTA

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## A MESSAGE FROM NAOMI TORRES

Nearly 250 years ago, a group of families and soldiers set out overland from New Spain, in what is now Sonora, Mexico, to colonize Alta California and establish the Spanish settlement of San Francisco. This expedition established Spanish power, bringing opportunity to the migrants but at the expense of Indigenous peoples and their cultures. The paths that make up the over 1200-mile Anza expedition route had existed for millennia as Native travel and trade corridors. The Juan

Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail traces these ancient pathways and connects the past to today's present.

The National Park Service and the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail are honored to partner with the American Indian Alaska Native Tourism Association to identify places along the Anza Trail where travelers can explore the history, heritage, and cultures of tribes.





The members of the Anza expedition represented families of Indigenous, African and European heritage. They migrated, seeking opportunity, and brought their language, customs and traditions with them. The expedition established military outposts, missions and ranchos on lands occupied by existing Indigenous Peoples and Nations - a reminder of our complicated American story. The sometimes-violent introduction and blending of new cultures and practices significantly impacted the cultures of the Indigenous Peoples of Alta California. The development of California's multi-layered heritage is a complex story, with many of its origins found along the pathways of the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail.

We hope this guide will highlight the resilient and vibrant cultures of the Tribes along the Anza Trail and link their histories to the paths that connect and tie us to the landscape.

As we traveled the route, we asked the Tribes what they wanted to say to visitors. What we heard over and over was, "We Are Still Here."

While much has been written about Spanish expansion into Western North America, far less has been chronicled about the

Indigenous communities. The history and legacy of Peoples in California are complex and interconnected.

This guide is not meant to be a history of the Tribes in California. For that, we ask you to visit each Tribe. Here is a brief history of some of the significant periods for Tribes in California.

Many Native communities suffered through Spanish colonization and the Mission era in the late 1700s when 21 missions were established along the California coast. The missions brought displacement, diseases and enslavement for many, although some found safety and converted voluntarily. Many families remain members even today, and no one can deny mission documents have helped tribes rebuild tribal languages and cultures.

Then came the Mexican occupation (1821-1848) with further displacement and the Mexican-American War in 1846-1848, which brought further violence.

Following the Mexican Wars, gold was discovered in 1848, bringing further displacement and violence. The Gold Rush lasted roughly until 1855, with an estimated 300,000 people moving to California. Vigilante groups and state-sanctioned militias waged campaigns against Native communities, resulting in massacres and widespread

displacement. California's Native population went from an estimated 150,000 to less than 30,000 during this era. Mining destroyed vast areas, polluted water sources and destroyed ecosystems that Native communities depended on for food and medicines.

Between 1851 and 1852, 18 treaties were signed between Tribes in California and the United States. The treaties reserved 7.5 million acres for the Tribes but were rejected by the U.S. Senate in secret session at the request of the State of California. The Tribes, believing that the treaties were valid, relinquished the historic territories and moved to the reserved acreage. However, once they reached their new locations, they were turned away. Many Tribes were not officially notified of the reason for this until 1905, some 55 years later.

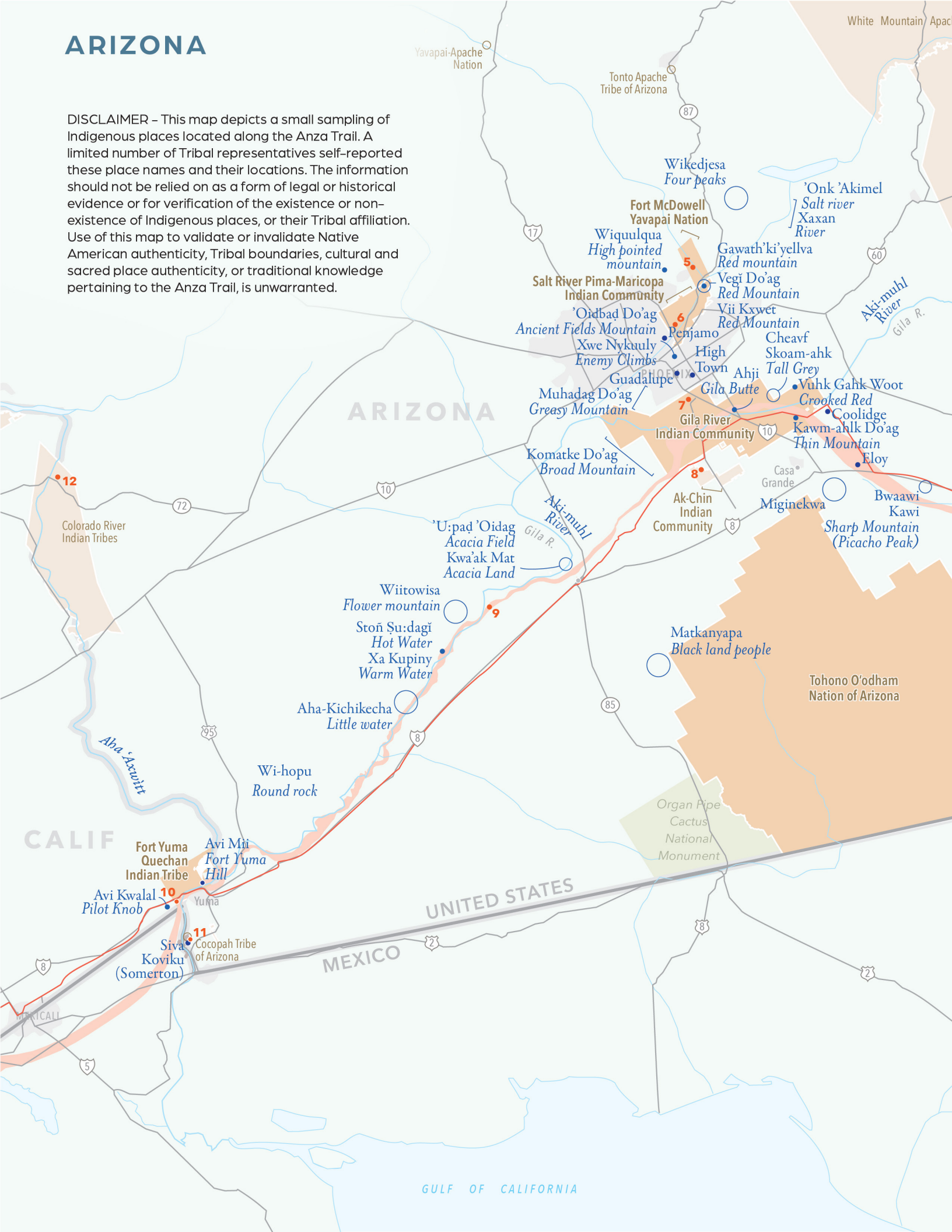
Then, in 1958, the Rancheria Act of California was passed, and 44 Indian Tribes were terminated. In the 1980s, re-recognition processes restored many tribes' political status but little of their land.

This guide is a testament to the resilience and strength of the Native Peoples of California—that they are still here and willing to welcome visitors to their lands and share their foods, art and culture with them.

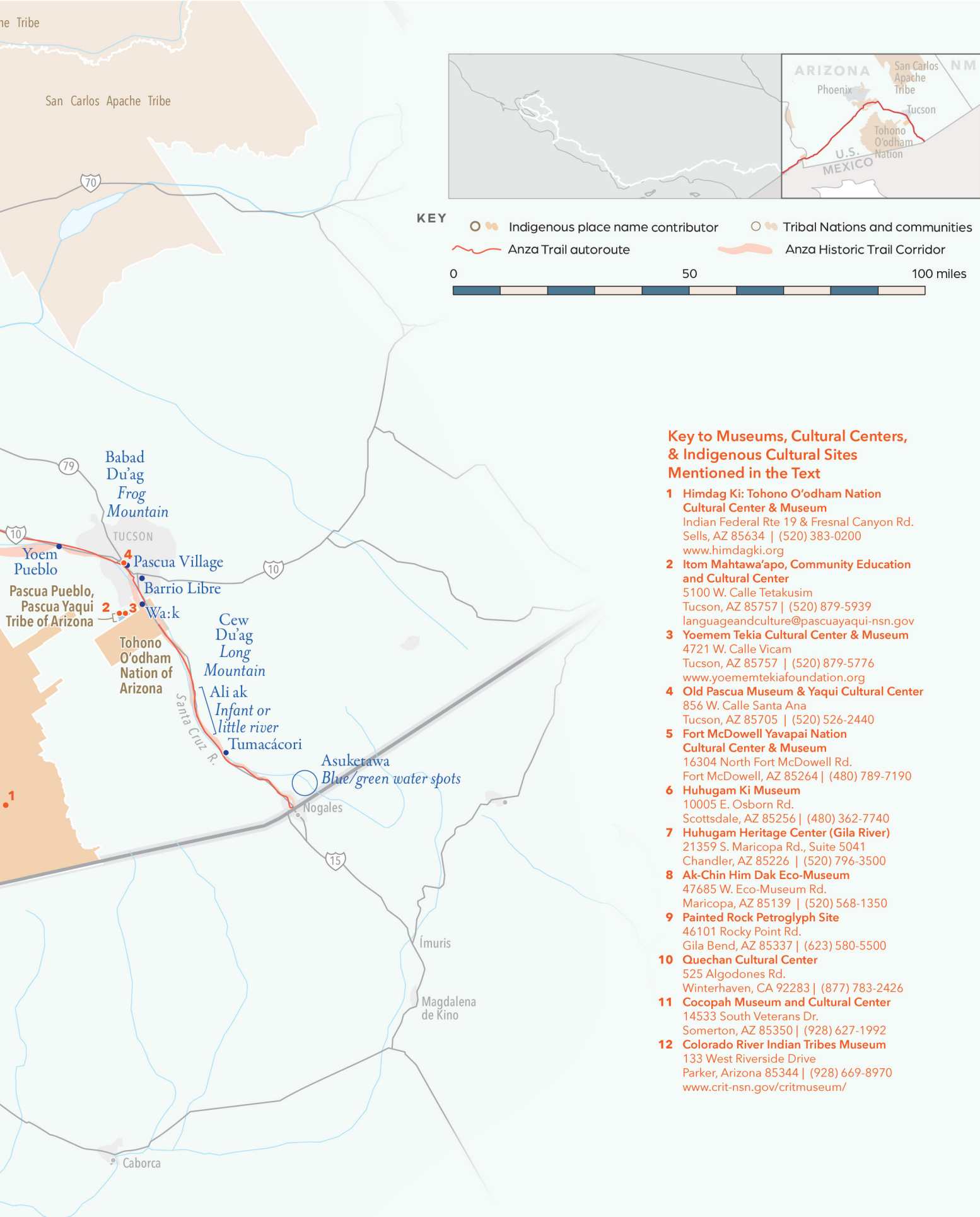


# ARIZONA

DISCLAIMER – This map depicts a small sampling of Indigenous places located along the Anza Trail. A limited number of Tribal representatives self-reported these place names and their locations. The information should not be relied on as a form of legal or historical evidence or for verification of the existence or non-existence of Indigenous places, or their Tribal affiliation. Use of this map to validate or invalidate Native American authenticity, Tribal boundaries, cultural and sacred place authenticity, or traditional knowledge pertaining to the Anza Trail, is unwarranted.





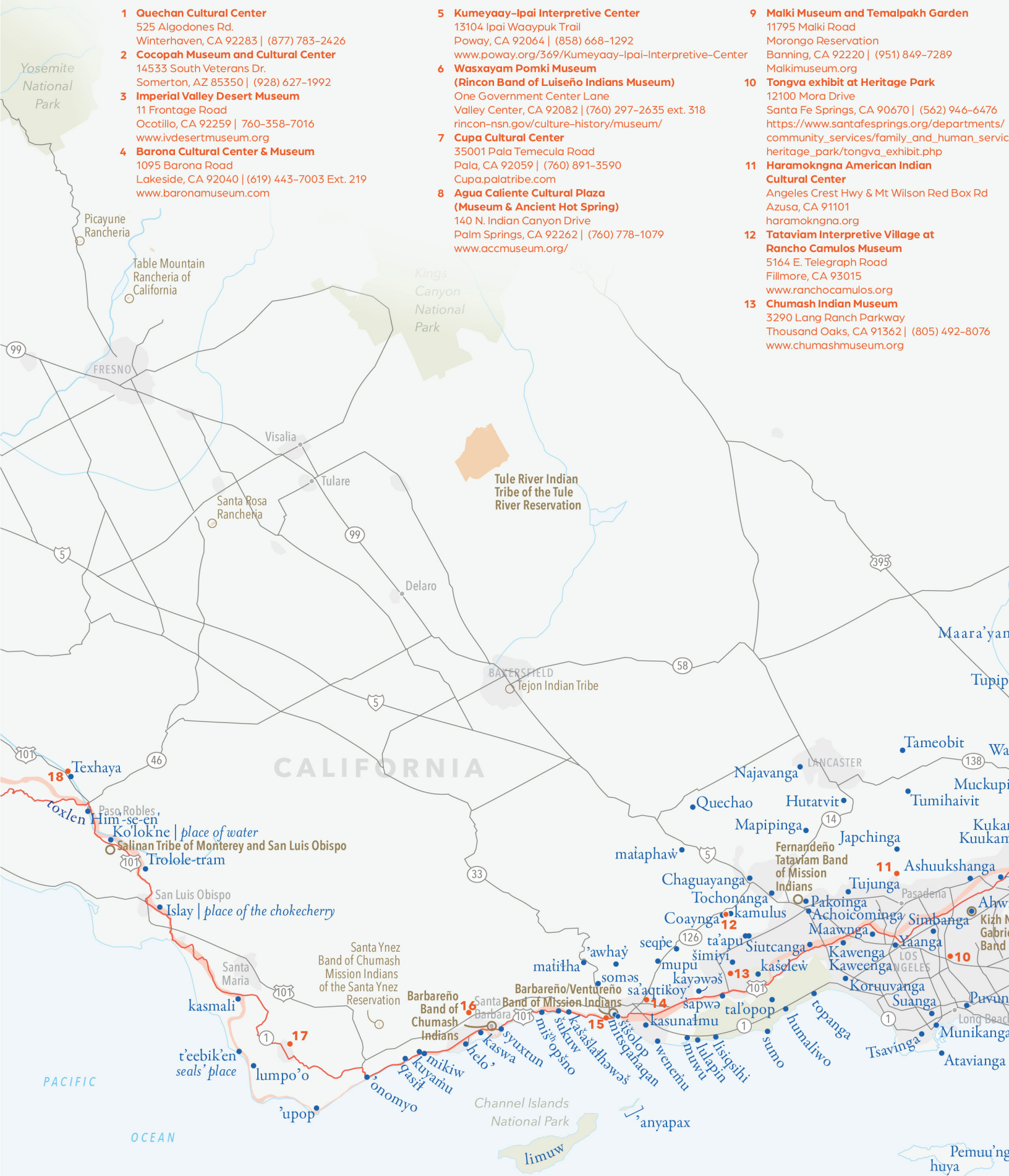




# SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

## Key to Museums, Cultural Centers, & Other Indigenous Sites Listed in the Guide

- 1 Quechan Cultural Center**  
525 Algodones Rd.  
Winterhaven, CA 92283 | (877) 783-2426
- 2 Cocopah Museum and Cultural Center**  
14533 South Veterans Dr.  
Somerton, AZ 85350 | (928) 627-1992
- 3 Imperial Valley Desert Museum**  
11 Frontage Road  
Ocotillo, CA 92259 | 760-358-7016  
[www.ivdesertmuseum.org](http://www.ivdesertmuseum.org)
- 4 Barona Cultural Center & Museum**  
1095 Barona Road  
Lakeside, CA 92040 | (619) 443-7003 Ext. 219  
[www.baronamuseum.com](http://www.baronamuseum.com)
- 5 Kumeyaay-Ipai Interpretive Center**  
13104 Ipai Waaypuk Trail  
Poway, CA 92064 | (858) 668-1292  
[www.poway.org/369/Kumeyaay-Ipai-Interpretive-Center](http://www.poway.org/369/Kumeyaay-Ipai-Interpretive-Center)
- 6 Wasxayam Pomki Museum (Rincon Band of Luiseño Indians Museum)**  
One Government Center Lane  
Valley Center, CA 92082 | (760) 297-2635 ext. 318  
[rincon-nsn.gov/culture-history/museum/](http://rincon-nsn.gov/culture-history/museum/)
- 7 Cupa Cultural Center**  
35001 Pala Temecula Road  
Pala, CA 92059 | (760) 891-3590  
[Cupa.palatribes.com](http://Cupa.palatribes.com)
- 8 Agua Caliente Cultural Plaza (Museum & Ancient Hot Spring)**  
140 N. Indian Canyon Drive  
Palm Springs, CA 92262 | (760) 778-1079  
[www.accmuseum.org/](http://www.accmuseum.org/)
- 9 Malki Museum and Temalpakh Garden**  
11795 Malki Road  
Morongo Reservation  
Banning, CA 92220 | (951) 849-7289  
[Malkimuseum.org](http://Malkimuseum.org)
- 10 Tongva exhibit at Heritage Park**  
12100 Mora Drive  
Santa Fe Springs, CA 90670 | (562) 946-6476  
[https://www.santafesprings.org/departments/community\\_services/family\\_and\\_human\\_services/heritage\\_park/tongva\\_exhibit.php](https://www.santafesprings.org/departments/community_services/family_and_human_services/heritage_park/tongva_exhibit.php)
- 11 Haramokngna American Indian Cultural Center**  
Angeles Crest Hwy & Mt Wilson Red Box Rd  
Azusa, CA 91101  
[haramokngna.org](http://haramokngna.org)
- 12 Tataviam Interpretive Village at Rancho Camulos Museum**  
5164 E. Telegraph Road  
Fillmore, CA 93015  
[www.ranchocamulos.org](http://www.ranchocamulos.org)
- 13 Chumash Indian Museum**  
3290 Lang Ranch Parkway  
Thousand Oaks, CA 91362 | (805) 492-8076  
[www.chumashmuseum.org](http://www.chumashmuseum.org)







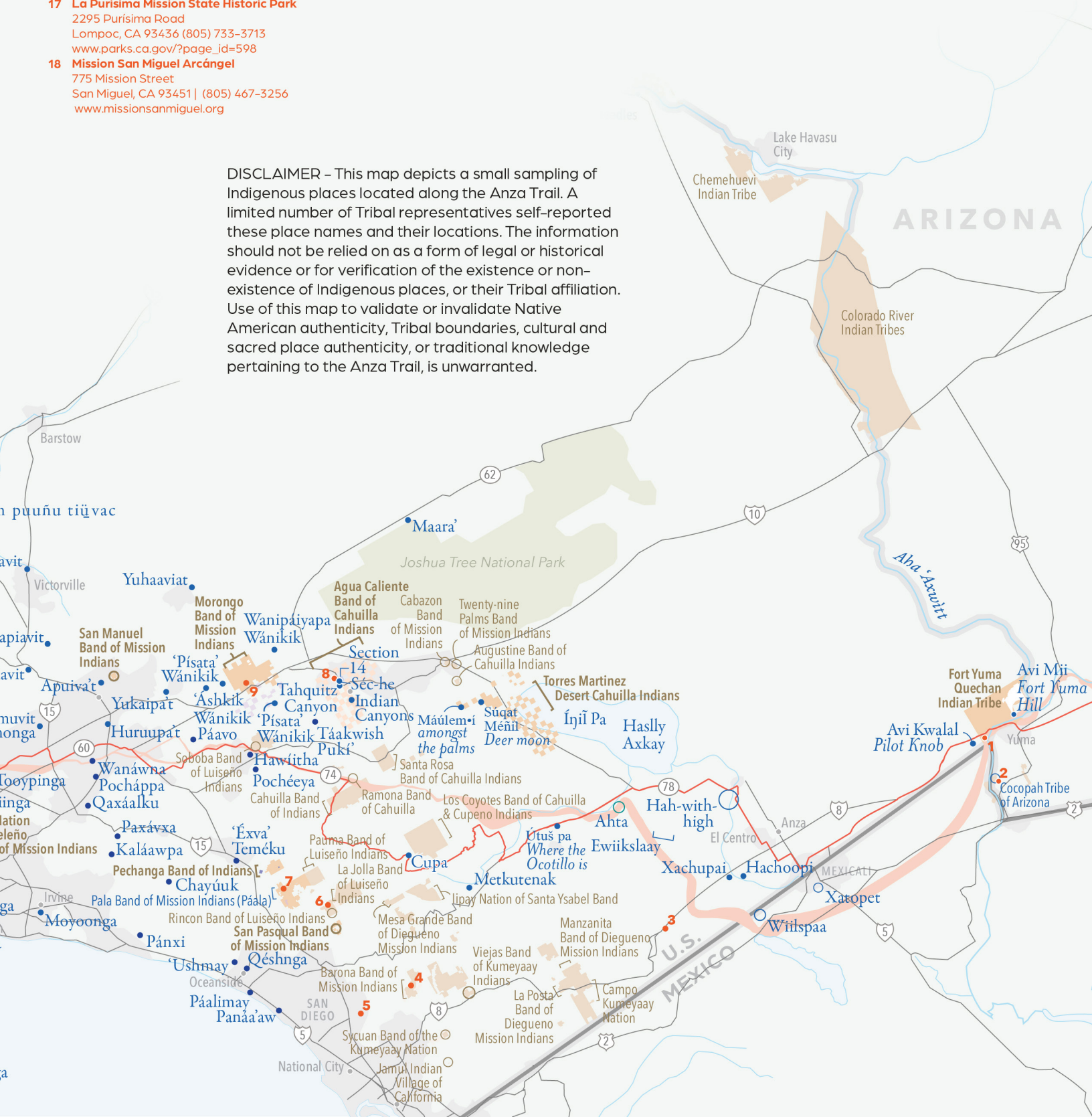
#### KEY

- Indigenous place name contributor
- Tribal Nations and communities
- Anza Trail autoroute
- Anza Historic Trail Corridor



- 14 sa'aqti'koy (place where they sun themselves)**  
Barbareño/Ventureño Band of Mission Indians  
PO Box 364, Ojai, CA 93024 | (805) 746-6685  
[www.bvbmi.com](http://www.bvbmi.com)
- 15 Albinger Archaeological Museum**  
113 E Main Street  
Ventura, CA 93001 | (805) 658-4726  
[www.cityofventura.ca.gov/1747/](http://www.cityofventura.ca.gov/1747/)
- 16 Chumash Painted Cave State Historic Park**  
(805) 733-3713  
[www.parks.ca.gov/?page\\_id=602](http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=602)
- 17 La Purísima Mission State Historic Park**  
2295 Purísima Road  
Lompoc, CA 93436 (805) 733-3713  
[www.parks.ca.gov/?page\\_id=598](http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=598)
- 18 Mission San Miguel Arcángel**  
775 Mission Street  
San Miguel, CA 93451 | (805) 467-3256  
[www.missionsanmiguel.org](http://www.missionsanmiguel.org)

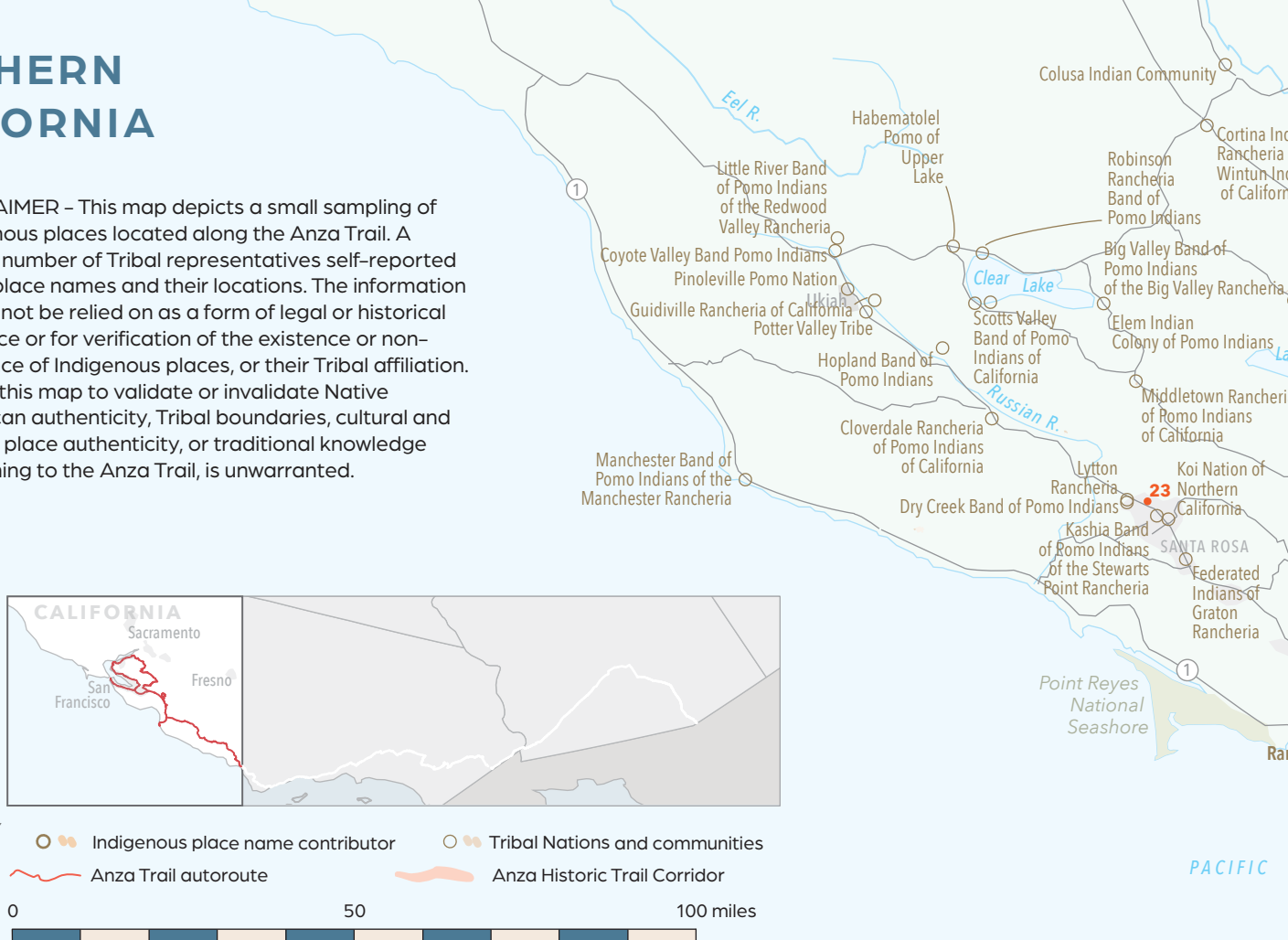
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# NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

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## Key to Museums, Cultural Centers, & Other Indigenous Sites Listed in the Guide

- 1 La Purísima Mission State Historic Park**  
2295 Purísima Road  
Lompoc, CA 93436 | (805) 733-3713  
[www.parks.ca.gov/?page\\_id=598](http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=598)
- 2 Mission San Miguel Arcángel**  
775 Mission Street  
San Miguel, CA 93451 | (805) 467-3256  
[www.missionsanmiguel.org](http://www.missionsanmiguel.org)
- 3 piknahchee / Pinnacles National Park**  
(shared by Amah Mutsun Tribal Band & Chalon Indian Nation)  
5000 East Entrance Road  
Paicines, CA 95043 | (831) 389-4486  
[www.nps.gov/pinn/learn/historyculture/native-peoples.htm](http://www.nps.gov/pinn/learn/historyculture/native-peoples.htm)
- 4 Ohlone Costanoan Esselen Highway**  
Highway 68 between Anza Drive and Blanco Road  
Salinas, CA
- 5 Pacific House Monterey State Historic Park**  
10 Custom House Plaza  
Monterey, CA 93940 | (831) 649-7118  
[www.parks.ca.gov](http://www.parks.ca.gov)
- 6 tooyohtak / Fremont Peak State Park**  
10700 San Juan Canyon Road  
San Juan Bautista, CA 95045 | (831) 623-4255  
[www.parks.ca.gov/?page\\_id=564](http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=564)
- 7 chitactac / Chitactac-Adams Heritage County Park**  
10001 Watsonville Road  
Gilroy, CA 95020 | (408) 842-2341  
[parks.sccgov.org/santa-clara-county-parks/chitactac-adams-heritage-county-park](http://parks.sccgov.org/santa-clara-county-parks/chitactac-adams-heritage-county-park)
- 8 Mount Umunhum**  
Sierra Azul Open Space Preserve  
San Jose, CA  
[www.openspace.org/preserves/sierra-azul](http://www.openspace.org/preserves/sierra-azul)
- 9 Muwekma Ohlone Tribute**  
Park Avenue Bridge  
San Jose, CA  
[grpg.org/public-art-landmarks](http://grpg.org/public-art-landmarks)
- 10 We Are Muwekma and We are Still Here (mural by Alfonso Salazar)**  
Guadalupe River Trail at San Fernando Street  
<https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/ee6b1903d7bd4456a0ee7b8e39a73f98>
- 11 Soco-is-u-ka / Mission Santa Clara de Thámien / Mission Santa Clara de Asís**  
500 El Camino Real  
Santa Clara, CA 95053 | (408) 554-4023  
[scu.edu/missionchurch](http://scu.edu/missionchurch)
- 12 El Palo Alto Redwood Tree**  
117 Palo Alto Avenue  
Palo Alto, CA 94301  
[cityofpaloalto.org](http://cityofpaloalto.org)
- 13 Lamchin Interpretive Center at Filoli**  
86 Cañada Road  
Woodside, CA 94062 | (650) 364-8300 ext 235  
[filoli.org/new-indigenous-led-initiatives-and-trail-access-at-this-historic-estate/](http://filoli.org/new-indigenous-led-initiatives-and-trail-access-at-this-historic-estate/)
- 14 Sanchez Adobe Visitor Center**  
1000 Linda Mar Boulevard  
Pacifica, CA 94044 | (650) 359-1462  
[www.smcgov.org/parks/sanchez-adobe](http://www.smcgov.org/parks/sanchez-adobe)
- 15 American Indian Cultural District, Fort Mason Center**  
2 Marina Boulevard, Building D, Suite 230  
San Francisco, CA 94123



- 16 'Ookwe Park  
South 27th Street  
Richmond, CA 94804
- 17 West Berkeley Shellmound  
1900 4th Street  
Berkeley, CA 94710
- 18 Emeryville Shellmound Memorial  
5633 Bay Street  
Emeryville, CA 94608
- 19 Rinihmu Pulte'irekne (Sequoia Point)  
10909 Skyline Boulevard  
Oakland, CA 94611
- 20 Alameda Museum  
2324 Alameda Avenue  
Alameda, CA 94501 | (510) 521-1233
- 21 SFPUC Sunol Water Temple and the Alameda Creek Watershed Center (Sii Túupentak)  
505 Paloma Way  
Sunol, CA 94586  
[sfpuc.org/construction-contracts/construction-projects/alameda-creek-watershed-center-in-Sunol](http://sfpuc.org/construction-contracts/construction-projects/alameda-creek-watershed-center-in-Sunol)
- 22 Mission San José  
43300 Mission Boulevard  
Fremont, CA, 94539 | (510) 657-1797  
[missionsanjose.org](http://missionsanjose.org)
- 23 California Indian Museum and Cultural Center  
5250 Aero Drive  
Santa Rosa, CA 95403 | (707) 579-3004  
[cimcc.org](http://cimcc.org)



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# People of the Desert: The Tohono O'odham Nation and People of the River: Ak-Chin Indian Community

## Anza AZ Saguaro Petroglyph

### PEOPLE OF THE DESERT: THE TOHONO O'ODHAM NATION

The Tohono O'odham Nation encompasses spectacular southern Arizona landscapes and fascinating history within its vast traditional homeland. With Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument to its west, Tucson and Saguaro National Monument to its east and Mexico bordering it to the south, the Tohono O'odham Nation is the third largest tribal nation in the United States at 4,453 square miles.

Since time immemorial, southern Arizona has been the homeland of the O'odham—a resilient, resourceful People whose expertly crafted baskets are sought worldwide. *Tohono O'odham* means “People of the Desert” in the O'odham language. For centuries, the Tohono O'odham were called the Papago. Papago is a Spanish mispronunciation of an O'odham word. Papago derives from *Ba:bawiko'à*, meaning “eating tepary beans.” In the 1980s, they re-established themselves in their language as Tohono O'odham (“Desert People”). Many place names throughout southern Arizona are derived from O'odham words, including Tucson, which is O'odham for Sentinel Mountain, meaning “at the black hill.”

The O'odham were masters of desert life, and even today, canals they dug from the Salt and Gila Rivers many centuries ago are still in use, including 180 miles of canals in the Phoenix area. Large villages lined these waterways, and farm fields supplied corn, squash, tepary beans and other staples. They grew and wove cotton and gathered mesquite beans, saguaro fruit and other foods to supplement what they farmed. Bighorn sheep and deer were hunted as well. Examples of Hohokam architecture are preserved at **Casa Grande Ruins National Monument** and **Pueblo Grande Ruin** in Phoenix.

The Tohono O'odham Nation continues its tradition of desert living and operates several successful agriculture businesses under its **Tohono O'odham Farming Authority**. Crops such as corn, tepary beans, melons, and other traditional foods are grown for the Nation's population of about 10,700. Basket making, gathering saguaro cactus fruit with long poles and other traditional skills continue, and the O'odham language is taught and spoken throughout the nation. The Tohono O'odham Nation also owns four casinos in Tucson, Why, Sahuarita and West Valley.

For more information about the Tohono O'odham Nation, visit [tonation-nsn.gov](http://tonation-nsn.gov)







## What to Do

Bordering the Tohono O’odham Nation to the east, south of Why to the Mexico border. The **Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument** preserves a piece of the ancestral home of the Hohokam and later O’odham cultures. Camping is available at Twin Peaks and Alamo Canyon campgrounds. Enjoy the beauty of the Sonoran Desert with a scenic drive or hike and learn about the only place in the United States where the organ pipe cactus grows wild.

**Saguaro National Park** is to the east, and a smaller section called San Xavier del Bac District is just 10 miles south of Tucson and has long been part of the Hohokam and O’odham homelands. Petroglyphs created by the Hohokam are visible along the Signal Hill Trail in the Tucson Mountain District (West), and O’odham continues the tradition of gathering this important food source by gathering the fruit of the saguaro cacti by long poles.



**San Xavier Bac Mission** is located on the San Xavier Reservation, part of the Tohono O’odham Nation, southwest of Tucson in Pima County, Arizona. This striking mission glows white just west of I-19. It was completed in 1797 with Tohono O’odham labor, and its white stucco exterior with ornately carved scroll designs and domes was influenced by Moorish architecture. The mission site near the Santa Cruz River was a Tohono O’odham village named Wa:k, from which Bac comes in the mission’s name. The mission’s interior contains an elaborately carved altar with hand-painted accents. A statue of Saint Kateri Tekakwitha, an Algonquin-Mohawk woman who is the first Native American saint, is displayed.

The mission is an active Catholic church primarily serving Tohono O’odham members but is open to the general public. It has a museum and gift shop attached to the mission that sells baskets and artwork by Tohono O’odham members. Across the parking lot is the **San Xavier Plaza**, built by the Tribe to provide business opportunities for Native entrepreneurs. The plaza includes several Tohono O’odham-owned shops and galleries selling artwork and snacks.

Located in two sections east and west of Tucson, **Saguaro National Park** has long been part of the Hohokam and O’odham homelands. Petroglyphs created by the Hohokam are visible along the Signal Hill Trail in the Tucson Mountain District (West), and O’odham

continues the tradition of gathering this important food source by gathering the fruit of the saguaro cacti by long poles.



**The Himdag Ki: Tohono O’odham Nation Cultural Center and Museum** is 10 miles south of Sells off of AZ 86, traveling between Tucson and Why. “*Himdag*” means “Way of Life,” and “*Ki*” means “house.” So, the accurate translation is “Way of Life House.” The Museum honors and celebrates Tohono O’odham culture, history and lifestyle through large collections of archaeological items, including baskets and pottery, tools such as stone axes and metates, saguaro harvesting sticks and other items expertly designed for life in the Sonoran Desert. The facility’s grounds encompass traditional gardens and nature paths with signage explaining the Tohono O’odham’s traditional use of various plants. Ancient rock art is present as well. Throughout the year, Tohono O’odham members have



demonstrated their artistic and culinary skills here. Himdag Ki also serves as a library and archives for Tohono O'odham members researching their family heritage and culture. Several cultural events occur at Himdag Ki throughout the year, some of which are open to respectful members of the general public.

**Kitt Peak National Observatory** is 45 miles west of Tucson via AZ 86 and leases its land in the Quinlan Mountains from the Tohono O'odham Nation. Optical and radio telescopes study the sun, stars, planets and other objects throughout the galaxy. The observatory sits 6,886 feet above sea level atop Kitt Peak, called Ioligam in O'odham. Ioligam means manzanita, a berry that grows on shrubs throughout the area and is a traditional O'odham food and medicine. Daytime public observatory tours are available, and the Nightly Observing Program allows visitors to peer through a 16-inch telescope. The observatory's history and purpose are explained at the Visitor Center, and the gift shop sells baskets and jewelry made by Tohono O'odham artists. When visiting Kitt Peak, the Tohono O'odham asks that the surrounding landscape not be photographed as it is culturally sensitive.

In February, the **Wapkial Ha-Tas Rodeo & Fair** invites the public to enjoy rodeo events, parades, traditional Tohono O'odham dances and games, food, a powwow and other activities celebrating the Tohono O'odham Nation.

Visit @TONrodeofair on Facebook for event details.

The **San Xavier Cooperative Farm Tours** story starts with the Santa Cruz River. Families farmed the land for generations using an intricate canal system to irrigate the fields. In 1975, the Tribe had to fight for a water settlement to restore water to the Tribe and make farming productive again. The farm sells food products in its farm store and provides catering. Tours of the farm are available. You can also take a hay ride, learn about traditional farming practices and get hands-on experience in the community garden.

## Other Nearby Attractions

Bordering the Tohono O'odham Nation  
**Juan de Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail in O'odham land**

The **Juan de Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail** roughly follows US 19 and the Santa Cruz River from Nogales north of current-day Picacho Peak State Park, where the Anza Party headed east to follow the Gila River. All of this area is ancestral O'odham land. **Las Lagunas de Anza Wetland** in Nogales resembles the many Santa Cruz River Valley marshlands. Marshes were essential to the O'odham way of life and provided food, clothing and building materials. Many of this region's marshes were drained during the 1800s for ranching and farming, severely impacting the O'odham. Las Lagunas de Anza Wetland is home to more than 200 species of birds, and hiking trails travel through grassland, marsh, mesquite groves and the Cabot Sedgwick Memorial Butterfly Garden.

The Anza party camped at two locations within the **Saguaro National Park**. One camp (Camp #20), Oitpar, is believed to be named after the O'odham word for "Old Village."

### Tumacácori National Historical Park

preserves three Spanish missions at three locations: Tumacácori (where the visitor center is located), Guevavi and Calabazas (visited by guided tours from January to March). Located 18 miles north of Nogales, Tumacácori was established in 1691 as a *visita*, a mission to which priests would travel but not be permanently stationed. Mass for the Anza Party was held here on October 17, 1775, by Father Pedro Font, a Franciscan priest accompanying the Anza Party. Tumacácori has a museum explaining the site's Spanish, O'odham, Yaqui and Apache history that spans at least 2,000 years in the Santa Cruz River Valley. Out front, a basket garden grows plants used by Tohono O'odham artisans to make their renowned baskets.



A 4.5-mile-long segment of the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail connects Tumacácori National Historical Park and **Tubac Presidio State Historic Park**, which was the home of Juan Bautista de Anza. In 1753, the Spanish built a fort

at Tubac named Presidio San Ignacio de Tubac, and Juan Bautista de Anza served as the presidio's commander from 1760 to 1776 with about 50 cavalymen under his leadership. He lived here in an adobe house with his wife. The first commander and Anza privately owned the home. Anza turned it over to the government when he left. It was from Tubac Presidio that the Anza Expedition fully gathered and launched on its journey to establish a mission and colony in San Francisco, some 890 miles away. Tubac became Arizona's first state park in 1958.



At the **Anza Cultural History Park** in Tucson, you are welcomed by a steel archway sculpture, "*T-we:m 'ac t-keihin*" / "Together We Dance," designed by Quinton Antone, a multimedia artist of the Tohono O'odham Nation connecting colorful murals, "Intersection" / "Intersección," by Alonso Delgadillo. The park has ADA-compliant sidewalks, railings, a raised garden, shaded seating and a ramada with picnic tables. A Braille cable connects artistic elements, leading you to exhibits where you can feel a tactile map, Braille and footprints. QR codes connect to videos with American Sign Language, audio-description and names of tribes through whose land the historic trail passes. This park was commissioned in late 2016 by the Anza Society, which brought in the National Park Service – Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance Program to lead a design process with the Arizona School for Deaf and Blind, UA Landscape Architecture students, Pima County and people of all ages and abilities from local organizations.





## Man in the Maze

The **Man in the Maze** design is a significant symbol of O'odham culture and worldview and is depicted throughout the Tohono O'odham and Akimel O'odham communities. The design is first made with a cross in the center, representing the four stages of life. The figure enters from the top and travels counterclockwise, following the twisting path until the center is reached. The indirect route represents life's joys and hardships, and the center represents the end of life when the person has completed their journey and passed into the next world.

While the design can represent human life in general, the figure traditionally is *I'toi* (pronounced "E-toy"), the Creator God/Elder Brother of the O'odham. In O'odham cosmology, I'toi brought the Huhugam (Hohokam) from a world below to this world. He gave the people Himdag rules for a good and balanced life. I'toi lives in a cave on *Waw K'walik* (Baboquivari Mountain), from where the Huhugam emerged into this world. O'odham visits this sacred site, bringing gifts.

O'odham weavers use Devil's Claw for the black portion of their baskets, collected worldwide. It is believed the plant, called *ihuk* (basket claw) in O'odham, was gifted to the Huhugam by I'toi. Its seeds are protein-rich, and its seed pod splits into two black, curved pieces that cling to coyotes and other wildlife to spread its seeds. The seed pods are soaked in water and pulled into strips that are then woven into baskets along with willow and yucca fibers. O'odham baskets are prized worldwide for their artistry and significance.

**Photo:** Elizabeth Ortega, Renowned Basket Maker, (Bruce Rettig)

## Where to Stay

The Tribe's **Desert Diamond Casino & Hotel Tucson** is located just 7 minutes east of San Xavier del Bac Mission near the Tucson International Airport, making it convenient for both driving and flying travelers. The property has 148 guest rooms with rainfall showerheads, plush, non-allergenic microfiber bedding, Keurig coffee makers, well-appointed bathrooms, and workstations with free high-speed Wi-Fi—a large selection of rooms is designed to be wheelchair-friendly. The outdoor pool and hot tub exploit Tucson's sunny days and starry nights. For dining, the Diamond Café, Ko: Sin Ki: Buffet and Diamond Grill, and Classico Pizza & Coffee Bar serve a range of casual comfort food, including prime rib dinners at the Diamond Grill on Fridays and Saturdays. Native American and Southwestern jewelry and clothing, including Pendleton Blankets, are available at **Tucson**, and the entire property incorporates design elements reminiscent of the circular Man in the Maze, an important symbol in O'odham lifeways (see sidebar).

In addition to its Desert Diamond Casino in Tucson, the Tohono O'odham Nation operates three additional casinos throughout southern Arizona in Why, Sahuarita and West Valley. At the Desert **Diamond Casino Why**, travelers heading to Organ Pipe National Monument and Puerto Peñasco, Mexico, can enjoy the slots, gas up, and stock up at the convenience store. Just off of I-19, 9 miles south of San Xavier del Bac Mission, **Desert Diamond Casino Sahuarita** has slots and table games, its Sportsbook & Bar and Taste of Agave Buffet with weekly specials including prime rib dinners. A complimentary shuttle between Desert Diamond Casino Sahuarita and Desert Diamond Casino & Hotel Tucson allows guests to experience both properties easily. Located in Glendale, 30 minutes northwest of downtown Phoenix, Desert

Diamond Casino West Valley has casual fine dining at its Nineteen 86 Steakhouse and craft cocktails at Lounge 86. Quick bites are available at the casino's food court, and the Edge Bar, Rock Bar and Winners Sports Bar match your mood.

### Desert Diamond Casino & Hotel Tucson

- 7350 S. Nogales Highway, Tucson, AZ 85756
- 877-777-4212
- [www.ddcaz.com](http://www.ddcaz.com)

### Desert Diamond Casino Why

- AZ 86, Milepost 55 Why, AZ 85321
- 520-294-7777 or 1-866-332-9467
- [www.ddcaz.com](http://www.ddcaz.com)

### Desert Diamond Casino Sahuarita

- 1100 W. Pima Mine Rd., Sahuarita, AZ 85629
- 866-DDC-WINS
- [www.ddcaz.com](http://www.ddcaz.com)

### Desert Diamond Casino West Valley

- 9431 W Northern Ave., Glendale, AZ 85305
- 833-DDC-2WIN
- [www.ddcaz.com](http://www.ddcaz.com)

## Saguaro Gathering

The gathering of saguaro fruit sustains members of the Tohono O'odham Nation both nutritiously and culturally. Using a long rib of saguaro cactus with a crosspiece called a kuipad, the gatherer gently pulls off ripened fruit from the arms of the towering saguaro. The fruit is gathered from the ground, scooped from its pod, and placed in buckets. The empty pods are left face-up at the base of the saguaro as a request for rain for next year's harvest. Back at a cook camp, the fruit is strained of seeds and boiled into a syrup. This is bottled and used on various foods, including as a barbeque sauce. The window for harvesting the ripe fruit is small and requires knowledge of the saguaro lifecycle to time correctly. Beyond providing sweet and nutritious food in the desert, gathering and processing the fruit continues a tradition important to families and their O'odham culture. Tribal members gather saguaro fruit from within Saguaro National Park.





# Tohono O'odham & Nearby Attractions



## Tohono O'odham Nation

- P.O. Box 837, Sells, AZ 85634
- 520-383-4251, 800-956-3160
- [contactus@tonation-nsn.gov](mailto:contactus@tonation-nsn.gov)
- [www.tonation-nsn.gov](http://www.tonation-nsn.gov)



## San Xavier del Bac Mission

- 1950 W. San Xavier Rd., Tucson, AZ 85746
- 520-294-2624
- [www.sanxaviermission.org](http://www.sanxaviermission.org)



## Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument

- Kris Eggle Visitor Center
- 10 Organ Pipe Drive, Ajo, AZ 85321
- 520-387-6849
- [www.nps.gov/orpi](http://www.nps.gov/orpi)



## Saguaro National Park

- **Rincon Mountain District (Saguaro EAST)**, 3693 S. Old Spanish Trail, Tucson, AZ 85730
- 520-733-5153
- [www.nps.gov/sagu](http://www.nps.gov/sagu)
- **Tucson Mountain District (Saguaro WEST)**, 2700 N. Kinney Road, Tucson, AZ 85743
- 520-733-5158
- [www.nps.gov/sagu](http://www.nps.gov/sagu)



## Himdag Ki: Tohono O'odham Nation Cultural Center and Museum

- Indian Federal Route 19 and Fresnal Canyon Road, Sells, AZ 85634
- 520-383-0200
- [www.himdagki.org](http://www.himdagki.org)



## Kitt Peak National Observatory

- Summit of AZ 386 off of AZ 85634
- 520-318-8720
- [www.visitkittpeak.org](http://www.visitkittpeak.org)



## The Mission Arts & Crafts Plaza

- 1959 San Xavier Rd., Tucson, AZ 85746



## San Xavier Cooperative Farm Tours

- 8100 S Oidak Wog, Tucson, AZ 85746
- 520-295-3774
- [sxca@sanxaviercoop.org](mailto:sxca@sanxaviercoop.org)
- [www.tubacpresidio.org](http://www.tubacpresidio.org)



San Xavier Plaza



San Xavier Bac Mission



San Xavier Plaza

# Anza Attractions



## Las Lagunas de Anza Wetland

- 966 West Country Club Dr. Nogales, AZ 85621
- 520-287-7051
- [www.nps.gov/places/las-lagunas-de-anza](http://www.nps.gov/places/las-lagunas-de-anza)



## Tumacacori National Historical Park

- 1891 East Frontage Road, Tumacacori, AZ 85640
- 520-377-5060
- [www.nps.gov/tuma](http://www.nps.gov/tuma)



## Tubac Presidio State Historic Park and Museum

- 1 Burrue Street, Tubac, AZ 85646
- 520-398-2252
- [www.tubacpresidio.org](http://www.tubacpresidio.org)



## Anza Cultural History Park

- 1000 N Stone Ave., Tucson, AZ 85705
- 520-791-4873
- [www.tucsonaz.gov/Departments/Parks-and-Recreation/Parks/Anza-Park](http://www.tucsonaz.gov/Departments/Parks-and-Recreation/Parks/Anza-Park)





## PEOPLE OF THE RIVER: AK-CHIN INDIAN COMMUNITY

*Ak-Chin* in the O’odham language means “place where the wash loses itself in the sand” or “mouth of the wash” and refers to this fertile area some 35 miles south of Phoenix where seasonal snowmelt and summer rains absorb into the Sonoran Desert. The Ak-Chin Indian Community includes the ancestors of the Akimel O’odham, Tohono O’odham and Hia-Ced O’odham peoples living in the area when the federal government restored some of their lands when the reservation was created in 1912.

Agriculture is the foundation of the Ak-Chin lifestyle and an important part of the community’s culture and traditions. **Ak-Chin Farms** was the first major enterprise of the community. The new Ak-Chin Indian Community continued to farm and successfully sued the federal government for water rights to the Colorado River in the 1960s. Today, Ak-Chin Farms commercially grows cotton, barley, potatoes, alfalfa and corn on 15,000 acres of irrigated land.

## What to Do

Learn more about this nation at the **Ak-Chin Him Dak Eco-Museum**, the Tribe’s heritage museum that displays

artifacts and art documenting the Ak-Chin Indian Community’s history and culture, including basketry and other historic and current art. Tribal members curate the museum and host the **Him-Dak (“Way of Life) Community Celebration** in April, which includes a Fun Walk & Run, traditional dancing, face painting, artist demonstrations, kids’ activities and community information booths.

On the last Saturday in September, the museum celebrates **Native American Recognition Day** with traditional dance, singing, food and art. Ak-Chin Indian Community also has a language program to teach the O’odham language to its citizens. It is the first Arizona Native nation to have state-certified O’odham language teachers.

Play at the 320-acre, par 72 Troon-Golf-managed **Ak-Chin Southern Dunes Golf Club** and enjoy its championship-level features and beginner-friendly sections for those new to the sport. The **Arroyo Grille** serves a full breakfast, lunch, and dinner menu, including salads that use Ak-Chin-farmed ingredients.

Families love the UltraStar Multi-tainment Center at the **Ak-Chin Circle Entertainment Center**, an entertainment complex with dining, live entertainment, bowling, a pool hall, a video game arcade, a two-story laser tag arena and a movie theater with D-BOX seating that moves

with the action. Road trippers appreciate **Vekol Market and Cafe**, the Tribal-ly-owned community grocery store with a café that offers local favorites such as popovers, Indian Tacos, hamburgers, daily specials, and breakfast. Fuel is also sold.

In 2023, the Pueblo Grande Museum Archaeological Park was renamed “**S’edav Va’aki Museum**.” The Museum worked with the four local tribes on the name change. *S’edav Va’aki* is an O’Odham name that expresses the site’s connection with the local O’Odham and Piipaash communities. *S’edav Va’aki* refers to the large platform mound (*Va’aki*) preserved at the site. For more than 45 years, the Museum has hosted the **Pueblo Grande Museum Indian Market and Young Artists Market**. You will find a treasure with 100 artist booths featuring family-friendly activities, demonstrations, food and entertainment. The Market is held in early December.

The Ak-Chin celebrate **Masik Tas** every year to commemorate the formal recognition of the Ak-Chin Indian Community. *Masik Tas* is a phrase derived from the O’odham language, meaning birthday celebration. It is also a joyful festival and an opportunity for neighboring tribes and all the communities of Maricopa to participate. It is a time of coming together and recognizing unity and shared values.





## Casa Grande Ruins National Monument

Located 40 miles east of the Ak-Chin Indian Community near Coolidge, **Casa Grande National Monument** protects the remains of a great Hohokam city dating to the 1200s. Called *Sivañ Wa'a Kī* in O'odham, the structures are made from a hard-clay adobe called caliche protected by a large metal roof. The city was walled, and residents farmed the nearby Gila River Valley. The site is so impressive that Juan Bautista de Anza made a detour to see the ruins during the 1775 Anza Expedition. The Visitor Center interprets life at Casa Grande for the Hohokam, and a shaded picnic area is available.

## Where to Stay

Large, stylized paintings of Ak-Chin Indian Community elders and desert scenes honoring Ak-Chin culture can be found at **Harrah's Ak-Chin**. Five restaurants include its signature steakhouse **Chop**, **Block & Brew** with its mesquite grill, **Oak & Fork** with its fine wines and light bites or catch live acts at the **Events Center** or **Lounge**. The outdoor pool is a favorite go-to for beating the heat; the resort's boutique includes Native American-crafted jewelry. **The Spa at Harrah's Ak-Chinspa** is a healing space providing traditional and modern treatments. It offers a variety of treatments, including the Cactus Cooler nail treatment, which uses cactus gel to hydrate and tone cuticles.



Ak-Chin Him Dak Eco-Museum



## Nearby Attractions

### Ak-Chin Indian Community

- 42507 W. Peters and Nall Rd., Maricopa, AZ 85138
- 520-568-1000
- [info@ak-chin.nsn.us](mailto:info@ak-chin.nsn.us)
- [www.ak-chin.nsn.us](http://www.ak-chin.nsn.us)

### Ak-Chin Him Dak Eco-Museum

- 47685 W Eco-Museum Rd., Maricopa, AZ 85139
- 520-568-1350
- [www.ak-chin.nsn.us](http://www.ak-chin.nsn.us)
- Facebook: Ak-Chin-Him-Dak-Eco-Museum-Archives

### Harrah's Ak-Chin

- 15406 N Maricopa Rd, Maricopa, AZ 85139
- 480-802-5000
- [www.caesars.com/harrahs-ak-chin](http://www.caesars.com/harrahs-ak-chin)

### Ak-Chin Southern Dunes Golf Club

- 48456 AZ-238, Maricopa, AZ 85139
- 480-367-8949
- [www.akchinsoutherndunes.com](http://www.akchinsoutherndunes.com)

### Ak-Chin Circle Entertainment Center

- 16000 N Maricopa Rd., Maricopa, AZ 85139
- 520-233-2459
- [www.ak-chincircle.com](http://www.ak-chincircle.com)

### Vekol Market and Cafe

- 47021 W Farrell Rd. Maricopa, AZ 85139
- 520-568-1654
- Facebook: VekolMarket

### S'edav Va'aki Museum, formerly known as the Pueblo Grande Museum

- 4619 E Washington St, Phoenix, AZ 85034
- (602) 495-0901
- [pueblogrande.org/](http://pueblogrande.org/)

### Casa Grande National Monument

- 1100 W. Ruins Dr., Coolidge, AZ 85128
- 520-723-3172
- [www.nps.gov/cagr/index.htm](http://www.nps.gov/cagr/index.htm)







# The Pascua Yaqui Tribe of Arizona, San Carlos Apache Indian Tribe and White Mountain Apache Tribe

## THE PASCUA YAQUI TRIBE

The Yaqui call themselves “*Yoeme*,” meaning “People,” or “*Hiaki*,” the people of the *Hiak Vavwe*, the Yaqui River which brought abundance to our southern homeland. The Yaqui people have maintained a strong presence throughout the Sonoran Desert of North America and surrounding areas for millennia. Through the oral histories passed down from elders and intertribal stories of trade and social networks, they recognize the journey of their elders throughout the region. This expansive area encompasses the Rio Yaqui Valley to the south and the Gila River to the north. The Yaqui people established settlements along these trade routes. They traded extensively with other tribes and ranged far into the American Southwest, maintaining a strong presence throughout the Sonoran Desert and surrounding regions of the American Southwest for millennia. With time, these settlements grew into larger villages, some still flourishing as cultural centers today.

When the Spaniards arrived at the edge of the Yaqui homeland in 1533, they were met by fierce Yaqui warriors whose leader drew a line on the ground, threatening anyone who crossed over it into Yaqui land. The Spanish recognized Yaqui warriors as among “the fiercest fighters in the New World.” Throughout the Spanish era, the Yaqui people adapted to and negotiated the changes while upholding their language, culture, and communities in ancestral areas north and south of the present Sonora/Arizona boundary.

The Yaqui people are known worldwide for their resilience and enduring perseverance. Yaqui ancestors only allowed the Spaniards into their territory on their terms. Eighty years after the arrival of the Spanish, the Yaquis invited two Jesuit priests into their communities. Recognizing similarities in their faith, our Yaqui ancestors began to intertwine Christianity into our traditional beliefs, forms of worship, and practices to shape an intricate and distinct religious and spiritual structural system that is distinctly Yaqui. One example of Yaqui’s contribution to Southern Arizona is the construction of San Jose de Tumacácori Mission Church, which was declared a National Historic Landmark in 1908. By the early 18th century,

Yaqui families settled in areas such as Guevavi, Calabasas, Canoa, Tubac and Tumacacori, decades before the creation of the United States and two centuries before Arizona became a state. The fall of the Spanish Empire gave way to a newly created Mexican government in the early 1820s. What followed was chaos and violence. The encroachment by the Mexican government and American investors forced the Yaquis to fight for their homeland. Many Yaqui were killed, taken as prisoners and forced into slavery on plantations. Many families, primarily women, children, and elders, traveled to the different established Yaqui settlements throughout Arizona to protect the Yaqui way of life. Families remained here until after the Mexican wars when some returned to the villages in Rio Yaqui.

Today, the Pascua Yaqui Tribe of Arizona’s reservation borders the Tohono O’odham Nation San Xavier District to the north, just 10 miles west of the Tucson International Airport. The Pascua Yaqui

Tribe of Arizona traces its history to the Rio Yaqui that flows through Sonora, Mexico. This large river, whose headwaters originate in southeast Arizona, allowed Yaqui ancestors to irrigate fields of corn, beans and squash and hunt deer that lived in the wetlands.

Old Pascua Village in Tucson is recognized as one of the five Yaqui communities in the Tucson area. By the 1960s, Yaqui elders, including Mr. Anselmo Valencia Tori, had worked tirelessly to secure a land base to continue upholding Yaqui culture and traditions. On September 18, 1978, the U.S. government recognized the Pascua Yaqui Tribe of Arizona as a sovereign nation. Today, the Pascua Yaqui Tribe has over 2,200 acres of trust lands in Arizona. It recognizes nine tribal communities stretching from Pascua Pueblo southwest of Tucson to Guadalupe and the villages of Hightown and Penjamo in the Phoenix metro area. There are approximately 19,000 people enrolled in the Pascua Yaqui Tribe.

## Deer Dancer Sculpture

Outside the Pascua Yaqui Tribe’s administrative headquarters in Tucson and at the Tribal Building in Guadalupe is an 11-foot-tall statue of a deer dancer. The bronze **Maso (Deer Dance)**, sculpted by Michael Lee with the assistance of many Yaqui artists and cultural advisors, represents the most central and important ceremonial figure in Yaqui culture. The deer represents the beauty and gifts of the natural world, and Yaqui dancers don deer regalia during ceremonial dances. A deer dancer is featured on the Pascua Yaqui Tribe’s seal. The deer dancer is “the most central ceremonial figure” in Yaqui traditions.

The deer dancer symbolizes the “beauty and gifts of the natural world,” a spiritual world. Deer Dancers wear a headdress depicting a deer’s head and their steps imitate the movements of a deer.

## What To Do

The **Itom Mahtawa’apo, Community Education and Cultural Center** created the Language and Culture Preservation Office in 1997, emphasizing revitalizing and developing further language resources. Shortly after opening its doors, the department began to offer Yaqui language classes ranging from beginning level to Master Apprentice. In 2009, the department grew to its current capacity, which provides services and programming in language and culture to all community members, emphasizing the recruitment of youth to join in on learning our elders’ ways of life, language, culture, history, traditions and exhibits.

The **Yoemem Tekia Cultural Center and Museum** at Pascua Pueblo was founded in 1989 by Pascua Yaqui elders and community members, including spiritual leader Anselmo Valencia Tori and other members of the Pascua Yaqui Association, who were instrumental in gaining the Pascua Yaqui Tribe federal recognition. The Center’s purpose is to preserve and present Yaqui culture and



# Nearby Attractions



## Pascua Yaqui Tribe

- 7474 S Camino de Oeste, Tucson, AZ 85746
- 520-883-5000
- [www.pascuayaqui-nsn.gov](http://www.pascuayaqui-nsn.gov)



## Itom Mahtawa'apo, Community Education and Cultural Center

- 5100 W. Calle Tetakusim, Tucson, AZ 85757
- 520-879-5939
- [languageandculture@pascuayaqui-nsn.gov](mailto:languageandculture@pascuayaqui-nsn.gov)



## Yoemem Tekia Cultural Center & Museum

- 4721 W Calle Vicam, Tucson, AZ 85757
- 520-879-5776
- [www.yoememtekiafoundation.org](http://www.yoememtekiafoundation.org)



## Old Pascua Museum & Yaqui Cultural Center

- 856 W Calle Santa Ana, Tucson, AZ 85705
- 520-526-2440
- [Facebook.com/TheOPMuseum](https://www.facebook.com/TheOPMuseum)



## Casino del Sol Resort

- 5655 W Valencia Rd. Tucson, AZ 85757
- 1-855-765-7829
- [www.casinodelsol.com](http://www.casinodelsol.com)



## Casino del Sol RV Park

- 5655 W Valencia Rd., Tucson, AZ 85757
- 1-855-765-7829
- [www.casinodelsol.com/casino-del-sol-rv-park](http://www.casinodelsol.com/casino-del-sol-rv-park)



## Casino of the Sun

- 7406 S Camino de Oeste, Tucson, AZ 85746-9308
- [www.casinodelsol.com/casino-sun](http://www.casinodelsol.com/casino-sun)



## Sewailo Golf Club

- 5655 W Valencia Rd., Tucson, AZ 85757
- 520-838-6623
- [www.casinodelsol.com/sewailo-golf-club](http://www.casinodelsol.com/sewailo-golf-club)



history to Pascua Yaqui Tribal members and the general public. The Center has six cultural exhibits, a gift shop and a cafe/snack bar. The **Ma'ala Yo'owe Cafe & Snack Bar** provides many food choices, including traditional foods at affordable prices, and the gift shop sells traditional items such as embroidered blouses, sandals and crafts made by Pascua tribal members. *Yoemem Tekia* means "People's Duties to the Creator," and the museum holds cultural and traditional workshops such as flower making, traditional embroidery and traditional cooking classes. Yaqui history nights are held quarterly, allowing the community, elders and cultural leaders to share historic and cultural information with Tribal members.

The **Old Pascua Museum and Yaqui Cultural Center** opened in a 1926 former home in Old Pascua Village in 2013. The Museum displays ceremonial masks, traditional musical instruments, art, and historic photos, among other items that explain the history and culture of the Pascua Yaqui Tribe. The gift shop sells art and miniature masks made by Pascua Yaqui artisans.

## Pascua Yaqui Tribe

The Tribe holds many other ceremonies and events throughout the year that incorporate Yaqui traditions into the Catholic religion; contact the Department of Language and Culture, which may be able to update you on current ceremonies throughout the years and locations. Like all sacred ceremonies, the public is expected to refrain from taking pictures and videos and observe respectfully. The **Mazo Kova Pahko (Deer Head) Ceremony** is a solemn ceremony that takes place annually on January 18 to remember the 400 Yaqui men, women and children who were killed during the Battle at Maso Kova in 1900. Yaqui land in Mexico was wanted for agriculture, and despite the 1897 Treaty of Ortiz, encroachment into sacred Yaqui lands continued. Hundreds of Yaquis were taken prisoner after the battle and dispersed throughout Mexico as slaves. The ceremony takes place annually on the evening of January 18 at Pascua Pueblo. It involves Yaqui leaders and *Tekiakame* (ceremonial persons), deer dancers, traditional musicians and singers, and Yaqui members from Sonora, Mexico.

**Pascua Yaqui Tribe Recognition Day** is observed annually on September 18 and celebrates the day in 1978 when the Pascua Yaqui Tribe officially received federal recognition and the power of self-governance. The day is marked with dances, music, food, prayers and other activities.

The Tribe's **Sewailo Golf Club** was designed by Navajo golfer Notah Begay III, one of the only Native American golfers to have played on the PGA Tour. *Sewailo* means "land where the flowers grow" in Yaqui. The course spans over 7,400 yards and features 18 holes, five tee boxes for all levels, a driving range, a putting course and a chipping green expertly woven into the desert landscape on the grounds of Casino del Sol. The golf course includes the **Wildcats Grille**, which serves breakfast, after-round meals and refreshments.

## Where to Stay

**Casino del Sol Resort** is a AAA Four-Diamond hotel and casino offering soaring views of the surrounding Sonoran Desert from its 215 rooms and luxury suites. Welcome amenities include fruit baskets, cheese plates or cookie platters, and the outdoor pool is perfect for escaping the heat or soaking up some Tucson sun while enjoying a refreshment from the poolside **Oasis Bar**. The **Hiapsi Spa & Fitness Center** offers a full

The Pascua Yaqui Tribe has hosted the **Tucson Tamal and Heritage Festival** at Casino Del Sol's AVA amphitheater for over 15 years. The community celebration of food and culture happens on the first Saturday of December. There's ongoing entertainment throughout the day from the time the event starts at 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. It even brings families together before the event when they're preparing tamales. Tamales are made with corn masa or dough spread across a softened corn husk, stuffed with a filling of choice, then wrapped and steamed.

The Tribe holds many other yearly ceremonies and events incorporating Yaqui traditions into Catholicism. Significant events include weekend processions throughout February for Lent; May 2 Feast of the Holy Cross; June 24 St. John Feast Day in Old Pascua in Tucson; Aug. 8 Feast Day of Our Lord of Miracles at the church of Señor de los Milagros in Tucson; Through October: Month of the Return of the Spirits of the Deceased; Nov. 1 All Saints Day; Nov. 2 All Souls Day; Dec. 12 Our Lady of Guadalupe Feast Day.

For more information about visiting these days, call 520-879-5939, email [languageandculture@pascuayaqui-nsn.gov](mailto:languageandculture@pascuayaqui-nsn.gov) or visit [facebook.com/YaquiTribeofArizona](https://www.facebook.com/YaquiTribeofArizona).

spa menu. *Hiapsi* means “heart and soul” in the Yoeme language, and herbs traditionally used by Pascua Yaqui are incorporated into treatments. The 4,400-seat **AVA Amphitheater**, named for Tribal Leader Anselmo Valencia Tori, sees international performers and the Paradiso and Tropic lounge are local favorites for live music and late nights.

Located next to Casino del Sol, **Estrella** offers a quieter stay with 151 rooms on six floors with sunrise and sunset views of the desert. Meeting rooms, a fitness center, an arcade and a pool with a 100-foot water slide make this an excellent choice for conferences and family getaways. The resort has 11 restaurants, including the Forbes Four-Star and Wine Spectator-winning **PY Steakhouse**. **Bellissimo Ristorante Italiano**, **Festa International Buffet**, **Ume** Asian restaurant and **Abuelitas** Mexican restaurant to satisfy any appetite.

Located next to Casino del Sol Resort, **Casino del Sol RV Park** Casino del Sol Resort has 73 RV stalls with full hook-ups, hot tubs, a shaded picnic area, showers and a laundry room. Walk to the nearby Casino del Sol, fuel up and shop for groceries at the 24-hour **Del Sol Marketplace**.

Pascua Yaqui’s second casino, **Casino of the Sun**, is popular for its table games and **Sunflower Cafe**, which serves breakfast, lunch, and dinner. The casino is just minutes from Tucson. In 1982, it was the first of its kind west of the Mississippi. It began entertaining Tucson residents as the Bingo Club.

## SAN CARLOS APACHE INDIAN RESERVATION

The San Carlos Apache Indian Reservation landscapes include panoramic views of saguaro-studded deserts, high desert prairies, cliffs, red rock outcroppings and alpine meadows. Known for its lakes, more than one-third of the reservation is forested, with a portion contiguous with the largest ponderosa pines in the world. The San Carlos Reservation, created in 1871, was the first Apache reservation made during the beginning of the famous Apache Wars for the forced relocation of Chiricahua Apache and other Apache Bands and also included the culturally unrelated Yavapai People.

In 1875, more than 375 Yavapai died during a forced winter march from the closed Yavapai-Apache Camp Verde Reservation to the San Carlos Apache Indian

Reservation. Many other Apache groups would be relocated to the reservation, some of whom were traditional enemies and spoke different dialects. Many Yavapai would eventually petition to move to create their reservation at Fort McDowell.

These different Apache groups eventually bonded together and formed a central government in the 1930s, acquiring federal recognition as the San Carlos Apache Nation. In 1999, the Apache Nation Chamber of Commerce was created to bring economic development to the Tribe. Today, the San Carlos Apache Cultural Center tells the story of the San Carlos Apache Nation, and guests enjoy staying and playing at the Apache Gold Casino.

## Outdoor Recreation and Trophy Hunting

The San Carlos Reservation offers many outdoor recreation adventures, from hunting, fishing, boating and camping to birdwatching nature study. The **San Carlos Recreation and Wildlife Department** holds a yearly game hunting lottery for non-members for Elk, Coues Deer and Antelope tags. Tags are also available for turkey, bear, javelina and mountain lions. Lakes are stocked for fishing with trout bass, channel, catfish, crappie and bluegill. Take the family fishing at San Carlos Lake, Talkalai Lake, Point of Pines Lake, Seneca Lake or the Black and Salt Rivers. Recreation permits are required to camp, picnic or hike unless you have a fishing, hunting or special-use permit. Popular outdoor recreation areas surround the San Carlos Reservation. The **Tonto National Forest** is located north of the Reservation; the **Apache-Sitgreaves National Forests** lie to the east.



### Felipe Molina

Felipe Molina, is a Pascua Yaqui elder, historian and deer singer. Felipe is from Yoem Pueblo in Marana. Fluent in the Yoemem language, he is a cultural bearer and knowledge keeper. He was taught his language, culture and history by his maternal grandfather and grandmother and elders from the original Pascua Village. Felipe has co-authored books, including Yaqui Deer Songs/*Maso Bwikam*, and teaches the youth the traditional songs for the “*maaso*” (white-tail deer). The songs, transcribed in both Yaqui and English, explore the Deer Song tradition in Yaqui culture.

**Photo:** Courtesy School for Advanced Research. Photo by William Geoghegan



**Photo:** San Carlos Fish and Wildlife Department



## Nearby Attractions



### San Carlos Apache Tribe

- PO Box 0, San Carlos, AZ 85550
- 928-475-1600
- [support@scat-nsn.gov](mailto:support@scat-nsn.gov)
- [www.scat-nsn.gov](http://www.scat-nsn.gov)



### San Carlos Apache Cultural Museum

- US 70 Milepost 272, Peridot, AZ 85542
- 928-475-2894
- [Facebook.com/p/San-Carlos-Apache-Cultural-Museum-100066835741438/](https://www.facebook.com/p/San-Carlos-Apache-Cultural-Museum-100066835741438/)



### Besh Ba Gowah Archaeological Park

- 1324 S Jesse Hayes Road, Globe, AZ 85501
- 928-425-0320
- [www.globeaz.gov/besh-ba-gowah-archaeological-park-and-museum](http://www.globeaz.gov/besh-ba-gowah-archaeological-park-and-museum)



### San Carlos Apache Recreation & Wildlife

- US 70 Old Moonbase Road, Peridot, AZ 85550
- 928-475-2343
- [recnwildlife18@gmail.com](mailto:recnwildlife18@gmail.com)
- [www.sancarlosrecreationwildlife.com](http://www.sancarlosrecreationwildlife.com)



### San Carlos Apache Veterans Fair & Rodeo

- San Carlos Apache Tribe Administration, PO Box 0, San Carlos, AZ 85550
- 928-475-1600



### Apache Gold Casino Resort

- 777 Geronimo Springs Blvd., Cutter Industrial Park, San Carlos, AZ 85550
- 877-APACHE-3
- [apache-gold-casino.com](http://apache-gold-casino.com)



### Apache Burger Travel Center

- Sr 170 Hwy, Peridot, AZ 85542
- (928) 475-5820
- [www.apacheburgertravelcenter.com](http://www.apacheburgertravelcenter.com)



### White Mountain Apache Tribe

- [www.wmat.us](http://www.wmat.us)

## What to Do

The **San Carlos Apache Cultural Museum** is a small museum that tells the story of the Tribe. Exhibits, photographs and clothing share the tribe's history. The gift shop sells handmade dolls, jewelry, books and other related items. Indoor tours are available upon entry. Outdoor tours are available with an advance request and a Recreational Day permit purchase. Call beforehand to verify the hours.

For over 50 years, the **San Carlos Apache Veterans Fair & Rodeo** has been hosting riders from across the Nation. This four-day weekend festival, held on Veterans Day weekend, includes rodeos, live concerts, a carnival and traditional Apache cultural presentations.

In the nearby City of Globe, the partially restored ruins of the ancient village can be explored at **Besh Ba Gowah Archaeological Park**. The adjacent museum houses an extensive collection of polychrome ceramic pottery and artifacts, botanical gardens and a gift shop. The **Apache Burger**, located just off the highway in Peridot, boasts the "Best burger in the West." The travel center also includes a convenience store, fuel and a carwash.

## Where to Stay

Located five minutes east of Globe in the rugged desert beauty and mesas, **Apache Gold Casino & Resort** offers live entertainment, gaming and fine dining at the **Apache Prime Steakhouse**. For casual dining, savor an Apache taco or club sandwich at the **Black River Grill**, grab a quick bite at the **SNAX Snack Bar** or kick back at the **Point Sports Bar**. RV spaces are available. Apache Gold offers a swimming pool, outdoor activities such as a golf course (within 3 km), and hiking trails you can enjoy while lodging there. Stop at the **Apache Gold Gift Shop** for handcrafted tribal jewelry and souvenirs.

### Apache Sky Casino

Enjoy gaming and live entertainment in the **Apache Sky bar**. Breakfast, lunch and dinner available at the **SNAX Snack Bar**. Check out the daily specials, including Fry Bread Fryday.



## WHITE MOUNTAIN APACHE TRIBE

The White Mountain Apache Tribe is one nation that includes several different Apache Tribes. The lands making up the Fort Apache Reservation are rich in natural resources and wildlife. The Reservation's dramatic landscapes go from the desert at 2,600 feet in the Salt River Canyon to 11,400 feet at the peak of *Dzit Eigai Si'an* ("white mountain"), known as Mt. Baldy, one of the tribe's sacred peaks. The mountain provides year-round recreational activities.

White Mountain is an outdoor paradise offering hunting and fishing, skiing and snow sports, rafting and more. The Tribe's fish hatchery breeds Apache Trout, a unique species found nowhere else in the world, and trophy bull elk hunting attracts hunters worldwide.

## Tribal Attractions

Hundreds of dancers in traditional regalia demonstrate their skills in June at the **Annual Hon-Dah Pow Wow** held at the Hon-Dah Casino Resort. Dancers compete for prize money, and art and food booths are open to all. Held annually in Whiteriver in early September, the **White Mountain Apache Tribal Fair & Rodeo** includes bareback riding, steer wrestling, barrel racing, bull riding and team roping, as well as the Pretty in Pink All-Indian Cowgirls Rodeo. Food and arts and crafts vendors will be on site. In June, the Tribe holds its annual **Hon-Dah Pow Wow**, allowing visitors to experience Apache dancing and traditions.

**Nohwike' Bágowa, the White Mountain Apache Cultural Center and Museum**, is in the Fort Apache Historic Park. *Nohwike' Bágowa* (House of Our Footprints) cultural center and museum is committed to celebrating and perpetuating

Apache heritage. Nohwike' Bágowa hosts long-term and temporary exhibitions, regularly scheduled Apache arts demonstrations and other special events. The museum also houses the Tribe's archival collection, which includes manuscripts, publications, and an extensive collection of historic photographs. The museum shop offers a wide selection of Apache basketry, beadwork, other arts, books, music and Fort Apache and Tribal mementos. The building is a modern interpretation of a *gowa* – a traditional holy home.

The **Kinishba Ruins**, ancestral Puebloan ruins, were known to the Apaches as *kí datbaa* (brown house) and in Hopi oral traditions as *Mái'povi* (Place of Abundant Snakeweed). Kinishba Ruins was once a plaza-focused village where people lived from about A.D. 1200 into the 1400s; it is now a National Historic Landmark. Located on the upper end of a grass-covered, conifer-fringed valley, the ruins originally had 400-500 ground-floor rooms standing two or three stories high. To visit Kinishba Pueblo, visitors must check in at the Nohwike' Bágowa.

The **Fort Apache Historic Park** was a major outpost during the Apache Wars (1861-1886) and remained a military post until 1922. The grounds of this former U.S. cavalry fort also contain the Fort Apache Historic Park, which has 27 historic buildings in this 288-acre National Historic District. It once served as the headquarters for the Apache Scouts, whose work with the U.S. cavalry allowed the White Mountain Apache Tribe to remain on its land.

## Where to Stay

The **Sunrise Park Lodge** is Arizona's largest ski resort, offering a year-round mountain getaway. Visit during the winter for skiing, snowboarding, snowmobiling and ice fishing. Ski 65 runs on three mountains (Sunrise Peak, Apache Peak, and Cyclone Peak). In the summer, enjoy Arizona's longest tandem zip line, lift-served downhill mountain biking, a 3D archery course, a rock climbing wall, an airbag jump, lake fishing, camping and more.

Millions of acres of ponderosa pine surround the **Hon-Dah Resort Casino**. Warm yourself by the massive stone fireplace in the lobby. Casual dining with a daily buffet at **Indian Pine Restaurant** and live entertainment in the **Timbers Show-room**. Enjoy table games, slots in the casino, and a choice



**Photo** of Hoop and Pole Game Player by San Carlos Apache Sculptor Craig Goseyun in front of Apache Gold Casino



The Chiricahua Apache leader and medicine man Geronimo was the last American Indian to surrender formally to the United States. After his surrender in 1877, he was sent to the San Carlos Apache Reservation, where he stayed for four long years until he escaped again. In 1886, Geronimo surrendered for the last time and was a prisoner of war until he passed away in 1909 at the Comanche and Kiowa Reservation near Fort Sill, Oklahoma.

**Photo:** Geronimo | Library of Congress

of 128 oversized luxury rooms. The conference center offers a variety of spaces perfect for any type of event. **Hon-Dah Convenience Store** has a wide variety of drinks, food, snacks, candy or whatever you may need in a hurry. The **RV park has a laundry, center** with a library, playground and picnic area.

If you are a hunting or fishing buff, staying at **Hawley Lake Cabins** may be the place for you. Located on the Fort Apache Reservation, Hawley Lake is surrounded by high mountain peaks and towering spruce, pine and aspen trees. These fully furnished lakeside cabins are available for rent and are perfect for fishing, sailing, boating and escaping the summer heat. A small store, gas station and boat dock with boat rentals are onsite. Call for reservations and directions. All outdoor activities on White Mountain Apache Tribe land require a permit. Fishing, hunting, hiking and other permits and information can be obtained at **Hon-Dah Outdoor Sports**. Indoor and outdoor apparel and any necessary equipment for a memorable outdoor experience are also available.

**Sunrise Park Resort** is Arizona's largest ski resort, offering a year-round mountain getaway near Greer, Arizona, just a four-hour drive from Phoenix, with two routes with similar drive times. Sunrise is also under four hours from Tucson or Albuquerque, NM. Visit this alpine resort during the winter for skiing, snowboarding, snowmobiling and ice fishing. Ski 65 runs on three mountains (Sunrise Peak, Apache Peak, and Cyclone Peak). It is on the Colorado Plateau and perched atop the White Mountains in eastern Arizona. Sunrise Park Resort offers lessons for all ages. Enjoy a 3D archery course, a rock climbing wall, an airbag jump, lake fishing, camping and more in the summer. Ride Arizona's only lift-served downhill mountain biking trails. Fly through the trees on the Apache High Flyer, Arizona's longest and fastest tandem zip line!





## Nearby Attractions



### White Mountain Apache Tribe

- 201 E Walnut St., Whiteriver AZ, 85941
- 928-338-4346
- [www.wmat.us](http://www.wmat.us)



### Nohwike' Bágowa, the White Mountain Apache Cultural Center and Museum

- 127 Scout Rd., Fort Apache, AZ 85926
- 928-338-4625
- [www.fortapachearizona.org](http://www.fortapachearizona.org)



### Kinishba Ruins

- 127 Scout Street, Fort Apache Historic Park, Fort Apache, AZ 85926
- 928-338-4346
- [www.wmat.nsn.us/fortapachepark.htm](http://www.wmat.nsn.us/fortapachepark.htm)



### The Fort Apache Historic Park

- 127 Scout Road, Fort Apache, AZ 85926
- [www.wmat.nsn.us/fortapachepark.htm](http://www.wmat.nsn.us/fortapachepark.htm)



### Sunrise Park Lodge

- 200 Highway 273, Greer, AZ 85927
- 928-735-7669
- [www.sunrise.ski](http://www.sunrise.ski)



### Hon-Dah Resort Casino

- 777 Highway 260, Pinetop, AZ 85935
- 800-WAY-UP-HIGH, 800-929-8744
- [www.hon-dah.com](http://www.hon-dah.com)



### Hawley Lake Cabins

- McNary, AZ 85930
- 928-369-1753
- [www.wmat.us/hawleycabins.html](http://www.wmat.us/hawleycabins.html)



### Hon-Dah Outdoor Sports

- 787 Hwy 260, Pinetop, AZ 85935
- 928-369-7669
- [www.hon-dah.com/outdoor-sports#PERMITPRICING](http://www.hon-dah.com/outdoor-sports#PERMITPRICING)



### Hon-Dah Pow Wow

- [www.hon-dah.com/](http://www.hon-dah.com/)



### White Mountain Apache Tribal Fair & Rodeo

- [www.wmat.nsn.us/fair\\_rodeo.html](http://www.wmat.nsn.us/fair_rodeo.html)





# Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation, Gila River Indian Community & Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community



Fort McDowell Cattle Drive

## People of the Sun: Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation

**Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation** is a 40-square-mile nation that operates various businesses and plays a significant role in the Phoenix/Scottsdale metropolitan area's economy, entertainment and culture. Historically, the Yavapai were semi-nomadic and ranged throughout Arizona from the Colorado River to the New Mexico border, gathering food such as saguaro cactus fruit and hunting. Yavapai call themselves *Nyav G'bayá*—People of the Sun—and linguistically, they are related to the Havasupai and Hualapai people of the Grand Canyon region.

The *Kiveekapaya* (Southeastern band) Yavapai have protected their land since the reservation's creation in 1903. In 1910, the Tribe successfully fought relocation when the U.S. government decided it wanted the Tribe's new land and its water rights. In the 1970s, the Tribe successfully resisted selling land for a dam that would constrict the Verde and Salt Rivers, impacting farming on their land. The 1981 final victory is celebrated every November by the Tribe's 900 members during **Orme Dam Victory Days**, including a powwow and rodeo. In the 1990s, the Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation sued the State of Arizona for gaming rights under the 1988 Indian Gaming Regulatory Act, and May 12 is celebrated as "Sovereignty Day," a tribal holiday securing the Tribe's sovereign right to operate a gaming facility.

Learn about the Yavapai People from pre-European contact today at the **Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation Cultural Center and Museum**. Exhibits include examples of exquisite Yavapai baskets and other art, traditional clothing, traditional

weapons and hunting gear, maps of Yavapai historic ranges, the Tribes' story of relocation to Fort McDowell and their struggles and victories in their fight for sovereignty and economic independence. The museum is located 4 miles north of the We-Ko-Pa Casino via Fort McDowell Road.

To learn more about the Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation visit [fmyn.org](http://fmyn.org)

### What to Do

Next to We-Ko-Pa Casino Resort, the award-winning **We-Ko-Pa Golf Club** offers two courses for two different golfing experiences. The Scott Miller-designed **Cholla Course** is a target-style course that meanders through the scenic Sonoran Desert. The **Saguaro Course**, designed by Bill Coore and Ben Crenshaw, is a traditional course with green fairways and has been ranked Arizona's best golf course by *Golfweek* magazine, among other honors. Surrounding the courses are panoramic views of the McDowell Mountains, Red Mountain, Four Peaks and the Superstition Mountains. The clubhouse pays homage to Yavapai heritage with Yavapai-inspired designs and a central fire feature reminiscent of a Yavapai woven basket.

To truly explore the Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation, saddle up with **Fort McDowell Adventures** and horseback ride along the Verde River, drive an all-terrain vehicle through the Sonoran desert, kayak the Salt River or learn about the flora and fauna protected by Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation during a four-hour guided desert day hike.

### Orme Dam Victory Days

Each November, the Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation in Arizona celebrates their 1981 victory, which stopped the construction of the Orme Dam at the confluence of the Verde and Salt Rivers. The **Orme Dam Victory Days** annual celebration includes powwows, rodeo, dancing, games, a carnival and a parade. The celebration teaches the Tribe's youth about this vital part of their Nation's history. Orme Dam Victory Days reaffirms the Tribe's sovereignty to protect the land, culture and history.

As Phoenix expanded west in the 1970s, water scarcity became an issue. The proposed solution was to build a dam at the confluence of the Salt and Verde Rivers. This reservoir would have flooded the Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation. Tribal members were offered a cash settlement and relocation to the desert north of their land. Understanding their Nation and way of life could not continue if moved; the Tribe fought in court to prevent the Orme Dam.

Tribal members went to Washington, D.C. and met with senators, many of whom didn't realize people lived in the proposed reservoir area. After ten years of fighting, the project was canceled, and Fort McDowell secured their land and rights. In 1990, the Tribe negotiated water rights with the U.S. Government and further expanded its farming and orchards, including pecan groves, ensuring agricultural revenue for generations to come. The water rights also protect the Tribe's portion of the Verde River, a prime habitat for wildlife, including bald eagles.

To verify this year's celebration visit [fmyn.org](http://fmyn.org).



### Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation Cultural Center and Museum

- 16304 N. Fort McDowell Rd., Fort McDowell, AZ 85264
- 480-789-7190
- [fmyn.org/about-fmyn/history/tribal-museumculture](http://fmyn.org/about-fmyn/history/tribal-museumculture)

### We-Ko-Pa Casino Resort

- 10438 WeKoPa Way, Fort McDowell, AZ 85264
- 480-789-5300
- [wekopacasinoresort.com](http://wekopacasinoresort.com)

### Eagle View RV Resort

- 9605 N. Fort McDowell Rd., Fort McDowell, AZ 85264
- 480-789-5310
- [eagleviewrvresort.com](http://eagleviewrvresort.com)

### We-Ko-Pa Golf Club

- 18200 E. WeKoPa Way, Fort McDowell, AZ 85264
- 480-836-9000
- 866-660-7700
- [wekopa.com](http://wekopa.com)

### Fort McDowell Adventures

- 14803 N. Hiawatha Hood Rd., Fort McDowell, AZ 85264
- 480-816-6465
- [fortmcdowelladventures.com](http://fortmcdowelladventures.com)

### McDowell Mountain Regional Park

- 16300 McDowell Mountain Park Dr., Fountain Hills, AZ 85268
- 602-506-2930 ext. 3
- [maricopacountyparks.net/mcdowell-mountain-regional-park/](http://maricopacountyparks.net/mcdowell-mountain-regional-park/)

### Montezuma Castle National Monument & Montezuma Well

- Montezuma Castle Rd, Camp Verde, AZ 86322
- 928-567-3322
- [www.nationalparks.org/explore/parks/montezuma-castle-national-monument](http://www.nationalparks.org/explore/parks/montezuma-castle-national-monument)
- [www.nps.gov/moca/planyourvisit/exploring-montezuma-well.htm](http://www.nps.gov/moca/planyourvisit/exploring-montezuma-well.htm)



Montezuma Castle

Weddings and groups are welcome at the adjacent **La Puerta Del Sol** event space, and western barbeque dinners are served with live entertainment at **Rosa's Ranch**. Every year, the Fort McDowell Nation celebrates the **Annual Sovereignty Day Celebration**. This tribal holiday commemorates the day in 1992 when federal agents raided the Fort McDowell Casino and seized the tribe's gaming machines. Community members responded by blocking the casino access road with cars, trucks and heavy machinery, leading to a three-week standoff between the Tribe and the government. The Arizona Governor ultimately agreed to sign a gaming compact with the Tribe, paving the way for Indian gaming in Arizona.

## Other Nearby Attractions

Originally part of the Hohokam homeland, Originally part of the Hohokam homeland, **McDowell Mountain Regional Park** on the Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation's western boundary has more than 40 miles of hiking, mountain biking and equestrian trails rated from easy to difficult. The Yavapai word for the McDowell Mountains is *Wiiquiqua*. Camping is available in designated sites with sweeping views of the surrounding mountains. Plants and animals of the Sonoran desert are commonly seen throughout the

park (including rattlesnakes, so stay on designated trails). McDowell Park contains several archeological sites with petroglyphs from the Hohokam Tribes who inhabited the park. The park's nature center has a population of desert tortoises and exhibits explaining the natural and human history of the park.

The **Montezuma Castle National Monument in Camp Verde** is around sixty-five miles from the Fort McDowell Reservation. The Monument protects a set of well-preserved dwellings situated within the cliff, built and used by the Sinagua people, an ancient culture closely related to the Hohokam and other indigenous peoples of the southwestern United States between 1100 and 1425 AD. The visitors center has a small museum and gift shop where you can learn how the ruin was constructed and how the Sinagua people survived. Fifteen minutes north of the Castle Monument is **Montezuma Well**, the site of Yavapai Creation. Experience the history of the Yavapai Nation and its three bands of Yavapai Tribes at the Montezuma Well, where the Yavapai People (People of the Sun) came up from the underworld on the first corn plant into a big hole, Montezuma Well. Stroll through the lush greenery to the freshwater, where the Yavapai utilize the water for blessings. Montezuma Well is a separate unit of Montezuma Castle National Monument.



## Where to Stay

Guests at the AAA Four-Diamond **We-Ko-Pa Casino Resort** enjoy its outdoor pool, a new casino and seven restaurants, including fine dining at **Ember**, which serves steaks and seafood prepared over wood-fired grills. Its extensive whiskey library and sommelier-recommended wines complement this fine dining experience. Live music fills the resort's theater, and sporting events are broadcast at **WKP Sports & Entertainment** sports bar. The resort's design elements include stylized stained-glass windows reminiscent of Yavapai basket patterns. We-Ko-Pa (Wi:khoba) means "Four Peaks" in Yavapai and refers to a feature in the Mazatzal Mountains in the Four Peaks Wilderness in the Tonto National Forest. The Four Peaks are considered sacred to the Yavapai and are included in the Tribe's official seal. They can be seen from the resort.

For RVers, **Eagle View RV Resort** has 150 sites with full hook-ups, water and waste disposal. The clubhouse has a pool table, computer room and a library. An outdoor pool, dog run and game courts, including badminton, bocce, horseshoes and basketball, are also provided. Mountain and desert views surround the site, and the Verde River flows along the eastern boundary. Nearby, **Ba'ja Gas** convenience store has fuel and food.



### Montezuma Well



### Maswadae Drum Group

Albert Nelson, the lead singer of the Maswadae Drum Group, worked for the Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation as the Nation's Culture Director. Maswadae Drum Group, the exciting Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation singing group, came together more than nine years ago. As Yavapai, they originally sang traditional Yavapai songs from their family that had been preserved through their ancestors who shared these powerful songs with them. The members come from a variety of tribes. They travel around the States and Canada, singing powwow songs.

During the '70s, an anthropologist named Sigrid Khera came to Fort McDowell and documented stories and songs of the Yavapai people from their grandfather, John Williams and another elder, Mike Harrison, who was the oldest living Yavapai in their community. Utilizing Khera's extensive recordings, Maswadae learned the old traditional songs, but they began writing their original songs as time passed. Before they were known as Maswadae, they were known as the Blue Stone Singers. Traditionally, the blue stone was worn primarily by men in ancient times, representing protection against bad spirits. Soon after, the group changed their name to Maswadae, which means "singers" in their traditional Yavapai language. Singing can bring happiness and invoke a sense of healing among those who listen, so with all those traits hand in hand, Maswadae set out to inspire tradition and unite people with traditional songs.



## People Who Live Toward the Water: Gila River Indian Community

Located along Phoenix's southern city limit, the Gila River Indian Community has a tribal membership of more than 11,000 people. Created in 1859 and federally established in 1939, the community is composed of members of the Akimel O'odham (Pima) and Maricopa (in Pee Posh, "*People Who Live Toward the Water*"), two different groups that joined together in the 1840s for farming and mutual defense.

Historically, the Akimel O'odham People called themselves the Huhugam, and that name is reflected in the Tribe's Huhugam Heritage Center. The Pee Posh once lived along the Colorado River in small groups. Conflicts with other tribes forced the Pee Posh to travel east along the Gila River, and they eventually joined together with the Akimel O'odham to become successful farmers.

The Gila River flows through the almost 600-square-mile Gila River Indian Community and irrigates fields of wheat, corn, beans, pumpkins, watermelon, squash and other crops. Thousands of prospectors passed through this land on their way to California during the Gold Rush, and the Akimel O'odham and Pee Posh were lauded for their generosity despite the intrusion.

The Akimel O'odham are known for exquisite basketry, and the Piipaash for red-clay pottery. Traditionally, the people of the Gila River Indian Community were skilled farmers who engineered miles of deep canals to irrigate farmland. Increased upstream water use by settlers in the 1800s created drought conditions for the Gila River Indian Community, and the community has long worked to regain its water rights to continue farming. The Pima-Maricopa Irrigation Project currently irrigates 95,000 acres of land for a variety of crops, including durum wheat, which is sold to Italian pasta companies.

## What to Do

Learn about the Gila River Indian Community at the **Huhugam Heritage Center** by viewing the new exhibit. *Here is where our cultures are still strong.* The exhibit tells about the history and people of the Gila River Indian Community – the Akimel O'odham and the Pee Posh. Featured are basketry, pottery, jewelry and tools created by the ancestors. Gila River Indian Community veterans fully curate the Veterans Exhibit in the archives reading room. Also featured is a Veteran's section and items from the Japanese incarceration camp located on the Gila River. The Great House Artist Gallery features a new community artist every three months, and special exhibits are open throughout the year.

The **Whirlwind Golf Club** has two 18-hole championship golf courses with greens surrounded by native vegetation. Dining options include **Kai**, Arizona's only AAA Five Diamond Award and Forbes Five-Star Award-winning restaurant. Kai means "seed" in O'odham, and its menu is inspired by traditional O'odham ingredients, including posole from Tribal-member-owned **Ramona Farms** ([store.ramonafarms.com](http://store.ramonafarms.com)).



Explore the Gila River Indian Community on horseback at the **Koli Equestrian Center**, where you can experience a great adventure faithful to the West. From seeing wild horses to the breathtaking landscape of the Southwest, your whole family will surely enjoy a memorable ride provided by experienced wranglers. Experienced wranglers offer insights into the community, land, history and culture, ensuring an adventure unlike any other in Arizona. Located just a short drive from downtown Phoenix.

After that ride, you can enjoy a massage at the resort's **Aji Spa**, which incorporates Akimel O'odham and Piipaash's influences into its menu, décor and garden.

Spend the day in **Rawhide Western Town & Event Center**, Arizona's largest 1880s western-themed family entertainment venue and steakhouse in the Gila River Indian Community. Enjoy gun shows, gold panning, stagecoach rides and the rock climbing tier.

## Where to Stay

The Gila River Indian Community owns three casinos and two resorts. The **Sheraton Grand at Wild Horse Pass Resort and Spa** is a luxury resort featuring artist-designed, culturally themed guest rooms reflecting the traditions of the Akimel O'odham and the Piipaash. The main lobby's circular ceiling is reminiscent of O'odham basketry and is accented with painted scenes of O'odham life.

Additionally, **Wild Horse Pass Hotel & Casino** and **Lone Butte Casino** are in nearby Chandler, and **Vee Quiva Hotel & Casino** is in Laveen Village. All three properties have casual dining. Wild Horse Pass Hotel & Casino has upscale dining at **Shula's Steak House** ([www.shulas.com](http://www.shulas.com)) and Ling & Louie's Asian Bar and Grill. ([www.lingandlouies.com](http://www.lingandlouies.com))

- Huhugam Heritage Center**
  - 21359 S Maricopa Rd., Chandler, AZ 85226
  - 520-796-3500
  - [www.grichhc.org](http://www.grichhc.org)
  - [www.Facebook.com/huhugamhc](https://www.facebook.com/huhugamhc)

- Gila River Casinos**
  - 800-946-4452, 800-WIN-GILA
  - [www.playatgila.com](http://www.playatgila.com)

- Wild Horse Pass Hotel & Casino**
  - 5040 Wild Horse Pass Blvd., Chandler, AZ 85226
  - [www.playatgila.com/gaming/wild-horse-pass](http://www.playatgila.com/gaming/wild-horse-pass)

- Lone Butte Casino**
  - 1077 S Kyrene Road, Chandler, AZ 85226
  - [www.playatgila.com/gaming/lone-butte](http://www.playatgila.com/gaming/lone-butte)



# River People & People Who Live Toward the Water:

## Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community

Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community shares the cultures of two People—the Akimel O’odham (River People, Pima) and the Piipaash (People Who Live Toward the Water, Maricopa). Ancestors of the Piipaash originally lived along the lower Colorado River on the California/Arizona border. Still, in the 1600s, hostilities with other tribes forced them to relocate north to the Gila River. A group splintered off and traveled east to the Salt River, where they allied with the Akimel O’odham living there. The Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community sovereignty was recognized, and their reservation was federally created in 1879 and bordered the cities of Phoenix, Scottsdale, Tempe, Mesa and Fountain Hills. The Tribe maintains 19,000 acres of their 52,000 acres as a nature preserve, protecting the landscape and wildlife of the upper Sonoran Desert.

**Photo:** The Horse Called Creation by Jeffrey Fulwider (Salt River Pima-Maricopa), A life-sized mustang horse full of petroglyph designs symbolizing stories in many ways

### Vee Quiva Hotel & Casino

- 15091 S Komatke Lane, Laveen Village, AZ 85339
- [www.playatgila.com/resorts.vee-quiva](http://www.playatgila.com/resorts.vee-quiva)

### Sheraton Grand at Wild Horse Pass

- 5594 W Wild Horse Pass Blvd., Chandler, AZ 85226
- 602-225-0100
- [www.wildhorsepassresort.com](http://www.wildhorsepassresort.com)

### Rawhide Western Town & Event Center

- 5700 W North Loop Rd, Chandler, AZ 85226
- 480-502-5600
- [www.rawhide.com](http://www.rawhide.com)







**PHOTO:** Bronze sculpture caption: Doug Hyde, 1999 "Intertribal Greeting" Bronze sculpture

## What to Do

Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community has a significant presence in the Phoenix metropolitan area. Salt River is home to the **Talking Stick Entertainment District**, which includes tribal enterprises **Casino Arizona**, **Talking Stick Resort**, **Salt River Fields** and **Talking Stick Golf Club**.

The Tribe's **Huhugam Ki Museum** explains the rich cultures of the Akimel O'odham and Piipaash people through exhibits, photographs, written recollections and guided tours. *Huhugam Ki* means "House of the Ancestors" in O'odham, and historic and contemporary Akimel O'odham basketry and Piipaash pottery are exhibited, painted shields and other historical items. A gift shop sells Akimel O'odham and Piipaash art and jewelry, and outside, a traditional home called a Round House made of adobe and saguaro cactus wood is displayed. Events and demonstrations occur throughout the year, and food stalls selling fry bread and other items are often on-site.

Located in the heart of the Talking Stick Entertainment District, the **Discover Salt River Visitor Center** displays O'odham and Piipaash art created by Tribal members. It explains the history of the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community through exhibits and photographs. Staff members recommend the many restaurants, events, attractions, and activities in the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community.

Located next to Talking Stick Resort, **Talking Stick Golf Club's** two courses, Piipaash and O'odham, have 36 championship holes designed by Ben Crenshaw and Bill Coore. O'odham Course is described as a more technical course, while Piipaash Course offers tree-lined fairways with a more traditional course design. The **Wildhorse Grill** is open for breakfast and lunch, and several of its menu items, such as honey-drizzled fry bread, are inspired by the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community.

**Talking Stick Entertainment District** encompasses several of the Phoenix/Scottsdale area's favorite attractions, including Topgolf, Great Wolf Lodge Arizona, iFly Indoor Skydiving, Odysea Aquarium and many other adventure parks, restaurants and shops. Baseball fans pack **Salt River Fields** major league baseball spring training facility at Talking Stick to watch training for the Arizona Diamondbacks and Colorado Rockies Major League Baseball teams.

Located between Great Wolf Lodge Arizona and Salt River Fields at Talking Stick, the **USS Arizona Memorial Gardens at Salt River** is a five-acre site that features a piece of the original boathouse of the USS Arizona that sank at Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941. Over 1,500 memorial columns representing those lost aboard the USS Arizona mark the ship's outline and are illuminated at night.

Go for a stroll and discover impressive public art created by Maricopa and Pima artists

along the **Salt River Art Trail**, which begins in the Talking Stick Entertainment District—starting at Pima Center I Loop 101 & Via de Ventura. The Trail has over a dozen places to stop and view public artworks. The Salt River Art Trail is available in a free and user-friendly gamified pass. As guests enjoy the Salt River Art Trail and view different pieces, they can earn points for each property visited as a check-in verifies each location. Those points can be redeemed for a free exclusive t-shirt made by Salt River Community Artist Dwayne Manuel. ([www.discoveralsalriver.com/art-trail](http://www.discoveralsalriver.com/art-trail)).

Enjoy gaming at **Casino Arizona**, which has several restaurants and lounges, including the **Cholla Prime Steakhouse & Lounge**, **CAZ Sports Bar**, **Willows Restaurant** and **Salt River Cafe**. You can also catch live acts in the Showroom Theater.

## Other Nearby Attractions

Located minutes from downtown Phoenix, the **S'edav Va'aki Museum (formerly Pueblo Grande Museum)** protects the grounds of a Hohokam city, complete with ball courts and an astronomical observation room on top of the platform mound. Reconstructed buildings and artifacts allow visitors to better understand the Hohokam civilization, and nearby canals dug by the inhabitants of this city are still in use for irrigation in Phoenix.

One of the country's premiere museums dedicated to Native American art, the historic **Heard Museum** has 12 exhibition galleries devoted to permanent and rotating exhibits of Native American art from across the United States. The **Courtyard Café** serves contemporary Southwestern cuisine, and the Museum Shop is known for its diverse selection of Native American art and jewelry.

**Cahokia SocialTech + ArtSpace** is a creative space fostering exhibits and collaborations to amplify Indigenous voices in Phoenix. In addition to an exhibit area, the space includes a retail location and room for small performances.

The **Fry Bread House** brings Native American cuisine to Phoenix. Opened in 1992 by Tohono O'odham Nation citizen Cecilia Miller, The Fry Bread House received the James Beard America's Classics award in 2012 for its dedication to bringing Native American culture to a broader audience.



Fry bread uses flour, baking powder, salt and lard—supplies given to Native Americans by the U.S. Government as tribal nations were forced onto reservations in the 1800s and 1900s. Using these scant ingredients, Native chefs created a dough fried in oil. Today, the Fry Bread House uses the same essential ingredients except for replacing lard with vegetable oil for their fry bread. The Fry Bread House uses fry bread in savory and sweet offerings, including Indian Tacos and hamburgers or drizzled with honey, powdered sugar, cinnamon and even chocolate. Other dishes, such as posole and green chile stew, are also served.

## Where to Stay

Stay at the **Courtyard Scottsdale Salt River**, which displays Piipaash red pottery and O'odham baskets in the lobby and incorporates O'odham and Piipaash design elements such as bird motifs, culturally relevant photography and stylized graph designs found in O'odham and Piipaash art throughout the hotel. Enjoy light breakfast and lunch plates at the **Bistro**, and cool off in the outdoor pool.

The 15-story **Talking Stick Resort** lobby displays baskets, pottery, photographs, jewelry and paintings showcasing O'odham and Piipaash artists, and Native American design elements are used throughout the resort. The Spa at Talking Stick offers Swedish, hot stone, and other treatments. Three separate outdoor pools keep visitors cool in the Arizona heat. Seven restaurants, including fine dining at **Orange Sky**, offer panoramic views of the surrounding mountains.

## ANZA ATTRACTIONS:

### Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail and the Akimel O'odham

Anza and his party followed the Santa Cruz River to the west before turning north near Picacho Peak. Anza himself detoured to visit the Hohokam ruins of Casa Grande, which are today protected at **Casa Grande National Monument**. The party resumed westward along the Gila River through the Gila River Indian Community. According to diary entries, they were impressed with their kind treatment by the People of the River, whom they called “*Pima*,” possibly the O'odham word for “I don't know,” the

answer they frequently gave to the Spaniards' questions. They camped at Laguna del Hospital as they continued west, leaving water for a few days as they bypassed the Gila Bend.

In November of 1775, the Anza Party passed through what is now Maricopa County south of the Phoenix area, following the Gila River as it traveled west to Gila Bend roughly along today's Interstate 8. Anza explored this area in 1774 and made friends with several of the tribes in this area, revisiting them with his party in 1775. He met with the ancestors of today's Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community.

Diaries made during the Anza Expedition recorded that on November 7, 1775, the expedition had to travel for two days between water sources. **Camp #26** was a dry camp near the **Sonoran Desert National Monument** today, where visitors can hike a section of the trail taken on the expedition's second day of traveling toward the water. On November 8, they camped at a Native village called San Simón y Judas de Uparsoytac. They rested here for three days. Anza recorded that he saw more Native villages on this expedition than his 1774 journey. Continuing west, the Anza party camped at three Maricopa villages, including Agua Caliente, so named for its hot springs. These were recorded as Camps **#29-31**. Today, the **Painted Rock Petroglyph Site** has interpretive signs explaining the 1776 Anza party's passage through this area. A roadside interpretive sign near **Sentinel** along Interstate 8 marks **Camp #31** at Agua Caliente.

## Annual Events

### Arizona American Indian Festival

#### February

The Arizona American Indian Tourism Association produces the **Arizona Indian Festival**, which takes place annually in February. The two-day event is held at the Scottsdale Civic Center and celebrates the 22 Tribes in Arizona. In addition to dances, the festival features demonstrations, food and drinks, arts and crafts for sale from native artisans and a chance to meet tribal royalty.

### Heard Museum Guild Indian Fair & Market

#### March

Held annually in March, the Heard Museum hosts Arizona's largest American Indian art fair featuring more than 600 of the Nation's most preeminent American Indian artists. Artist demonstrations, performances and children's activities are provided. The Heard Museum hosts Native American art shows and exhibits year-round; visit their website for current events





### Huhugam Ki Museum

- 10005 E Osborn Rd., Scottsdale, AZ 85256
- 480-362-6320
- [www.discoveraltriver.com/huhugam-ki-museum](http://www.discoveraltriver.com/huhugam-ki-museum)

### Discover Salt River Visitor Center

- 9120 E Talking Stick Way suite e-10, Scottsdale, AZ 85250
- 888-979-5010 or 480-362-2700
- [www.discoveraltriver.com](http://www.discoveraltriver.com)
- 

### Salt River Art Trail

- Start at Pima Center I Loop 101 & Via de Ventura
- [www.discoveraltriver.com/art-trail](http://www.discoveraltriver.com/art-trail)



### Courtyard Scottsdale Salt River

- 5201 North Pima Road, Scottsdale, AZ 85250
- 480-745-8200
- [www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/phxpi-courtyard-scottsdale-salt-river](http://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/phxpi-courtyard-scottsdale-salt-river)

### Talking Stick Resort

- 9800 E Talking Stick Way, Scottsdale, AZ 85256
- 480-850-7777
- [www.talkingstickresort.com](http://www.talkingstickresort.com)

### Talking Stick Golf Club

- 9998 E Talking Stick Way, Scottsdale, AZ 85256
- 480-860-2221
- [www.Talkingstickgolfclub.com](http://www.Talkingstickgolfclub.com)

### Talking Stick Entertainment District

- 9120 E Talking Stick Way, Scottsdale, AZ 85250
- [www.talkingstickresort.com/footer/talking-stick-entertainment-district](http://www.talkingstickresort.com/footer/talking-stick-entertainment-district)

### USS Arizona Memorial Gardens at Salt River

- 7455 North Pima Rd., Scottsdale, AZ 85258
- 480-362-2700
- [www.USSArizonaSaltRiver.com](http://www.USSArizonaSaltRiver.com)

### Casino Arizona

- 524 North 92nd Street, Scottsdale, AZ 85256
- 480-850-7777
- [www.casinoarizona.com](http://www.casinoarizona.com)

### Arizona American Indian Festival

- Scottsdale Civic Center, 3939 N. Drinkwater Blvd., Scottsdale, AZ 85251.
- 480-312-4013
- <https://arizonaindiantourism.org/azindianfestival>

### Pueblo Grande Museum Archaeological Park

- 4619 E. Washington Street, Phoenix, AZ 85034
- 602-495-0901, 1-877-706-4408
- [www.pueblogrande.com](http://www.pueblogrande.com)

### Heard Museum

- 2301 N Central Avenue, Phoenix, AZ 85004
- 602-252-8840
- [www.heard.org](http://www.heard.org)

### Cahokia SocialTech + ArtSpace

- 707 North Third Street, Suite 130, Phoenix, 85004
- [www.cahokiaphx.com](http://www.cahokiaphx.com)

### Fry Bread House

- 4545 N 7th Ave., Phoenix, AZ 85013
- 602-351-2345
- [www.facebook.com/frybreadhouse](https://www.facebook.com/frybreadhouse)

### Sonoran Desert National Monument

- 2020 E Bell Road, Phoenix, AZ 85022
- 623-580-5500
- [blm\\_az\\_pdo@blm.gov](mailto:blm_az_pdo@blm.gov)
- [www.blm.gov/visit/sonoran-desert-national-monument](http://www.blm.gov/visit/sonoran-desert-national-monument)

### Fry Bread House



Photo: Mural by NSRGNTS





## Cocopah Indian Tribe of Arizona and Fort Yuma Quechan Indian Tribe

The Cocopah Indian Tribe of Arizona and Fort Yuma Quechan Indian Tribe have called what is now Yuma County home for millennia. Their lands included portions of Arizona, Southern California and Sonora, Mexico. The Cocopah Tribe of Arizona are the descendants of one of seven groups the Spanish called the Yuma.

They were among the first Native Americans to encounter the Spanish in 1540, and their goodwill made it possible for the Anza Party to ford the Colorado River as they entered California. Today, both Tribes play an important cultural and economic role in this storied land.

### COCOPAH INDIAN TRIBE OF ARIZONA

The *Cocopah* (Kwapa) are descendants of one of seven groups from the greater Yuman language-speaking people who occupied lands along the Colorado River. In their Cocopá language, the Cocopah call themselves *Xawih K'wñchawaay*, which means “Those who live on the river.” Their relationship with the Colorado River is a significant part of their heritage. Cocopah Tribal ancestors lived along the Lower Colorado River region near the delta and the Gulf of California. Today, farming is still a significant part of the Tribe’s economy.

At the **Cocopah Museum and Cultural Center**, explore Cocopah history and culture through exhibits such as historic photo archives, artifacts including cooking tools and cradleboards, and a pre-colonial diorama that details life for the Cocopah before European contact and the Cocopah’s relationship with the Colorado River. View examples of traditional clothing such

as willow bark skirts, leather sandals, pottery, traditional tattoo designs, musical instruments and warrior weapons and tools, and learn about traditional sports such as Shinny, similar to field hockey. Stroll the 1.5-acre park with a replica of a traditional Cocopah dwelling and Ramada and shop for contemporary art in the gift shop, such as pottery and beadwork made by Cocopah artisans.

In 2023, the Tribe opened the **Final Keepers of the River Trail**. This outdoor trail and restoration space includes native trees and shrubs along a one-mile walking trail, a labyrinth, meditation spaces and a plaza.

### What to Do

The **Wild River Family Entertainment Center** next to the Cocopah Casino & Resort is a family fun center with a video game arcade, laser tag, bowling and climbing wall. Burgers, pizza and other kids’ favorites are available at the snack bar. Adults enjoy the 21-and-older sports bar with pool tables and darts.

### Where to Stay

Centrally located off of I-95 between Yuma, San Luis and Somerton, Arizona, **Cocopah Casino & Resort** offers king and double queen-bed rooms with free Wi-Fi and suites with a living room and jetted tubs. The casino features slot machines, Keno, Blackjack and nightly Bingo. Breakfast, lunch and dinner are served at **777 Cafe**.



## Nearby Attractions



### Cocopah Indian Tribe

- 14515 S Veterans Drive, Somerton, AZ 85350
- 928-627-2102
- [www.cocopah.com](http://www.cocopah.com)



### Cocopah Museum and Cultural Center

- 14533 South Veterans Dr., Somerton, AZ 85350
- 928-627-1992
- [www.cocopah.com/museum](http://www.cocopah.com/museum)
- [www.facebook.com/cocopahmuseum](https://www.facebook.com/cocopahmuseum)



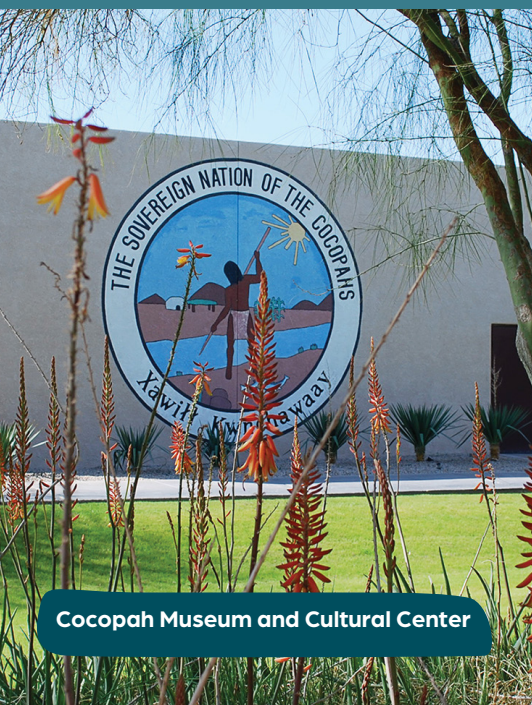
### Wild River Family Entertainment Center

- 15136 South Avenue B, Somerton, AZ 85350
- 928-627-0980
- [museum@cocopah.com](mailto:museum@cocopah.com)
- [www.cocopahwildriver.com](http://www.cocopahwildriver.com)



### Cocopah Casino & Resort

- 15318 South Avenue B, Somerton, AZ 85350
- Casino: 800-237-5687
- Resort: 928-722-6677, 800-237-5687
- Gift Shop: 928-217-1068,
- [www.cocopahresort.com](http://www.cocopahresort.com)



Cocopah Museum and Cultural Center

## FORT YUMA QUECHAN INDIAN TRIBE

Fort Yuma Quechan Indian Tribe's reservation is 69 square miles and spans the Colorado River, with land in Yuma County, Arizona, and Imperial County, California. The name Quechan is a Spanish approximation of what the Quechan called themselves—*Kwatáan*—"Those who descended."

The Fort Yuma Quechan Indian Tribe maintains its agricultural heritage, farming thousands of acres and leasing land to area farmers. It works to preserve its Kwatáan language through school programs and operates several tourism-related businesses, including its Quechan Casino Resort. Today, the Colorado River is crossed via I-8, the Kumeyaay Highway, through Fort Yuma Quechan Indian Tribal lands.

### What to Do

At Fort Yuma Quechan Indian Tribe's second casino, **Paradise Casino**, play the slots or try your luck at bingo, then enjoy surf-n-turf and other nightly specials at the **Cove Restaurant** that serves breakfast, lunch and dinner. Enjoy cocktails at the **Reef Bar** and catch live music in **Sharky's Lounge**, all in a new smoke-free environment.

Stock up on groceries and shop for jewelry, bolo ties and other art by Quechan artists at **Pipa Market**, just north of I-8 and Paradise Casino, before exploring the many nearby historic sites in this beautiful part of Arizona.

### Other Nearby Attractions

#### Anza Attractions

At Antelope Hill's base is a small kiosk that interprets an Anza Party encampment here. The Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail, the Butterfield Overland Stage Route and the Mormon Battalion Trail all passed through this historic area. Camping in established campsites is available.

#### Yuma Crossing and Expedition Camps #39 – #41

In Yuma, the **Yuma Crossing National Heritage Area** interprets the aid that Quechan and Maricopa people gave to the

Anza Party in crossing the Colorado River and entering California on their trek to San Francisco. The crossing was important because the natural narrowing and calming of the Colorado River made crossing easier, and the Quechan controlled access to the crossing. On November 30, 1775, Quechan leader Olleyquotequiebe and his men helped the Anza Party ford the Colorado River and that evening, everyone camped on the river's bank for a few days. On December 3, the Anza Party camped in Olleyquotequiebe's village. The Spaniards renamed chief "Palma," and to Sebastian Tarabal added the first name "Salvador" (Savior).

In Yuma, Yuma Crossing National Heritage Area interprets the aid that Quechan and Maricopa people gave to the Anza Party in crossing the Colorado River and entering California on their trek to San Francisco. The crossing was important because the natural narrowing and calming of the Colorado River made crossing easier, and the Quechan controlled access to the crossing. On November 30, 1775, Quechan leader Olleyquotequiebe and his men helped the Anza Party ford the Colorado River and that evening, everyone camped on the river's bank for a few days. On December 3, the Anza Party camped in Olleyquotequiebe's village.

Today, the Yuma Crossing National Heritage Area overlooks these encampments and protects rehabilitated wetlands and historic buildings. Kiosks interpret humanity's long history with this significant region. This seven-square-mile National Heritage Area includes the town of Yuma, including the Yuma Prison State Historic Park and the Yuma Quartermaster Depot State Historic Park. Interpretive displays throughout the National Heritage Area speak to Native American, Spanish, Mexican and United States history, including the Anza Party's historic crossing in November.

#### Santa Olalla and Expedition Camps #43–46 (Baja California)

At this camp, Anza reported the local natives, probably the Cocopah or Yuma Tribes, shared fish and watermelons, which Anza thought improved the health of those who were sick. The expedition split into three groups to cross the desert without depleting the watering holes.

**Fact:** When the Spanish first arrived in the lower Colorado River area in the early 1500s, they noted the smoke from the thousands of cooking fires throughout the region. The Spanish word for smoke is *huma*, which has been anglicized to Yuma.



### Wells of Santa Rosa (Yuha Well) and Expedition Camps #47 and #48

This well was used by the Kamias Indians, who showed it to Anza's scouts on March 8, 1774. Anza called the well Santa Rosa de las Lajas (Flat Rocks). On December 11-15, 1775, the three divisions of Anza's expedition used this site as the first good watering spot beyond the Colorado River. It is about 7 miles northwest of Mexico's Mount Signal, on the southwest side of Dunaway Road in the Yuha Desert. A California State Historic Landmark is found at the Eastbound Sunbeam Roadside Rest Area, between Drew and Forrester Roads., on I-8 near Seeley. The **Vista de Anza Historical Marker** is found off Hwy 98 northwest of Calxico, 6 miles south of Coyote Wells. Camp #48 was near the Plaster City OHV (Off-Highway Vehicle) area.

### San Sebastián Marsh/San Felipe Creek and Expedition Camp #49

San Sebastián Marsh is the site of prehistoric villages and was a stable water source in the desert environment. It was a campsite for both the 1774 and 1775-76 expeditions. Named for Anza's Indian guide, Sebastián Tarabal, it is located 18 miles northwest of Westmoreland near the junction of state highways 86 and 78. Ironically, the nearby Salton Sea, formed when a canal broke in 1905, is a 35-mile-long desert oasis and includes a National Wildlife Refuge. Sebastian Tarabal was a Cochimi Indian who had fled the Mission San Gabriel and was brought to Anza to serve as a guide on the second expedition. He became known as "El Peregrino" ("The Pilgrim").

### Olleyquotequiebe and the Yuma Crossing

The Quechan relied on the Colorado River for farming and hunting, and they controlled Colorado crossings, making them a critical entity in the region. Their leader, Olleyquotequiebe, had met Father Francisco Garcés during Garcés' previous journeys into the region in the early 1770s. The area tribes liked Garcés, and he introduced Olleyquotequiebe to Anza during the 1774 expedition. Christened Salvador Palma by the Spanish, Olleyquotequiebe saw value in good relations with the Spanish. The Spanish considered him the leader of all the area tribes they collectively called Yuman.

Olleyquotequiebe and his people greeted Anza warmly when he returned in 1775 with Spanish colonists, and the Quechan helped the Spanish with their livestock and

wagons ford the Colorado River. Three Quechan men carried Father Garcés across the river face up, his arms outstretched like a cross. Quechan guides further accompanied the Anza Party into what is now Mexico before heading north into Alta California. The relationship between the Spanish and the Quechan would later sour as the Spanish sought to control the crossing for themselves, and Spanish livestock overgrazed on Quechan crops.

On the morning of July 17, 1781, Olleyquotequiebe led several hundred warriors, including those from other tribes, against the soldiers and colonists at the **Mission of La Purísima Concepción** de Rio Colorado and the **Mission San Pedro y San Pablo de Bicuñer**. Victorious, Olleyquotequiebe threw the symbols of Catholicism into the Colorado River and declared the end of Spanish influence in Quechan lands. The Quechan Uprising of 1781 once again placed the Quechan in a position of power, and the Spanish never retook the overland crossing of the Colorado River into Alta California. However, changing international politics and new trade routes would undermine Quechan power and influence in the coming decades. In 1884 Quechan Tribe of the Fort Yuma Indian Reservation retained lands at the site of decommissioned Fort Yuma.

## Where to Stay

**Quechan Casino Resort** bills itself as a Mediterranean-themed resort with Tribal influences. Choose from 158 luxury guest rooms or eight 800-square-foot suites that include on-demand movies, Keurig coffee makers and free Wi-Fi. All guests have access to the fitness center and outdoor pool, and park your home-away-from-home worry-free in the onsite truck and RV parking. Choose from the **Ironwood Steakhouse**, **Ocotillo Buffet** or the **Gila Blend Food Court** for dinner. Enjoy a cocktail and prime rib dinner at Sidewinders sports bar while playing the slots. The hotel and casino are smoke-free. The old museum was closed due to structural damage. However, the Tribe opened the **Quechan Indian Tribe Cultural Center** at the Quechan Casino. The Cultural Center explains the history of the Fort Yuma Quechan Indian Tribe, including its interactions with Juan Bautista de Anza. Next door, the Quechan Tribal Gift Shop sells intricately painted gourds, pottery, willow baskets, paintings, jewelry and other work created by Quechan artists.

Nestled in the homelands of the Quechan tribal lands, **Sleepy Hollow RV Park** offers a year-round retreat for travelers seeking tranquility and adventure. The park is just 2.5 hours from Phoenix and San Diego and only a few moments from Mexico. It is near Glamis Dunes, where you can enjoy ATV rides and explore the stunning desert landscape. Full hookup sites, laundry facilities, a clubhouse and pet-friendly policies are available. It is a perfect winter retreat.

Stock up on groceries and shop for jewelry, bolo ties and other art by Quechan artists at **Pipa Market**, just north of I-8 and Paradise Casino, before exploring the many nearby historic sites in this beautiful part of Arizona.



#### Fort Yuma Quechan Tribe

- P.O. Box 1899, Yuma, Arizona 85366
- 760-919-3600
- [www.quechantribe.com](http://www.quechantribe.com)



#### Quechan Cultural Center

- located inside the Quechan Casino Resort



#### Paradise Casino

- 450 Quechan Drive, Yuma, AZ 85364
- 1-888-777-4946
- [www.paradise-casinos.com](http://www.paradise-casinos.com)



#### Pipa Market

- 1901 Agnes Road #1, Winterhaven, CA 92283
- 760-919-3408
- [www.quechantribe.com/departments-pipa-market](http://www.quechantribe.com/departments-pipa-market)



#### Yuma Crossing National Heritage Area

- 180 West 1st Street, Suite E, Yuma, AZ 85364
- 928-373-5198
- [yumacrossing@yumaaz.gov](mailto:yumacrossing@yumaaz.gov)
- [www.nps.gov/articles/yuma.htm](http://www.nps.gov/articles/yuma.htm), [www.yumaheritage.com](http://www.yumaheritage.com)



#### Sleepy Hollow RV Park

- 369 Algodones Road, Winterhaven, CA 92283
- 419-603-3395
- <https://sleepyhollowrvparks.com/>



# COLORADO RIVER INDIAN TRIBES

The Colorado River Indian Tribes, located in La Paz County, Arizona, on the border with California, is a federally recognized Tribe composed of descendants of four Tribes: the Chemehuevi, Mohave, Hopi and Navajo Nations. The Tribe was established in 1865 by relocating members of the Chemehuevi Tribe to the traditional land of the Mohave Tribe. Hopi and Navajo Nation members living near the nearby Colorado River and its tributaries were included in 1945.

The Colorado River borders the reservation to the west, and the federal government's reasoning for combining the Tribes was that it would be "better" to bring together members of different tribes living in this area instead of relocating them to their affiliated tribal reservations farther away. The four distinct cultures represented by the Colorado River Indian Tribes are represented by four feathers on the Tribal flag, and tribal members still practice the heritages of their traditional Tribes.

The Mohave, whose ties to the land date from prehistoric times, are followed in number by the Chemehuevi, who also resided on the land before it became a reservation. The newcomers are the Hopi and Navajo. They were relocated by the Bureau of Indian Affairs in 1945 from their home reservations in northeastern Arizona. Thus, the language, culture and traditions of each of the four (4) tribes of the Colorado River Indian Reservation are vastly different.

The Colorado River runs through the reservation. The almost perfect weather year-round and the rich, fertile river bottomland make farming one of the major industries on the reservation. Some of the crops grown in the valley are cotton, alfalfa, wheat, lettuce and different varieties of melons, just to name a few. Recreation is another major resource for the Tribes. The many miles of riverfront and excellent hunting areas bring sportsmen and vacationers to our reservation annually.

Learn about the Colorado River Indian Tribes' history and cultures at the **Colorado River Indian Tribes Museum** at the Tribe's government complex in Parker, Arizona. Art and artifacts, including the most extensive collection of Chemehuevi baskets in the world, showcase the tribes' cultures and skills, and exhibits explain the heritages and histories of the four cultures that compose the tribe's nation.

At the **'Ahakhav Tribal Preserve**, explore the ecology of the Lower Colorado River Basin and experience these protected wetlands that have been so important to wildlife and humans for millennia. The 'Ahakhav Tribal Preserve was established in 1995 and protects 1,253 acres of wilderness area and a 3.5-acre park. Fishing, canoeing, birding and swimming are all enjoyed here, and a 4.5-mile fitness trail, playground and picnic area make this a favorite outdoor getaway.

## Nearby Attractions

The **Blythe Intaglios**, carved into the desert, are 37 miles from the Tribe's BlueWater Resort. These enormous images were created by scraping away the top layers of soil. These images of animals and humans number more than 200, and the largest is 171 feet long. It is unclear who created these geoglyphs in the desert west of the Colorado River. They are believed to have been made by Mojave or Kumeyaay people as long as 1,000 years ago, although no tribe today has claimed to have created them. They are so large that they weren't known to the U.S. Government until the 1930s when pilots first spotted them from the air. They are now listed on the National Register of Historic Places and protected by the Bureau of Land Management.

## Where to Stay

**BlueWater Resort & Casino** has slot machines, table games, bingo and four restaurants on the Colorado River banks. Resort rooms look out over the 200-slip riverside marina, national acts perform on its indoor and outdoor stages, and a movie theater shows the latest releases. The **BlueWater Grille** serves breakfast, lunch, dinner and weekly specials. For upscale dining, try the **River Willow Steakhouse** or enjoy casual dining to the gentle murmur of the Colorado River at **River's Edge Cantina**.

## Nearby Attractions

### Colorado River Indian Tribes

- 26600 Mohave Road, Parker, AZ 85344
- 928-669-9211
- [www.crit-nsn.gov](http://www.crit-nsn.gov)

### Colorado River Indian Tribes Museum

- 133 West Riverside Dr., Parker, AZ 85344
- 928-669-8970
- [www.crit-nsn.gov/critmuseum](http://www.crit-nsn.gov/critmuseum)

### 'Ahakhav Tribal Preserve

- 25401 Rodeo Dr., Parker, AZ 85344
- 928-669-2664
- [www.crit-nsn.gov/crit\\_contents/tourism](http://www.crit-nsn.gov/crit_contents/tourism)

### BlueWater Resort & Casino

- 11300 Resort Drive, Parker, AZ 85344
- 928-669-7777
- [www.bluewaterfun.com](http://www.bluewaterfun.com)

### Blythe Intaglios

- 15 miles north of Blythe, CA 92225
- 928-317-3200
- [www.recreation.gov/camping/gateways/2050](http://www.recreation.gov/camping/gateways/2050)

**Photo:** Colorado River Indian Tribes Museum







## Missions, Mountains and Oceans: Land of the Kumeyaay

Since time immemorial, the Kumeyaay, Cahuilla, Cupeño and Luiseño people have called Southern California home. Hundreds of villages and indigenous people utilized sustainable and carefully considered land management practices, which created a vast supply of the bountiful food and materials gathered from tidal marshes, deserts, rivers and mountains of this diverse landscape, which stretches from the Pacific coast to the Colorado River across what is now San Diego and Imperial counties.

The Spanish arrived in the San Diego area by sea in 1542, and limited interactions between the Spanish and villages took place for the next two centuries. However, life drastically changed for the Native peoples in 1769, when the Spanish founded the Presidio at San Diego and began the Spanish Mission System. Entire villages relocated to and worked at the Spanish missions established along the California coast. Within a few years, ways of life known since time immemorial began to change.

In 1852, the Kumeyaay, along with the Luiseno, Cahuilla and Serano Bands, negotiated treaties that were sent to the US Senate for approval. However, the Senate rejected the treaties in response to pressure from the California delegation. The Tribes were not informed of this decision, and later, they found their lands unprotected.

After the secularization of the Missions and California's admission into the Union after the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, the U.S.

government's practices, such as the boarding school system that would eradicate Native cultures and traditions, relocation programs, and reservation termination policies further challenged California Indian tribes' perseverance. To this day, California Indians demonstrate an unwavering stand, exercising their rights as sovereign nations to provide spiritual and physical health, infrastructure, education and economic development opportunities for their communities.

Today, Kumeyaay, Cahuilla, Cupeño and Luiseño peoples belong to 18 federally recognized tribal nations within San Diego County, the highest number of federally recognized tribes in any county in the United States.

### THE ANZA EXPEDITION IN IMPERIAL COUNTY

After crossing the Colorado River with the help of the Quechan, the Anza party followed the Colorado River south into Baja California before heading east and curving around what is now Mexicali. The Anza Party then turned north into Imperial County, California, before crossing west through what would become the Anza-Borrego Desert State Park near today's Salton Sea.

Travelers today cross the Colorado River via I-8, the **Kumeyaay Highway** (designated by the California Legislature in recognition of one of the earlier courier routes), and follow it west to Ocotillo, passing a roadside marker for Yuha Well. Between I-8 and CA 98, near the Mexico border, is the **Yuha Desert**. This area is famous for off-





Photo: Imperial Valley Desert Museum



### Golden Acorn Casino and Travel Center

- 1800 Golden Acorn Way, Campo, CA 91906
- 1-866-7WIN-BIG (794-6244)
- [www.goldenacorncasino.com](http://www.goldenacorncasino.com)



### Yuha Desert Recreation Area

- BLM El Centro Resource Area, 1661 So. 4th Street, El Centro, CA 92243
- 760-337-4400
- [www.desertusa.com/desert-california/yuha-desert-ra.html](http://www.desertusa.com/desert-california/yuha-desert-ra.html)



### Imperial Valley Desert Museum

- 11 Frontage Road, Ocotillo, CA 92259
- 760-358-7016
- [www.ivdesertmuseum.org](http://www.ivdesertmuseum.org)



### Cleveland National Forest

- 10845 Rancho Bernardo Road, San Diego, CA 92127
- 858-673-6180
- [www.fs.usda.gov/cleveland](http://www.fs.usda.gov/cleveland)

road touring, and the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail travels through this harsh desert land that looks similar to what the Anza Party would have experienced.

The Vista de Anza historic marker overlooks where the Anza groups would have traveled north through Imperial County. The area also contains the protected **Yuha Geoglyph**, a large abstract design carved into the desert floor. It is believed to have been made by Kumeyaay spiritual leaders for reasons unknown today. The area is fenced and protected by the Bureau of Land Management.

## The Kumeyaay

The Kumeyaay Nation ancestors were autonomous, self-governing bands whose territory extended from the Pacific Ocean south to Ensenada in Mexico, west to the sand dunes of the Colorado River and north to Warner Springs Valley. North to the northeast, it was bounded by the San Luiseo, Cupeo and Cahuilla. The Kumeyaay united in defense of their territory and had a courier system of runners to communicate information throughout their lands.

## Campo Kumeyaay Nation

[www.campo-nsn.gov](http://www.campo-nsn.gov)

The Campo Band of Mission Indians is the first reservation in California following the Trail from Yuma Crossing. The Campo Valley was known as **Meelqsh G'tay** (or big open meadow) by the local non-Indians as Milguatay. The Campo people are proud of their history as resistance fighters against

## Twelve Kumeyaay Nation Bands Exist Today:

Barona Band of Mission Indians

Campo Kumeyaay Nation

Ewiiapaayp Band of Kumeyaay Indians

Iipay Nation of Santa Ysabel Band

Inaja-Cosmit Band of Indians

Jamul Indian Village of California

La Posta Band of Mission Indians

Manzanita Band of the Kumeyaay Nation

Mesa Grande Band of Mission Indians

San Pasqual Band of Mission Indians

Sycuan Band of the Kumeyaay Nation

Viejas Band of Kumeyaay Indians

the encroachment of Spanish, Mexican and American people. Today, the Nation fights for water rights, environmental protection and economic growth.

## What to Do:

In the foothills of the Cuyamaca Mountains just off of the Kumeyaay Highway (Interstate 8), the **Golden Acorn Casino and Travel Center** has more than 350 slot machines ranging from penny slots to high-limit play. The **Golden Grill** and **Del Oro Deli** restaurants offer casual fare, and the **Player's Bar** has live music. Fuel up and grab snacks from **Krispy Krunchy Chicken** or **Sprinkles Ice Cream Shop** and Bakery at the Travel Center.

Thirty-eight miles of the Anza Trail are marked within Bureau of Land Management lands in the **Yuha Desert Recreation Area** west of El Centro. The area contains



the protected **Yuha Geoglyph**, a large abstract design carved into the desert floor by Kumeyaay spiritual leaders. The area is fenced and protected by BLM.

The **Imperial Valley Desert Museum** in Ocotillo celebrates the people and natural history of the Imperial Valley. An extensive collection of photographs, artifacts and interpretive galleries explores the Kumeyaay who continue to live throughout the region. The 2014 Emmy-nominated documentary film *First People-Kumeyaay*, can be viewed on the museum's website. Miles of hiking trails are available on the museum's grounds and surrounding areas, and exhibits explain the complex ecosystem found in the desert here.

The southern sections of the Cleveland National Forest are 20 miles from the Campo Indian Reservation. The Forest provides various terrains and recreational opportunities, including camping, picnic areas and hiking. Many of the trails follow the routes of the Kumeyaay, Luiseño, Cahuilla and Cupeño. There are a variety of different campgrounds that can be reserved on a first-come, first-served basis.

## Viejas Band of Kumeyaay Indians

[www.viejasbandofkumeyaay.org](http://www.viejasbandofkumeyaay.org)

The Viejas Band of Kumeyaay Indians' reservation is in the Viejas Valley, east of

Alpine in San Diego County. The name "Viejas" comes from the Spanish name for their land, "El Valle de Las Viejas" or "The Valley of the Old Women."

Enjoy a shopping spree at the **Viejas Outlet Center**, which offers discounted designer brand-name stores, an arcade, a roller rink, a bowling alley and a splash fountain. Burgers, hotdogs, pizza, salads and sandwiches are also available.

## Where to Stay

The upscale **Viejas Casino & Resort** is 30 minutes east of downtown San Diego. Six dining options include the AAA Four Diamond **Grove Steakhouse**. An outdoor skating rink, bowling alley, and Game Zone arcade keep everyone in the family entertained, and live performances by national acts take place at the Oak Ballroom. **Willows Spa** has a complete massage and salon menu and a saltwater spa pool.

The tree-shaded **Ma-Tar-Awa RV Camper Park** is just minutes from Viejas Casino & Resort. It features a convenience store, swimming pool and jacuzzi, arcade room, playground, and paintball park.

Located near the resort at the base of the Cuyamaca Mountains, the 33-acre **Alpine Springs RV Park** is 30 miles east of San Diego. Facilities include a swimming pool, 88 full hookup sites, and 22 partial sites.



### Viejas Casino & Resort

- 5000 Willows Rd., Alpine, CA 91901
- 619-445-5400
- [www.viejas.com](http://www.viejas.com)

### Ma-Tar-Awa RV Camper Park

- 25 Browns Road, Alpine, CA 91901
- 619-445-3276
- [matarawarvpark.com](http://matarawarvpark.com)

### Alpine Springs RV Park

- 5635 Willows Road., Alpine, CA 91901
- 619-445-3162
- [www.alpinespringsrvpark.com](http://www.alpinespringsrvpark.com)

### Viejas Outlet Center

- 5003 Willows Road, Alpine, CA 91901
- 619-659-2070
- [www.viejas.com/san-diegos-premier-outlets-mall](http://www.viejas.com/san-diegos-premier-outlets-mall)

**Photo:** Viejas Band of Kumeyaay Indians' Mural (NativeAmerica.Travel)





### Sycuan Cultural Center and Museum

- 910 Willow Glen Dr., El Cajon, CA 92019
- 619-445-6917 ext.100
- [www.kumeyaaycommunitycollege.com](http://www.kumeyaaycommunitycollege.com)



### Sycuan Band of the Kumeyaay Nation Powwow

- 6677 Dehesa Road, El Cajon, CA 92019
- 619-445-7776



### Sycuan Casino and Resort

- 5469 Casino Way, El Cajon, CA 92019
- 619-445-6002
- [www.sycuan.com](http://www.sycuan.com)



### US Grant Hotel

- 326 Broadway, San Diego, CA 92101
- 619-232-3121
- [www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/sanlc-the-us-grant-a-luxury-collection-hotel-san-diego](http://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/sanlc-the-us-grant-a-luxury-collection-hotel-san-diego)



### Best Western Marina Gateway Hotel

- 800 Bay Marina Dr., National City, CA 91950
- 619-259-2800
- [www.bwmarinagateway.com](http://www.bwmarinagateway.com)



### Sycuan Square Gas Station and Market

- 4915 Dehesa Rd., El Cajon, CA 92019
- 619-612-2300
- [www.sycuan.com/sycuan-square](http://www.sycuan.com/sycuan-square)



### Mission Trails Regional Park Visitor & Interpretive Center

- One Father Junipero Serra Trail, San Diego, CA 92119
- 619-668-3281
- [mtrp@mtrp.org](mailto:mtrp@mtrp.org)

## Sycuan Band of the Kumeyaay Nation

[www.sycuantribe.com](http://www.sycuantribe.com)

The Sycuan Band of Kumeyaay is one of the twelve Kumeyaay Bands. In addition to taking care of the well-being of its tribal members, they have been a leader in the community of San Diego as a whole. Sycuan's partnership investment in the San Diego Padres in 1995 was the first tribal government sponsorship of a Major League Baseball team. In 2023, Sycuan became the first Native American Band to have an ownership stake in a Major League Soccer club.

## What to Do:

The **Sycuan Cultural Center and Museum** is located at the **Kumeyaay Community College** on the site of the former Kumeyaay Village of Matamo. The College provides accredited and non-accredited classes in language, ethnobotany, history, pottery, basketry and more. The Cultural Center hosts monthly cultural night events that include Bird Singing, dancing and storytelling. The museum features a reconstructed village with Kumeyaay pottery, basketry, homes, and other implements used daily in the village.

Nestled in the Dehesa Valley, 20 minutes from the San Diego International Airport, **Singing Hills Golf Resort** at Sycuan has 54 holes throughout its 425 acres. The 100 guest rooms all have views of the greens or swimming pools. The full-service **Red Tail Bar & Grill** has course views and serves breakfast, lunch and dinner.



The annual **Sycuan Band of Kumeyaay Nation Powwow** is held the first weekend of September. It features Kumeyaay bird singers, dancers, musicians and vendors from southern California who gather on the grounds of Sycuan Resort Casino to honor and celebrate heritage.

**Mission Trails Regional Park** is 20 minutes from the US Grant Hotel. It is one of the largest urban parks in the US, with more than 60 miles of trails surrounding Cowles Mountain. The park offers guided hikes through a landscape much like before the Spanish arrival, including boulders with grinding holes the Kumeyaay People used to grind acorns into powder. The Mission Trails Visitor and Interpretive Center features exhibits of Kumeyaay people and culture.

## Where to Stay:

Purchased by the Sycuan Band in 2003, the historic **US Grant Hotel** is located in downtown San Diego's Gaslamp Quarter. The hotel was opened in 1910 by Ulysses S. Grant Jr., the son of the 18th president, who signed the Executive Order that set aside lands for the Kumeyaay. A Luxury Collection Hotel, the US Grant Hotel has welcomed guests for over a century, and San Diego must-sees such as the San Diego Zoo, Petco Park and Balboa Park are nearby. The AAA Four Diamond **Grant Grill** serves meals in its Art Deco dining room, and the full-service spa ensures a relaxing stay. The Hotel is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.





The Four Diamond AAA **Sycuan Casino Resort** features its **Spa Ritual** with a complete massage and salon treatments menu. Enjoy a Sycuan craft beer at the fine-dining venues, including the **Bull and Bourbon Steakhouse**. See nationally known performers at the **Heritage Event Center**, and soak in the San Diego sun at the Retreat Pool. Sycuan has sponsored the San Diego Padres since 1995, so it's no surprise that the resort features the official **Padres Suite**, which includes all things baseball.

You can replenish road supplies at the Sycuan Square Gas Station and Market near the Sycuan Casino and Resort. In addition to gasoline, you will find various food and beverages, including fresh-made sandwiches, salads, burgers and more.

The **Best Western Marina Gateway Hotel** rooms include pool and hot tub access. It is close to the San Diego Zoo, Petco Park, Balboa Park, SeaWorld San Diego and beaches. **Goodies Bar & Grill** serves contemporary, family-friendly fare.

## Jamul Indian Village of California

[www.jamulindianvillage.com](http://www.jamulindianvillage.com)

Tribal elders recall stories of turbulent times after first contact with Europeans. These ancestors, who told these stories generation after generation, are held in reverence. Today, leaders continue to struggle to create a better future for generations to come.

## What to Do

Located 20 miles from San Diego, the Jamul Indian Village draws its name from the region. Through struggle, the Band has emerged stronger than ever with a resolve to create a better future with the opening of **Jamul Casino**. Opened in 2016, the Jamul Casino is located in Jamul, California, San Diego County. It is owned and operated by Jamul Indian Village Development Corporation (JIVDC), a wholly owned enterprise of the Tribe. The \$430 million, award-winning casino features nearly 1,700 slot machines, 46 live table games, a dedicated poker room, and various restaurants, bars and lounges. Jamul Casino supports 1,200 permanent jobs in the region and is the closest casino to downtown San Diego.

This \$430 million, award-winning property features 7 bars and restaurants, from **Prime Cut**, which offers spectacular views of Southern California's backcountry, to **Tony Gwynn's Sports Bar**, a retail gift shop, a rooftop event space, and stunning views.

## OTHER AREA ATTRACTIONS IN SAN DIEGO COUNTY

The **Museum of Us** in Balboa Park recognizes that it sits on the ancestral homeland of the Kumeyaay People and is working on a multi-year project to reimagine its current Kumeyaay exhibit completely. At its core, this effort will ensure that the Kumeyaay narratives in the Museum of Us reflect the traditional knowledge, contemporary perspectives and sovereignty of this community rather than solely the academic viewpoint of non-Native scholars. Balboa Park hosts a small California Native Plant Demonstration Garden featuring many of San Diego's native plants.

The City of Poway encompasses the ancient sites of several Kumeyaay clans in Pauwai, and the **Kumeyaay Ipai Interpretive Center** tells the story of Kumeyaay life before 1769. Food preparation, house construction, the use of native plants and other aspects of daily life at Pauwai are explained during guided and self-guided tours. Call ahead to verify hours.

**San Dieguito River Park** is approximately 30 minutes from downtown San Diego. The **Piedras Pintadas Trail**, Piedras Pintadas, meaning "painted rocks," in

## The Battle of Mission San Diego

The Anza Party didn't travel through San Diego County on its way to San Francisco. It passed through today's Riverside County to the East. But in January 1776, Anza, Father Font and a contingent of soldiers left the main Anza expedition at Mission San Gabriel in Los Angeles and traveled south to San Diego.

Kumeyaay warriors revolted and set fire to Mission San Diego as a traditional, cultural response to assaults and mistreatment by the Spanish soldiers. On November 5, 1775, about 600 Kumeyaay warriors from some 40 clans led by two Kumeyaay chiefs known as Carlos and Francisco attacked the mission, killing a priest and a blacksmith as the remaining 19 civilians and soldiers barricaded themselves against the attack.

The attacking Kumeyaay and the Spanish agreed upon a truce and the attackers were forgiven, but Anza and his men were summoned as a show of force to reinforce the Spanish claim to the region.

Anza, Font and the soldiers remained in San Diego from January 11 to February 8, when they returned to Los Angeles to continue the Anza Expedition to San Francisco. Along their journey to San Diego, they camped at Mission Purísima Concepción, which is today La Purisima Mission State Historic Park in Lompoc; Presidio of San Diego; Mission Basilica San Diego de Alcalá and within today's scenic Anza-Borrego Desert State Park.



## Nearby Attractions



### Jamul Casino

- 14145 Campo Road, Jamul, CA 91935
- 619-315-2250
- [www.jamulcasinosd.com](http://www.jamulcasinosd.com)



### Museum of Us in Balboa Park

- 1350 El Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego, CA 92101
- 619-239-2001
- [www.museumofus.org](http://www.museumofus.org)



### Kumeyaay Ipai Interpretive Center

- 13104 Ipai Waaypuk Trail, Poway, CA 92064
- 858-668-4781
- [www.poway.org/369/Kumeyaay-Ipai-Interpretive-Center](http://www.poway.org/369/Kumeyaay-Ipai-Interpretive-Center)



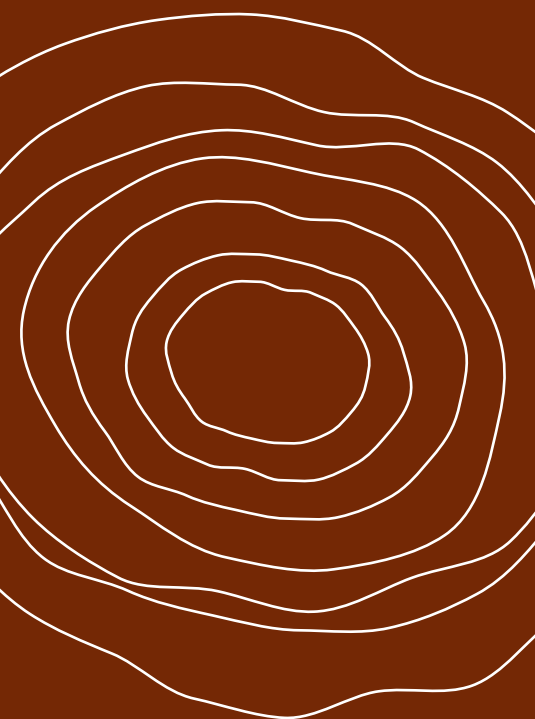
### Piedras Pintadas Trailhead

- 18372 Sycamore Creek Road, Escondido, CA 92025
- 858-674-2270
- [www.sdrp.org/explore/walks](http://www.sdrp.org/explore/walks)



### Anza-Borrego Desert State Park Visitor Center

- 200 Palm Canyon Drive, Borrego Springs, CA 92004
- 760-767-4205
- Anza-Borrego Desert SP © (ca.gov)



Escondido, explores how the Kumeyaay of the past used and managed the area's resources. Nineteen interpretive panels share Kumeyaay lifestyles, and seventeen interpretive panels discuss ethnobotany.

The 916-square-mile **Anza-Borrego Desert State Park** name combines Juan Bautista de Anza and the Spanish word for sheep, *borrego*. It overlaps San Diego, Riverside and Imperial counties and contains some of the harshest terrain the Anza Party had to navigate. Despite its ruggedness, this section of the Colorado Desert was home to Cahuilla, Cupeño and Kumeyaay people who knew where springs and groves of California palms grew. Palms grow on the Borrego Palm Canyon and Mountain Palm Springs hiking trails. The surrounding Santa Rosa and San Jacinto mountains, now **Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument**, provided everything these resourceful people needed, including elevation, to escape the desert heat.

Today, Anza-Borrego Desert State Park has 500 miles of dirt roads that are popular with backcountry explorers. The slot canyons and other features make for fascinating hiking. The 'Ehmuu-Morteros Trail is a short hike to the site of the seasonal Kumeyaay village in **Little Blair Valley Cultural Preserve**, located within Anza-Borrego Desert State Park. Morteros refers to the grinding holes left in rocks by Kumeyaay mashing and grinding yucca, seeds and other foods. Also within Little Blair Valley Cultural Preserve is the **Pictograph Trail**, which leads to images made by Kumeyaay artisans. Contact the visitor center for maps and information, and be aware that services are very limited and that summers can be dangerously hot within the park.

## Barona Band of Mission Indians

[www.barona-nsn.gov](http://www.barona-nsn.gov)

The Barona Band of Mission Indians is approximately 30 miles east of San Diego. The Tribe takes its name from the Mexican land grant Cañada de San Vicente y Mesa del Padre Barona, named after Padre José Barona, a Mission San Diego de Alcalá friar. In 1875, the Capitan Grande Reservation was established, only to be bought by the city to build a reservoir. With the money from the sale, the Tribe purchased the Barona Ranch and made their living through ranching and farming.

## What to Do

The **Barona Cultural Center & Museum** tells the story of the Barona Band of Mission Indians and the Southern California Native American community. Dedicated to education, the Museum houses 22,000 items, such as stone tools, basketry and pottery and conducts workshops, classes and tours. In the gift store, you can purchase jewelry, basketry and art made by Kumeyaay artisans.

The **Barona Creek Golf Club** blends beautifully into the natural landscape of San Diego's rolling foothills and is one of California's most inviting golf courses. **Barona Creek Pro Shop** has golf apparel from the best brands and equipment to ensure your outfit is fitting. Golf lessons are available by appointment.





Every Labor Day weekend, the annual Barona Powwow, a multi-tribal celebration of Native American culture, takes place at the Barona Sports Park. Competitive dancing and drumming occur, and vendors sell artwork, jewelry and food. Admission is free.

## Where to Stay

### Barona Valley Ranch Resort & Casino

This resort and casino has six restaurants, including **Italian Cucina**, **Ho Wan Noodle Shop** and the award-winning **Barona Oaks Steakhouse**. With a comfortable indoor ambiance, conservatory seating and panoramic views of the beautiful valley and golf course, Barona Oaks Steakhouse is an elegant dinner-only venue with a wood-burning grill and dry-aged steaks.



## The Game of Peon

PEON is a Kumeyaay game played by the tribes in Southern California. In the spring, summer and fall, the tribes usually gather, sharing songs, dances and art and playing peon. Peon is more than a game. It is a competitive game of complex strategy, skill and calculation. It is typically played between villages and carries a weight of rivalry and pride that goes well beyond the success or failure of the players. Throughout the night, participants on one side hide under blankets, and on the other side, they will guess where they are holding the game pieces while singing Peon songs.

(IMAGE: Asking permission to use NMAI image for peon game pieces: [americanindian.si.edu/collections-search/objects/NMAI\\_279063](http://americanindian.si.edu/collections-search/objects/NMAI_279063))



## Iipay Nation of Santa Ysabel Band

[sctca.net/iipay-nation-of-santa-ysabel/](http://sctca.net/iipay-nation-of-santa-ysabel/)

The **Santa Ysabel Reservation** is about 40 miles east of Escondido on Highway 76. Santa Ysabel is situated on the slopes of the Volcan Mountains at nearly 4,500 feet. The rugged, wooded area provides a sense of solitude for the reservation's residents. The Santa Ysabel Band is part of the Kumeyaay Nation. The Kumeyaays are members of the Yuman language branch of the Hokan group. The Hokan language group is wide-ranging, covering most of the coastal lands of southern California, including tribes as far north as the Kuroks of Northern California.

The **Santa Ysabel Roadside 79** gas station and convenience store offer various products at backcountry small-town prices to tribal members, residents and traveling tourists.

The **Mountain Source Dispensary** opened in January 2019. It was the first tribally owned recreational dispensary to open to the public. The contemporary and clean cannabis dispensary is located on the beautiful tribal lands of the Iipay Nation in Santa Ysabel. The dispensary operates in a highly regulated and secure environment.

## Attractions near Barona

### Barona Cultural Center & Museum

- 1095 Barona Road, Lakeside, CA 92040
- 619-443-7003
- [www.baronamuseum.com](http://www.baronamuseum.com)

### Barona Creek Golf Club

- 1932 Wildcat Canyon Road, Lakeside, CA 92040
- (619) 387-7018
- [www.barona.com/resort/golf](http://www.barona.com/resort/golf)

### Barona Powwow

- Barona Sports Park
- 1095 Barona Road, Lakeside, CA 92040
- 619-443-6612,
- [www.barona-nsn.gov](http://www.barona-nsn.gov)
- [www.facebook.com/BaronaPowwow](http://www.facebook.com/BaronaPowwow)

### Barona Valley Ranch Resort & Casino

- 1932 Wildcat Canyon Rd., Lakeside, CA 92040
- 888-722-7662; 619-443-2300
- [www.barona.com](http://www.barona.com)



## Native Oaks Golf Club



### Mesa Grande Band of Mission Indians

[www.mesagrandeband-nsn.gov](http://www.mesagrandeband-nsn.gov)

The Mesa Grande Band of Diegueño Mission Indians are direct descendants of the original peoples who occupied northern San Diego County since time immemorial. They occupied a portion of California south of the San Luis Rey River and into northern Baja California. The terminology used to identify them has changed several times over the years. The term “Diegueno” originated with the Spanish due to their proximity to the mission of Mission San Diego de Alcalá. The term “Mission Indians” continues to be used to describe them. Since the 1960s, anthropologists have adopted the names: “*Ipai*” (the northern bands) and “*Tipai*” (the southern bands). Others use “Kumeyaay” or “Kumai”.

Nestled among the rolling hills of the Ballena Valley between Ramona and Julian, the **Golden Eagle Farm - Organic Gardens and Vacation Rental Homes** offers farm-fresh organic produce with a seasonal U-Pick farm. Families can stay and play in newly renovated vacation rental homes and access local hiking and biking trails, Ramona wineries, and the historic mining town of Julian. They can also visit the famous Dudley’s Bakery, six miles away in Santa Ysabel.



#### Golden Eagle Farm – Organic Gardens and Vacation Rental Homes

- 27236 CA-78, Ramona, CA 92065
- 619-455-1123
- [www.goldeneaglegardens.com](http://www.goldeneaglegardens.com)



#### Mesa Grande Business Development Corporation

- 27236 Highway 78, Ramona CA 92065
- 888-685-1496
- [www.mesagrandebdc.com](http://www.mesagrandebdc.com)
- [www.goldeneaglegardens.com](http://www.goldeneaglegardens.com)

### San Pasqual Band of Mission Indians

[www.sanpasqualbandofmissionindians.org](http://www.sanpasqualbandofmissionindians.org)

The San Pasqual Indians’ ancestors lived in the valley carved by the Santa Ysabel Creek for thousands of years. In the late 19th century, county authorities evicted them from their ancestral village. Many descendants of the Kumeyaay-Ipai Band sought refuge with other Kumeyaay Bands and moved into the surrounding valley. They began returning to the area in the late 1950s to settle on the San Pasqual Reservation. Today, the San Pasqual Reservation comprises five separate, noncontiguous tracts in the rolling hills of Valley Center.

### What to Do

The **Native Oaks Golf Club** is surrounded by the rolling hills of northern San Diego County, and the 18-hole course is a challenging public course that welcomes beginners. The tree-lined fairways and rolling slopes follow the natural contours of the beautiful landscape of the countryside. The **Shawii Kitchen** serves meals using regional produce and is open to the public for breakfast, lunch and dinner. Shawii comes from the name of a sacred Kumeyaay food made from acorns.

At **Horizon Fuel Center**, you can fill your tank or charge your electric vehicle. Then, you can shop for snacks and necessities at **The Pit Stop Market**. Finally, you can enjoy flame-grilled, handmade, made-in-house Mexican foods at **Qdoba Mexican Eats**.

**The Kumeyaay-Ipai Interpretive Center at Pauwai** is 24 miles from the San Pasqual Band. The center was founded in partnership with the City of Poway, Friends of the Kumeyaay and the San Pasqual Band of

Indians. The center features rotating exhibits. One exhibit is “*Poway’s First People: Remembering the Past*,” which highlights the sustainable lifestyle, history, and culture. Another exhibit allows you to see artifacts from the site, replica items of Kumeyaay’s daily life, and a striking photographic exhibition of North County rock art. There are guided hikes past ramadas, interpretive signage, native gardens and a Kumeyaay House (*‘ewaa*).

### Where to Stay

Soak in mountain views from the infinity pool at the **Valley View Casino & Hotel** and enjoy steak and seafood at the **Black & Blue** restaurant. A made-from-scratch breakfast in **The Café** is complimentary for all hotel guests. Casual bites are found at **Patties & Pints**, the **Asian fair at Stix** and a range of other offerings at the resort’s six restaurants, including an **All-You-Can-Eat Buffet**. Entertainment can be found in the **Main Stage Bar**, and the **Hotel Gift Shop** offers souvenirs, refreshments, apparel and more.



#### Kumeyaay-Ipai Interpretive Center at Pauwai

- 13104 Ipai Waaypuk Trail
- Poway, CA 92064
- 858-668-4781
- [poway.org](http://poway.org)



#### Native Oaks Golf Club

- 14616 Woods Valley Rd. Valley Center, CA 92082
- 760-751-3007
- [www.nativeoaksgolfclub.com](http://www.nativeoaksgolfclub.com)



#### Horizon Fuel Center

- 31267 Valley Center Road, Valley Center, CA 92082
- 760-593-4070
- [www.horizonfuelcenter.com](http://www.horizonfuelcenter.com)



#### Valley View Casino & Hotel

- 16300 Nyemii Pass Road, Valley Center CA 92082
- 760-291-5500
- [www.valleyviewcasino.com](http://www.valleyviewcasino.com)



## Los Coyotes Canyon

# Valleys and Mountains of the Cahuilla, Luiseño and Chemehuevi

## The Cahuilla

Cahuilla culture is one of the largest in California. Cahuilla villages are traditionally identified as mountain or desert Cahuilla, adeptly living in the San Jacinto Mountains, Coachella Valley and San Gorgonio Pass between the San Jacinto and San Bernardino mountains.

The Mountain Cahuilla are a Native American tribe who traditionally lived in the mountains of Southern California. They are part of the larger Cahuilla ethnic group, including the Desert Cahuilla and Pass Cahuilla. The San Jacinto Mountains, Coachella Valley, and surrounding region contain the homelands of the Cahuilla People, whose skills and knowledge have allowed them to live in the mountains and deserts of southern California since time immemorial.

Cahuilla culture is one of the largest in California. Cahuilla Villages are traditionally identified as mountain or desert Cahuilla, adeptly living in the San Jacinto Mountains, Coachella Valley and San Gorgonio Pass between the San Jacinto and San Bernardino mountains. “*Cahuilla*” has been interpreted to mean “the master,” “the powerful one,” or “the one who rules.” In the language of Ivilyuat, Cahuilla called themselves *Táxliswetem*, which means “People.”

Nine Cahuilla nations live within these traditional homelands and continue to play critical roles in Southern California’s economic and environmental stewardship. It would be ten with the Soboba Band of Luiseño Indians, who are part Cahuilla and part Luiseño. They have been included in the Luiseño chapter.

## Los Coyotes Band of Cahuilla and Cupeño Indians

[www.loscoyotestribe.org](http://www.loscoyotestribe.org)

Los Coyotes Band of Indians are descendants of the Cahuilla and Cupeño Tribes. They are between the Cleveland National Forest and the Anza-Borrego Desert State Park. Their lands are great for camping, stargazing, viewing the spring bloom, and bird watching. Be on the lookout for the rare white-headed woodpecker.

The Tribe has hosted **Ragnar Relay** racers for several years, helping them fulfill their desire to experience outdoor adventure with friends. The Reservation is located near Warner Springs in San Diego County. There is only one way in, and it can be accessed from the CA 79 highway and then turning onto Camino San Ignacio.

Thanks to the Los Coyotes Band of Cahuilla and Cupeño Indians, hikers can experience the great outdoors and star-filled skies from San Diego County’s highest peak at 6,533 feet, Hot Springs Mountain. The **Los Coyotes Campground, RV Park and Hiking Trail** lead to the summit of Hot Springs Mountain, where you can see panoramic views of the Salton Sea to the east and the San Diego skyline and ocean to the west. While the peak is not on public land, the Los Coyotes Tribe allows visitors to hike from their campgrounds to the top. Permits may be purchased at our ranger station or prepaid online. The hike is nearly 10 miles, round trip, with a 2500-foot elevation gain.

## Nine Bands of the Cahuilla

### Exist Today:

Los Coyotes Band of Cahuilla and  
Cupeño Indians

Cahuilla Band of Mission Indians

Santa Rosa Band of Cahuilla  
Indians

Augustine Band of Cahuilla  
Indians

Torres–Martinez Desert Cahuilla  
Indians

Cabazon Band of Mission Indians

Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla  
Indians

Morongo Band of Cahuilla Mission  
Indians

Ramona Band of Cahuilla

The Chemehuevi

Twenty–Nine Palms Band of  
Mission Indians



## Los Coyotes Band of Cahuilla and Cupeño Indians

### Los Coyotes Campground, RV Park and Hiking

- 2300 Camino San Ignacio, Warner Springs, CA 92086
- 760-782-0712
- [Recreation@loscoyotesband.org](mailto:Recreation@loscoyotesband.org)
- [www.loscoyotestribe.org](http://www.loscoyotestribe.org)

### Sonny Bono Salton Sea National Wildlife Refuge

- 906 West Sinclair Road, Calipatria California 92233-9744
- 760-348-5278,
- [www.fws.gov/refuge/sonny-bono-salton-sea](http://www.fws.gov/refuge/sonny-bono-salton-sea)

## Cahuilla Band of Indians

### Cahuilla Casino Hotel

- 52702 CA-371, Anza, CA 92539
- 888-371-ANZA (2692)
- 951-763-1200
- [Cahuillacasinohotel.com](http://Cahuillacasinohotel.com)

### Mountain Sky Travel Center

- 52702 CA-371, Anza, CA 92539
- 951-763-1200
- [cahuillacasinohotel.com/travel-center](http://cahuillacasinohotel.com/travel-center)

## Nearby Attractions

You can see the Salton Sea from the top of Hot Springs Mountain. Los Coyotes is 32 miles east of the **Sonny Bono Salton Sea National Wildlife Refuge**, which encompasses the south end of the Salton Sea. Established in 1930 by Executive Order, it was the largest protected bird habitat. The Refuge is an excellent place for bird watching and provides numerous recreation opportunities to thousands of visitors annually. Enjoy viewing the unique geology and diverse wildlife. The Visitor Center features bathrooms, a water fountain and a gift shop.

## Cahuilla Band of Indians

[www.cahuilla.net](http://www.cahuilla.net)

The Cahuilla Band of Indians (*Qawishpa Cahuillangnah*) or Mountain Cahuilla is a sovereign nation and one of the original peoples of Southern California. The Mountain Cahuilla have lived in the high mountain valleys of the San Jacinto Mountains and in the canyons running up from the Coachella Valley since time immemorial. Cahuilla history in stories and songs tells us how the Creator gave these lands to the Cahuilla people exclusively as their homeland at the beginning of time. The Cahuilla Reservation consists of approximately 19,000 acres, was established in 1875, and is located near the town of Anza, California, in western Riverside County. In 1774, Juan Bautista

de Anza was the first European to enter Cahuilla territory. The Cahuilla Band of Indians welcomes the public to their casino/hotel and travel center. The reservation community itself is closed to the public.

Tucked into the foothills of the Cahuilla Mountains on Highway 371, the **Cahuilla Casino Hotel** offers table games, slot machines, fine dining and scenic landscapes. The **Ribbonwood Grill** specializes in burgers, steaks and sandwiches.

Adjacent to the Cahuilla Casino Hotel, the always-open **Mountain Sky Travel Center** has a convenience store and car wash. **Mountain Sky To Go** offers sandwiches, burritos and pizza. **Krispy Krunchy Chicken** is freshly made. Tesla charging stations are available.

## Santa Rosa Band of Cahuilla Indians

[www.santarosacahuilla-nsn.gov](http://www.santarosacahuilla-nsn.gov)

Located in the cool Santa Rosa Mountains, the Santa Rosa Band of Cahuilla Indians Nation's ancestors have lived in this area since time immemorial. The people of the Santa Rosa Band of Cahuilla Indians, originally known as "*Ivilluvenetem*," acknowledge their ancestors, who have lived and died on the original Cahuilla aboriginal lands since time immemorial. The Santa Rosa Band honors the sacred trust our ancestors have passed on to us to maintain our Cahuilla culture, preserve our tribal identity, and fully and freely exercise our sovereign authority.

### GERALD CLARKE

Gerald is a Cahuilla visual artist, educator, tribal leader and cultural practitioner whose family has lived in the Anza Valley since immemorial. Gerald lives in the home his grandfather built (c.1940) on the Cahuilla Indian Reservation. He currently oversees the Clarke family cattle ranch. He is also a Professor of Ethnic Studies at the University of California Riverside, where he teaches classes in Native American art, history, and culture. Gerald has exhibited extensively. In 2007, Gerald was awarded an Eiteljorg Museum Fellowship for Native American Fine Art. He also served as an Artist-in-Residence at the Institute of American Indian Arts in Santa Fe, New Mexico, in 2015. He has created several public art pieces. The sculpture here is "Falling Rock" in Palm Desert.





The Santa Rosa Indian Reservation is located in Riverside County, between Palm Springs and Anza, and occupies 11,630 acres of land. Executive Order established the reservation on December 29, 1891. The territory of the Tribe included the lands, water, property, airspace, surface rights, subsurface rights and other natural resources within the reservation's boundaries.

The Reservation comprises five non-contiguous parcels, the largest of which is located in *Sew'ia*, or New Santa Rosa (Vandeventer Flat), where residents reside. The four remaining parcels include Toro Peak, where the Tribe operates a telecommunications relay station east of the main parcel. Elevation ranges from 4,200' at *Sew'ia* (the Cahuilla name for "New" Santa Rosa) to 8,716' at Toro Peak.

The General Council of the Tribe comprises all members of the Tribe who are at least 18 years of age and older. Currently, there are 137 General Council members. Currently, 194 Tribal citizens are enrolled, including minors and adults. Approximately 150 individuals live on the Reservation. The General Council is the governing body of the Tribe and governs itself through its Governing Document. The General Council elects a Tribal Council for a two-year term, which functions in an administrative capacity on behalf of the Tribe to ensure that the actions of the General Council are fully and faithfully executed. The Tribal Council consists of a Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary, Treasurer and three Council members.


## What to Do


The **Mountain Sky Travel Center** is adjacent to the Cahuilla Casino Hotel. It is always open and has a convenience store offering everything from cold drinks to hot pizza, delicious coffee, classic candies and everyday roadside/motorist travel items. It also has a Tesla charging station and a car wash. The Tribe owns and operates its **Santa Rosa Pit Stop**, a fuel and convenience store between Palm Desert and Idyllwild that, along with chicken meals and household goods, sells jewelry made by Tribal members, as well as Santa Rosa Band of Cahuilla Indians logo gear. Signage includes "*Wáqichem! Wáqichem! 'Emechemléewne' Ángapa'!*" that means "Goodbye, goodbye, see you again soon!" in the Cahuilla language, Ivilyuat.

Hiking permits are available for Toro Peak,

the second-highest mountain peak in the area, with an 8,717 ft. summit. Part of the mountain is owned by the Tribe and used as a telecommunication site, while the other part is under the jurisdiction of the **Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument**. The Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument are remote and challenging. Trails are rated as easy, moderate or strenuous. Choose your trail based on your ability.

## Santa Rosa Band of Cahuilla Indians

-  **Mountain Sky Travel Center**
  - 52702 CA-371, Anza, CA 92539
  - 951-763-1200,
  - [cahuillacasinohotel.com/travel-center](http://cahuillacasinohotel.com/travel-center)

-  **Santa Rosa Pit Stop**
  - 63145 Highway 74, Mountain Center, CA
  - 951-708-8431

-  **Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument**
  - Visitor Center, 51-500 CA-74, Palm Desert, CA 92260
  - 760-862-9984
  - [www.blm.gov/programs/national-conservation-lands/california/santa-rosa-and-san-jacinto-mountains-national-monument](http://www.blm.gov/programs/national-conservation-lands/california/santa-rosa-and-san-jacinto-mountains-national-monument)

## Augustine Band of Cahuilla Indians

[www.augustinetribe-nsn.gov](http://www.augustinetribe-nsn.gov)


The Augustine Band of Cahuilla Indians are descendants of Captain Vee Vee Augustine, born in 1820. The Tribe went from virtual nonexistence as the smallest tribal nation in the United States to a burgeoning economic force. With the development and opening of Augustine Casino in 2002, the Tribe became one of the largest employers in Coachella. In 2008, the Tribe developed a renewable energy operation with 25,000 solar panels. In addition to the solar panel installation, the Tribe operates a 33-acre organic farm and market located on tribal land. These projects helped the Tribe meet two vital goals: becoming self-sufficient and protecting the earth's natural resources for future generations.

Located in Coachella on the Augustine Band of Cahuilla Indians' Reservation, **Temalpakh Farm** and **Market** are powered by a vision of a sustainable lifestyle for the residents of Coachella Valley. The market features organically

grown local produce and a smoothie bar using fresh ingredients from the farm. The Farm offers food boxes that provide an array of in-season vegetables and fruit.

In Coachella, in the San Jacinto Mountains foothills, **Augustine Casino** offers gaming and casual dining at Café 54 and Menyikish Grill. This destination also offers gaming, and the Oasis Bar serves casual foods.

## Augustine Band of Cahuilla

-  **Temalpakh Farm**
  - 1 Roberta Way, Coachella, CA 92236
  - 760-391-9575
  - [www.temalpakhfarm.com](http://www.temalpakhfarm.com)
-  **Augustine Casino**
  - 84-001 Avenue 54, Coachella, CA 92236
  - 760-391-9500
  - [www.augustinecasino.com](http://www.augustinecasino.com)

## Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians

[www.facebook.com/TMDCI/](http://www.facebook.com/TMDCI/)

Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians Nation, located near the north end of the Salton Sea, was federally recognized in 1891 and combined two Desert Cahuilla communities, the Torres and Martinez. The Tribe is proud of the schoolhouse and teacher's cottage built in 1907, which saved children from an 8-mile-long walk to the Thermal schoolhouse and is still visible near the Tribal offices. Members of the Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians are working toward revitalizing their Cahuilla language through Bird Singing and other programs. In Cahuilla, members call themselves *Mau-Wal-Mah Su-Kutt Menyil*, meaning "among the palms, deer moon." Many Medjool date palm orchards are farmed on Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indian's land.

## What to Do

**Red Earth Casino** prides itself on being the "friendliest and cleanest casino in the valley." It has a snack bar and comfortable slot machine chairs near the Salton Sea off CA 86. The Oasis Bar serves the **Travel Center**, and the **RV Park** has discounted fuel prices and a convenience store.



## Twenty-Nine Palms



### Spotlight 29 Casino

- 46-200 Harrison Place, Coachella, CA 92236
- 866-377-6829
- [www.spotlight29.com](http://www.spotlight29.com)



### Tortoise Rock Casino

- 73829 Baseline Rd., Twentynine Palms, CA 92277
- 760-367-9759
- [www.tortoiserockcasino.com](http://www.tortoiserockcasino.com)



### Living Desert Zoo

- 47900 Portola Ave, Palm Desert, CA 92260
- 760-346-5694



### Joshua Tree National Park

- 74485 National Park Drive, Twentynine Palms, CA 92277-3597
- (760) 367-5500
- [www.nps.gov/jotr/index.htm](http://www.nps.gov/jotr/index.htm)

## TORTOISE

For the Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians and other Chemehuevi, the desert tortoise, or *Aya*, is an important symbol of perseverance in the desert ecosystem. Desert tortoises dig extensive burrows that create homes for other animals, allowing them to escape the harsh desert heat. The Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians Tribal Environmental Protection Agency works to protect desert tortoise populations threatened by development, increased predation and other factors. The Tribal EPA also partners with the **Living Desert Zoo** to raise awareness of desert tortoises through outreach events, including at the Tribe's Tortoise Rock Casino.

## Nearby Attractions

The **Salton Sea** is only a few miles away, and the **Salton Sea State Recreation Area** is 30 minutes away. The Salton Sea is one of the world's largest inland seas and the lowest place on earth at -227 below sea level, Salton Sea. The salinity has limited the number of types of fish that can be found there, and most fish currently caught are tilapia. Kayakers, campers, birdwatchers, photographers and hikers can enjoy the many recreation opportunities.

### Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla



#### Red Earth Casino

- 3089 Norm Niver Road, Thermal, CA 92274
- 760-395-1200
- [www.redearthcasino.com](http://www.redearthcasino.com)



#### The Salton Sea

- 100-225 State Park Road
- Mecca, CA 92254
- 760-393-3810 or 760-393-3052

## Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians

[www.29palmstribes.org](http://www.29palmstribes.org)

Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians are Chemehuevi, a culture that ranges throughout the Great Basin of the Eastern Coachella Valley. Their territory once covered parts of California, Utah, Arizona and Southern Nevada. In the Chemehuevi language, they call themselves *Niüüwü* (The People). The Tribe members honor their Desert Cahuilla, Luiseño and Southern Paiute ancestry. These cultures continue to thrive in the desert's environment and climate. The Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians has two sections to their nation near Coachella and Twentynine Palms, just west and north of **Joshua Tree National Park**. The Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians is a major employer in this region, operating Spotlight 29 Casino near Coachella and Tortoise Rock Casino near Twentynine Palms. The Tribe is closely aligned with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), which restores and protects sensitive desert flora and wildlife, including the desert tortoise, an important national cultural symbol.

## What to Do

**Twenty-Nine Palm's** two casinos are adjacent to **Joshua Tree National Park**. The Park has hundreds of miles of hiking trails, nine developed campgrounds and various recreation activities. The Joshua trees were named for the biblical figure Joshua by Mormon settlers who believed the outstretched tree limbs guided them along their westward journey. Joshua Tree is home to **Five Fan Palm Oases**, a great place to observe multiple species of birds and enjoy the shade of the palm trees. The park's **Cottonwood Spring** was an important water source for Native Americans, prospectors, and miners. Just past the oasis is a bedrock mortar, a Native American milling site used to grind seeds, nuts and acorns. The **Oasis of Mara** is a cornerstone of the Joshua Tree National Park story. The oasis was first settled by the Serrano, who called it *Mara*, meaning "the place of little springs and much grass." The Serrano planted 29 palm trees in the first year at the oasis. The palms provided the Serrano with food, clothing, cooking implements and housing. The Oasis of Mara Trail is an easy half-mile loop on a paved trail beginning at Joshua Tree National Park Headquarters in Twentynine Palms. Interpretive panels provide information about the Oasis.

At **Spotlight 29 Casino**, guests can enjoy video and table gaming and outstanding food, including wood-oven pizza and house-made craft beers from Taproom 29. Additionally, Spotlight 29's Whisky's has the largest selection of barrel-aged spirits in the Coachella Valley, and Top Shelf mixologists make inspired cocktails all on the Casino floor. Live concerts and comedy shows are also a highlight at the Spotlight Showroom. **Tortoise Rock Casino**, located near Joshua Tree National Park, is a 30,000-square-foot casino that houses slots and table games, live entertainment and food and drinks at the Oasis Grille and Shelly's Lounge. The large desert tortoise sculpture in front of the casino speaks to the Tribe's connection to this iconic desert dweller.

Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians hosts various events at both Casinos throughout the year. Community gatherings, meals and gaming specials focusing on holidays are hosted monthly. Charitable events and giveaways support local schools and nonprofits, uniting the region and are a focus of the Tribe's commitment to giving back to the community.



The Tribe works with the **Living Desert Zoo** to protect the Desert Tortoise. The Zoo has been rated one of the 10 Best Zoos in the US by Condé Nast Traveler. The desert tortoise is the only tortoise native to Southern California. The wild population is listed as threatened.

## Cabazon Band of Mission Indians

[www.fantasyspringsresort.com/cbmi](http://www.fantasyspringsresort.com/cbmi)

The Cabazon Band of Cahuilla Indians are descendants of Chief Cabazon, who led the Desert Cahuilla from the 1830s to the 1870s and gained federal recognition for his community in 1876. The Tribe's 1987 Supreme Court case, *California vs. Cabazon Band of Mission Indians*, paved the way for Native American gaming in California, and today, the Tribe operates **Fantasy Springs Resort Casino** near Indio.

Learn about the Tribe at the **Cabazon Cultural Museum** next to Fantasy Springs Resort Casino. The Museum explains the history of the Cabazon Band of Cahuilla Indians from its leadership under Chief Cabazon during the Mexican and American periods after Spanish rule through today. It also presents traditional clothing and tools and explains Desert Cahuilla's lifeways.

Also located next to the resort, **Eagle Falls Golf Course** is a Clive Clark-designed, 18-hole par-72 course with rolling hills and expansive water features. The pro shop keeps guests outfitted, and the snack shop serves breakfast and lunch.

## Where to Stay

**Fantasy Springs Resort Casino** is a 12-story hotel and casino located one half-hour east of Palm Springs in Indio. Its Twelve: Cocktails Above rooftop bar has views of the Coachella Valley and surrounding **Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument**. Guests enjoy the large outdoor pool and hot tub, Fantasy Lanes bowling alley and fine dining at the Bistro. Hosted by the Cabazon Band of Cahuilla Indians on its resort grounds annually on Thanksgiving Weekend, the **Indio Powwow** invites area Tribes to participate in a weekend of dancing, food, art and celebration of Native cultures.

Enjoy recreational activities at the **Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument**, hike, camp, hunt or fish among the magnificent palm oasis, snow-capped mountains, a national scenic trail and wilderness areas. Established by an Act of Congress, the Monument was created "to preserve the nationally significant biological, cultural, recreational, geological, educational, and scientific values found in the Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains."

## Cabazon Band of Cahuilla Indians



### Cabazon Cultural Museum

- 84-245 Indio Springs Pkwy, Indio, CA 92203
- 760-238-5770
- [www.fantasyspringsresort.com/cbmi/](http://www.fantasyspringsresort.com/cbmi/)



### Eagle Falls Golf Course

- 84-245 Indio Springs Drive, Indio, CA 92203
- 760-238-5633
- [www.fantasyspringsresort.com/golf/](http://www.fantasyspringsresort.com/golf/)



### Fantasy Springs Resort Casino

- 84-245 Indio Springs Pkwy, Indio, CA 92203
- 800-827-29461, 760-342-5000
- [www.fantasyspringsresort.com](http://www.fantasyspringsresort.com)



### Indio Powwow (Thanksgiving Weekend)

- Fantasy Springs Resort Casino
- 84-245 Indio Springs Pkwy, Indio, CA 92203
- [www.fantasyspringsresort.com/cbmi](http://www.fantasyspringsresort.com/cbmi)



### Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument

- CA-74, Palm Desert, CA 92260
- 760-862-9984
- [www.blm.gov/programs/national-conservation-lands/california/santa-rosa-and-san-jacinto-mountains-national-monument](http://www.blm.gov/programs/national-conservation-lands/california/santa-rosa-and-san-jacinto-mountains-national-monument)

## Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians

[www.aguacaliente.org](http://www.aguacaliente.org)

The Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians is a federally recognized Tribe with a Reservation in Palm Springs, California. The Reservation shares boundaries with Palm Springs, Rancho Mirage and Cathedral City and includes lands within the Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monuments.

## What to do

Within the **Indian Canyons**, Palm Canyon, Murray Canyon and Andreas Canyons are open to hiking, horseback riding and guided tours. **Palm Canyon** is 15 miles long, and its trail follows a stream shaded by California fan palms. It features more than 3,000 of the desert's only native palm trees, *Washingtonia filifera*, which makes it the largest natural oases of these palm trees in the world. Trails offer scenic backdrops of the canyon below, mesmerizing ancient rock formations, natural springs and desert wildlife.

**Andreas Canyon** is an oasis of palms through which Andreas Creek flows and contains bedrock mortars used by early Cahuilla to grind food. It provides one of the most popular hiking trails in the Indian Canyons. This 1.2-mile trail follows the perennial Andreas Creek for 0.5 miles before returning to the upper stream terrace. Hikers are greeted with spectacular rock formations and more than 150 species of plants. **Murray Canyon** is a favorite for viewing Peninsular Bighorn sheep, the endangered Least Bell's Vireo bird and other wildlife. Hikers will cross the creek more than 15 times and weave through groves of *Washingtonia filifera* before reaching the spectacular Seven Sisters waterfall.

## THE SACRED FAN PALM

The California fan palm, or *Washingtonia filifera*, is the only palm native to the California desert. Indian Canyons is home to some of the largest undisturbed palm oases in the world, with more than 3,000 trees.

**Photo:** Palm Canyon





## Agua Caliente



### Tahquitz Canyon Visitors Center

- 500 W Mesquite Avenue, Palm Springs, CA 92264
- 760-416-7044
- [www.tahquitzcanyon.com](http://www.tahquitzcanyon.com)



### The Indian Canyons

- 38520 S. Palm Canyon Dr., Palm Springs, CA 92264. 760-323-6018, [www.indian-canyons.com/indian\\_canyons](http://www.indian-canyons.com/indian_canyons)



### Agua Caliente Cultural Museum

- 219 S Palm Canyon Drive, Palm Springs, CA 92262
- 760-778-1079
- [www.accmuseum.org](http://www.accmuseum.org)



### Indian Canyons Golf Resort

- 1087 E Murray Canyon Dr, Palm Springs, CA 92264
- 760-833-8724
- [www.indiancanyonsgolf.com](http://www.indiancanyonsgolf.com)



### Agua Caliente Casino Palm Springs

- 401 East Amado Rd., Palm Springs, CA, 92262
- 888-999-1995
- [www.aguacalientecasinos.com/properties/palm-springs/](http://www.aguacalientecasinos.com/properties/palm-springs/)



### Agua Caliente Resort Casino Spa Rancho Mirage

- 32-250 Bob Hope Drive, Rancho Mirage, CA 92270
- 888-999-1995
- [www.aguacalientecasinos.com/spa/](http://www.aguacalientecasinos.com/spa/)



### Agua Caliente Fue

- 132276 Bob Hope Dr., Rancho Mirage, CA, 92270 888-999-1995
- [www.aguacalientecasinos.com/agua-caliente-fuel](http://www.aguacalientecasinos.com/agua-caliente-fuel)



### Agua Caliente Casino Cathedral City

- 68960 E Palm Canyon Drive, Cathedral City, CA 92234
- 888-999-1995
- [www.aguacalientecasinos.com/properties/cathedral-city/](http://www.aguacalientecasinos.com/properties/cathedral-city/)

**Tahquitz Canyon** is one of the most beautiful and culturally sensitive areas of the Agua Caliente Indian Reservation. The Tribe allows visitors to hike its ancestral homeland within Tahquitz Canyon, where they take in the spectacular 60-foot Tahquitz Falls and cool off in the spring-fed pools. Petroglyphs and ancient Cahuilla irrigation systems speak to the area's importance, and cultural exhibits at the visitors center educate visitors about the area's significance, past and present. Tahquitz Canyon is one of the most beautiful and culturally sensitive areas of the Agua Caliente Indian Reservation. The Tribe invites visitors to hike its 1.8-mile loop of Tahquitz Canyon, where they can take in the spectacular 60-foot Tahquitz Falls and cool off in the spring-fed pools. Visitors are immersed in Agua Caliente stories and legends, ancient irrigation systems and native plants and animals. Each footstep speaks to the area's importance. Tahquitz and the Andreas Canyons are listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Guided hikes are available.

Visitors can learn more at the **Visitors Center**, where they can view Cahuilla artifacts, learn about the Legend of Tahquitz and stop by the **Indian Canyons Trading Post** to see Native American made jewelry, pottery, books and art and grab a snack or lunch.

In the heart of downtown Palm Springs, the new **Agua Caliente Cultural Plaza** features the Agua Caliente Cultural Museum, The Spa at *Séc-he*, and an outdoor space that includes the Oasis Trail and Gathering Plaza. For the Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians, the Agua Caliente Hot Mineral Spring is the most significant ancestral site.

The **Agua Caliente Cultural Museum** is a cultural heritage destination and an educational institution that shares and celebrates the story of the Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians. The museum is in the heart of downtown Palm Springs. Its exhibits and educational programs cover various topics ranging from Agua Caliente history and culture to contemporary land stewardship and conservation. The 48,000-square-foot Agua Caliente Museum features a permanent gallery dedicated to the history and culture of the Agua Caliente people, a changing gallery, an educational classroom and adjacent garden, and a meeting-event space. The **Museum Store** showcases art, jewelry, and other products sourced directly from Native American artists and Native American-owned businesses from across the country.

**The Oasis Trail** is an interpretive area offering a cultural learning experience. It mirrors the geology, flora, and beauty of the Indian Canyons, a significant ancestral site of the Agua Caliente tribe. **The Gathering Plaza**, sitting overtop of the Agua Caliente Hot Mineral Spring deep below, serves as a space for community celebrations and reflection on the waters that shaped Palm Springs.

Near the Agua Caliente Cultural Plaza is the **Agua Caliente Casino Palm Springs**. The **Steakhouse** offers casual fine dining, the Center Bar is the property's centerpiece and 360 Sports shows sporting events on its big screens while providing an elevated sports bar menu. **Cascade Lounge** has dancing and live entertainment, and Java Caliente offers coffee drinks and counter-service lunch fare.

At **Agua Caliente Casino Cathedral City**, catch the game and have lunch at **360 Sports** and **Café One Eleven**, or sip top-shelf offerings at the **Agave Caliente Tequila Bar**. Enjoy live entertainment, Latin dancing at **Agave Caliente Terraza**, and special weekly performances and events.

**Indian Canyons Golf Resort Palm Springs** offers two golf courses renowned for their playability and setting. The **South Course** harkens to the heyday of Palm Springs with its famed fountain designed by Walt Disney and the Eisenhower Presidential phone booth, built so the president could quickly communicate with Washington when golfing. It is reputed as much for its natural beauty as its unique layout, which sports five par 5s, a host of playable par 4s, and a stout collection of par 3s across the 6,560-yard scorecard. The course features four ponds and 850 palm trees, including 500 California fan palms, an important tree to the Agua Caliente for the food and materials it provides. The **South Restaurant** serves breakfast and lunch. The classic **North Course** is a William P. Bell-designed, par-72 course known for its challenging 18 holes punctuated with fountains and sweeping views of the San Jacinto mountains. Enjoy drinks and light fare at the **North Course Bar**.

## Where to Stay

The **Agua Caliente Resort Casino Spa Palm Springs** is just minutes from downtown Palm Springs. The hot water, known in the Cahuilla language as *Séc-he*, has effervesced for thousands of years.





Photo: Palm Canyon

## Morongo Band of Mission Indians

[www.morongonation.org](http://www.morongonation.org)

The Morongo Band of Mission Indians is a nation of Cahuilla, Serrano and Cupeño people who have called the San Gorgonio Pass their home for generations. Created in 1865, the Morongo Reservation now spreads across more than 36,000 acres in the beautiful pass separating the San Gorgonio and San Jacinto Mountains.

Morongo and the Cabazon Band of Cahuilla Indians secured the landmark 1987 U.S. Supreme Court decision that confirmed the sovereignty of federally recognized Tribes and their right to offer gaming. This decision was a watershed moment in the struggle for self-determination for Tribes across the nation.

One of the first tribes to pursue gaming in California with a bingo hall in 1983, Morongo opened its first casino in 1994 and its resort casino in 2004, along Interstate 10 in Cabazon, just east of Banning. Both casinos currently operate with distinct offerings and amenities.

Today, Morongo fuels the regional economy, providing over 3,400 jobs and nearly \$3 billion in annual economic activity through its successful business ventures in gaming, energy, finance, healthcare, tourism, manufacturing and other sectors.

## What to Do

In February 1965, **Malki Museum** opened its doors to the public. The Museum began as the dream of Jane Pablo Penn, a Wanikik Cahuilla, who, with the help of others, translated this dream into a reality. Jane's aunt, Margaret Pablo, was concerned about their culture dying out. She and Jane spent many nights discussing ways to bring the culture back to the people. Before Margaret passed away, she entrusted Jane with her family heirlooms, as did Jane's elderly cousin Victoria Weirick, a Wanakik and Kawisic Cahuilla woman. The collection included morteros, an herb cooking pot and other precious materials. When Mrs. Penn received these items in 1958, she wanted to display them in a museum. She recruited two friends to help her create a museum: an ethnographer, Lowell Bean and Mrs. Katherine Siva Saubel, a mountain Cahuilla of the Los Coyotes Reservation near Warner

The **Spa at Séc-he** honors the history and heritage of the Agua Caliente people while introducing a new generation to the sacred Hot Mineral Spring's restorative properties. Guests can "take the waters" in 22 private soaking tubs, where the mineral-rich water rises from 1.5 miles below the ground in its purest state. The 72,000-square-foot spa complex also offers state-of-the-art amenities and treatment in a world-class spa setting. The **Steakhouse** offers casual fine dining, the **Center Bar** is the property's centerpiece, and the **360 Sports Bar** shows sporting events on its big screens while providing an elevated sports bar menu. The **Cascade Lounge** has dancing and live entertainment, and **Java Caliente** offers coffee drinks and counter-service lunch fare.

Stay just minutes from downtown Palm Springs at **Agua Caliente Resort Casino Spa Rancho Mirage**, a AAA Four Diamond rating and the Forbes Travel Guide Four-Star Award. This 16-story resort offers 340 luxurious rooms and suites. Enjoy a full menu of treatments at the resort's **Sunstone Spa**, which is a recipient of the Forbes Five-Star Award, and take in live entertainment at **The Show**.

At **Agua Caliente Casino Cathedral City**, catch the game and have lunch at **360 Sports** and **Cafe One Eleven**, or sip top-shelf offerings at the **Agua Caliente Tequila Bar**. Enjoy live entertainment, Latin dancing at Agave Caliente Terazza, and special weekly performances and events.

Conveniently located next to Agua Caliente Resort Casino Spa Rancho Mirage, **Agua Caliente Fuel** features a full-service market, beer cave, gaming area, and a **Java Caliente** drive-thru.

## Anza Attractions:

### Painted Rock Petroglyph Site Camp #31

As mentioned in Chapter 3, the Anza party camped at three Maricopa Villages, including Camp #31 at Agua Caliente. Today, the **Painted Rock Petroglyph Site** has interpretive signs explaining the 1776 Anza party's passage through this area. A roadside interpretive sign near Sentinel along Interstate 8 marks Camp #31 at Agua Caliente. The **Painted Rock Petroglyph Site** is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. This archaeological site contains hundreds of figures and designs carved into rocks. There is a campground, two shaded picnic areas and a small interpretive trail with informational displays.

### Painted Rock Petroglyph Site Camp #31

- 46101 Rocky Point Road., Gila Bend, AZ 85337
- (623) 580-5500
- [blm\\_az\\_pdo@blm.gov](mailto:blm_az_pdo@blm.gov)





## Morongo Band of Mission Indians Links



### Malki Museum and Temalpakh Garden

- 11795 Malki Rd., Morongo Reservation, Banning, CA 92220
- 951-849-7289
- [www.malkimuseum.org](http://www.malkimuseum.org)



### Canyon Lanes at Morongo

- 49750 Seminole Dr, Cabazon, CA 92230
- 951-572-6120
- [www.canyonlanes.org](http://www.canyonlanes.org) Morongo Golf



### Morongo Golf Club at Tukwet Canyon

- 36211 Champions Dr., Beaumont, CA 92223
- 951-845-0014
- [www.tukwetcanyon.com](http://www.tukwetcanyon.com)



### Hadley's Fruit Orchards

- 47993 Morongo Trail, Cabazon, CA 92230
- 951-849-5255
- [www.hadleyfruitorchards.com](http://www.hadleyfruitorchards.com)



### Morongo Casino Resort & Spa

- 49500 Seminole Dr., Cabazon, CA 922301-800-252-4499, 951-849-3080
- [www.morongocasinoresort.com](http://www.morongocasinoresort.com)



### Casino Morongo

- 49750 Seminole Dr., Cabazon, CA 92230-2200
- toll-free: 888-MORONGO
- [www.casinomorongo.com](http://www.casinomorongo.com)

Springs. Mrs. Penn started by displaying the collection in her home, showing it to anyone who wanted to see it. She continued working to create a museum known as “Malki,” the original name of the area now known as the Morongo Indian Reservation. After Jane Penn died in 1982, Dr. Katherine Siva Saubel continued the dream, and until her passing, she actively filled her role as museum president. She persisted in sharing her knowledge and understanding of Cahuilla culture, accomplished much in her lifetime and is known as the co-founder of Malki Museum.

Malki Museum has an Ethnobotanical Garden named **Temalpakh**, which means “From The Earth” in Cahuilla. The garden covers roughly a quarter of an acre. Every plant in the garden is used in various ways by Southern California tribes. Parts of each plant can feed, house, clothe and medically care for a community. It was built and nurtured by dozens of volunteers in response to numerous requests for information about how the Cahuilla Indians utilized plants. This unique garden is a living illustration of the book *Temalpakh: Cahuilla Indian Knowledge and Usage of Plants* by Katherine Siva Saubel. Her mother, a Cahuilla medicine woman, taught her the traditional plants and their uses, which Katherine later wrote down with the help of anthropologist Dr. Lowell Bean. The information from this book is used in the self-tour guide for the garden. Other remarkable features of the garden include a massive collection of mortars and pestles arrayed along the dry streambed, the occasional visiting roadrunner, and the fantastic views of Mount San Jacinto to the south and Mount San Gorgonio to the north.

**Photo:** Morongo Casino Resort and Spa

## Where to Stay

At the AAA Four Diamond **Morongo Casino Resort & Spa**, 310 rooms and suites throughout the hotel’s 27 floors enjoy views of the San Gorgonio and San Jacinto mountains. Elegantly renovated and expanded in 2020, the resort features one of the largest Tribal gaming floors in the nation, legendary live entertainment and restaurants, including the wildly popular Marketplace food hall by celebrity chef Fabio Vivani and the award-winning **Cielo Steakhouse**. The Oasis Pool features a lazy river, a sandy beach, private casitas and two heated spas. The 14-room Sage Spa incorporates white sage into relaxing treatments, and Radiance Salon offers complete hair, nails and skin services. The whole family can enjoy bowling at 24-alley **Canyon Lanes at Morongo**, located next to Casino Morongo and adjacent to the Morongo Casino Resort and Spa. The center has a cafe, pizza and a full bar.

Set against breathtaking mountain views, **Morongo Golf Club at Tukwet Canyon** offers 36 world-class holes of championship golf spread across two public courses. The home of local SCPGA and host to the LPGA’s annual Epsom Tour, the course includes a driving range, putting greens, chipping greens, a sports bar/grill and a pro shop.



**Photo:** Morongo Tribal Admin







## Annual Events

The Malki Museum sponsors three events each year, designed to be traditional and educational. These events include the Agave Harvest and Roast, the Malki Museum Kewet and the Fall Gathering. Each of Malki Museum's annual events, along with our additional lectures, workshops and demonstrations, are open to the public. All of our programs focus on intergenerational transfers of knowledge systems by providing a place in which Southern California Native American history, culture, language and foodways have a place to be taught and experienced.

### The Agave Harvest and Roast

is our first annual event during the year. It is held on two consecutive Saturdays in mid-to-late April when the Agave plants were traditionally gathered. The agave, or amul, was a basic food staple for the Cahuilla and Kumeyaay Indians of Southern California. The harvested agave is returned to the Malki Museum for the Agave Roast, held the following Saturday. The agave hearts are cooked in a traditional roasting pit and served with other customary Native foods. There are also a variety of demonstrations throughout the day, from native plant usage to native plant processing. Although there are new modes of uprooting the agave plant, the first agave is uprooted in a traditional manner using a digging stick. This, along with talks about plant seasonality and outlining signs of ready plants, provides an avenue for knowledge transfer in an outdoor natural environment.

### Malki's annual Malki Museum

**Kewet** is a time of gathering to share culture and traditions. It is also the major fundraising event for the Museum. Each year, natives and non-natives participate in this unique event, an annual celebration since 1966. Many local natives have attended since childhood and have grown up watching their culture come alive in the center stage with dancing, drums, bird singing, native arts and crafts and the smell of freshly cooked Indian Fry Bread. A large amount of pit-roasted barbequed beef is served with other traditional foods such as corn, beans and homemade tortillas. The Indian dancers and singers represent several tribes from southern California, and many of the vendors in the Ramada booths are Native Americans from all over the Southwestern States. The Ramada booths were constructed by volunteers, especially for this annual event.

### The annual Fall Gathering

has demonstrations, lectures, and food tastings. This event is usually held in October and features Native arts, crafts, games and Cahuilla harvest foods such as *wewish* (acorn mush), a time-consuming but staple dish. The demonstrations often include Cahuilla bird singing, basket weaving, acorn leaching and grinding, pottery making and flint-knapping. Culturally relevant activities are the highest priority during this event. Along with our additional lectures, demonstrations and workshops, our events all center around traditional knowledge and the perpetuation of that knowledge to youth and their families.

**Hadley's Fruit Orchards** is a must-stop that has delighted generations of travelers passing through Cabazon. Founded by Paul and Peggy Hadley in 1931 and purchased by the Morongo Band of Mission Indians in 1999, Hadley's is a long-time favorite stop for Medjool dates, dried fruit, nuts and souvenirs. The cafe is known for its world-famous date shakes and hand-mixed trail mixes.





## Valleys and Mountains of the Luiseno

SOBOBA BAND OF LUISEÑO INDIANS

PECHANGA BAND OF INDIANS

PALA BAND OF MISSION INDIANS

PAUMA BAND OF LUISEÑO INDIANS

LA JOLLA BAND OF LUISEÑO INDIANS

RINCON BAND OF LUISEÑO INDIANS

SAN LUIS REY BAND OF MISSION INDIANS

**Photo:** Harrah's Resort Southern California



**Photo:** Soboba Band of Luiseno Indians



# Valleys and Mountains of the Luiseño

## People of the West: The Luiseño

The Luiseño are culturally related people villages that dotted California's western coast from present-day San Diego to Los Angeles counties. This area is included in northern San Diego and Riverside. The people lived in small villages near freshwater sources. Luiseño villages made a good living hunting and foraging in the rich marshlands and foothills. The route of the Anza Trail is located within the traditional use areas of the Cahuilla and Luiseno. The designation "Luiseño" comes from the Mission San Luis Rey de Francia near present-day Oceanside. The Pechanga Cultural Department prefers to use the word for 'the people' *Atáaxum*. Most present-day Luiseño peoples' reservations are on or near their traditional homelands. Today, there are six federally recognized Luiseño Bands in California.

## Soboba Band of Luiseño Indians

[www.soboba-nsn.gov](http://www.soboba-nsn.gov)

Since time immemorial, the people of Soboba have inhabited the land, which currently encompasses the cities of San Jacinto, Hemet, Valle Vista and Winchester. The Soboba Indian Reservation lies at the base of the San Jacinto Mountains along the San Jacinto River and its tributary streams, Poppet and Indian Creeks, along with more than 40 perennial springs. The San Jacinto Mountains and Coachella Valley are traditionally and historically Cahuilla traditional use areas.

In 1798, Mission San Luis Rey was built. In 1815, the mission established Rancho San Jacinto for cattle ranching, bringing Luiseño Indians into the valley as laborers for the ranch. Some of the original Cahuilla inhabitants intermarried with Luiseños. On June 19, 1883, the Soboba Indian Reservation was established through an executive order that set aside 3,172 acres for their permanent occupation and use. Today, Cahuilla and Luiseño remain the two predominant tribal lineages in Soboba.

The Soboba Band of Luiseño Indians exercises their right to self-governance and self-determination. The results can be seen in both the Tribal government and Tribal business enterprises. Despite overwhelming odds, the people of Soboba continue to thrive within their traditional unceded lands. Rich in history and progress, the Tribe not only supports its Tribal community but also the surrounding communities.

## Anza Attractions

### La Rinconada and Expedition Camp #75

The Expedition traveled past a village they called La Carpintería; camp was made on February 24, 1776, at La Rinconada near the border with Ventura County. Font describes the Native Americans, their skills, houses, sweatshops (temescals), money and boats (called tomols). The site of the camp is preserved in Rincon County Beach Park. Carpinteria State Beach is a few miles to the west and offers Chumash interpretive programs.

## What to Do

The public **Soboba Springs Golf Course** includes an 18-hole course, a driving range, a putting green, bunkers and a Golf Pro Shop. The **Maze Stone Grill** offers relaxed dining.

Soboba's **Payomkawichum (People of the West) Inter-Tribal Pow Wow** is held in mid-September. This three-day weekend, family-friendly event is open to the public and offers free admission and parking. Dancers and drum groups from throughout the United States and Canada attend to celebrate cultures. Information can be accessed at the pow wow web-page, [www.soboba-nsn.gov/powwow](http://www.soboba-nsn.gov/powwow).

The annual **Soboba Fiesta** provides a platform for tribal people to partake in traditional social activities such as singing and dancing while also providing participants with opportunities to hear the traditional

language and gain first-hand knowledge from cultural practitioners who are in attendance. Current activities include traditional bird singing and dancing, Native foods, games, contests and material culture demonstrations, such as basket weaving. Overall, the Fiesta brings Tribal and community members together while strengthening tribal identity and preserving and perpetuating traditional practices for future generations. The event is held each year on the Saturday before Memorial Day weekend in May.

### The Soboba Roadrunner Express

is a one-stop convenience store off Ramona Express Highway. Here, you can fill up with fuel and choose from a wide selection of snacks, grocery items, and hot and cold beverages.

## Where to Stay

Rooms at **Soboba Casino Resort** have views of the San Jacinto Valley and overlook the Green Island of the **Soboba Springs Golf Course**. Guests enjoy lounging by the outdoor pool and dining at one of seven restaurants, ranging from family-friendly to fine dining at the **Canyons Steakhouse**.

## Soboba Band of Luiseño Indians Listings

### Soboba Springs Golf Course

- 1020 Soboba Road, San Jacinto, CA 92583
- 951-654-4300
- [www.soboba.com/golf](http://www.soboba.com/golf)

### Soboba Casino Resort

- 22777 Soboba Road, San Jacinto, CA 92583
- 866-476-2622
- [www.soboba.com](http://www.soboba.com)

### Soboba Roadrunner Express

- 2214 Lake Park Dr
- San Jacinto, CA 92581
- 951-487-7745
- [www.sobobaroadrunnerexpress.com](http://www.sobobaroadrunnerexpress.com)



# Pechanga Band of Indians Listings



## Journey at Pechanga

- 45000 Pechanga Pkwy, Temecula, CA 92592
- 951-770-8210
- [www.pechanga.com/indulge/journey](http://www.pechanga.com/indulge/journey)



## The Great Oak at Pechanga

- Pechanga Cultural Resources Department, Temecula, CA 92593
- 951-770-6305
- [www.pechanga-nsn.gov/index.php/history/the-great-oak](http://www.pechanga-nsn.gov/index.php/history/the-great-oak)



## Pechanga Resort & Casino

- 45000 Pechanga Pkwy, Temecula, CA 92592
- 877-711-2946
- [www.pechanga.com](http://www.pechanga.com)



## Pechanga Retail Stores

- 45440 Pechanga Pkwy, Temecula, CA 92592
- [www.pechanga.com/indulge/shops](http://www.pechanga.com/indulge/shops)



## Pechanga Gas Station Plaza and Mini-Mart

- 45000 Pechanga Pkwy, Temecula, CA 92592
- 951-770-4576
- [www.pechanga.com/gas-station](http://www.pechanga.com/gas-station)



## Pechanga RV Resort

- 45000 Pechanga Pkwy, Temecula, CA 92592
- 877-99-RVFUN
- [www.pechanga.com/rvresort](http://www.pechanga.com/rvresort)



## Pechanga Pu'éska Mountain Day

- Temecula City Hall, 41000 Main St., Temecula, CA 92592
- [www.pechanga-nsn.gov/index.php/history/pu-eska-mountain](http://www.pechanga-nsn.gov/index.php/history/pu-eska-mountain)



Photo: Pechanga Resort & Casino

## Pechanga Band of Indians

[www.pechanga-nsn.gov](http://www.pechanga-nsn.gov)

The Pechanga Band of Indians of the Temecula Valley is named for a spring on their land. *Pechanga* means “place where the water drips,” and it is what their Reservation came to be called after their ancestors were forcibly moved from their village in 1875. Pechanga just officially dropped the Luiseño name. The Tribe is now known as the Pechanga Band of Indians.

## What to Do

**Journey at Pechanga** is a scenic, championship 18-hole links golf course with a driving range and clubhouse behind the resort. Enjoy breathtaking views of the golf course and the surrounding Temecula Valley while dining at **Journey's End** or breakfast or lunch at **Perfect View**. The golf club restaurant is consistently voted the number one spot in the region for breakfast and brunch.

**The Great Oak at Pechanga** is recognized as the largest naturally grown indigenous coast live oak tree (*Quercus agrifolia*) in the Western United States. Its trunk is over 20 feet in circumference, and the above-ground portion of the tree is nearly 100 feet tall. Known as Wi'áašal by Pechanga people, Wi'áašal's largest branches reach the ground, supporting the tree's weight and creating a sheltering canopy for countless generations of people and animals. The Great Oak is over 1,000 years old, making it one of the oldest living oak trees in the Western United States. Part of the Great Oak's significance is that despite its great age, it continues to produce acorns, one of the foods that sustained

native Californians for thousands of years before the arrival of Europeans. The Great Oak has come to embody the identity and character of the Pechanga Band: strength, wisdom, longevity and determination.

Every January, the **Pechanga Pow-wow** is held at the Pechanga Resort Casino Summit Events Center. This event is free and open to all ages. It is a fantastic display of Native American culture, heritage, music, art, and food.

## Where to Stay

The **Pechanga Resort & Casino** has 1,100 luxury rooms, many fine-dining and casual restaurants and entertainment venues featuring live shows weekly. The two-story, 25,000-square-foot **Spa Pechanga** is one of the only spas in the state that incorporates Native botanicals known to ancestors for healing and well-being. The spa features a full menu of spa treatments. Pechanga's 4.5-acre Cove pool oasis has water slides, a family area, a swim-up bar at the 21-and-older pool and three whirlpools.

A guide to the many cultural elements incorporated into the resort/casino lobby and Summit Events Center is available at the concierge desk. Guests will see a replica of a traditional dugout wooden canoe along the self-guided tour. **Pechanga Retail Stores** in the resort offer a collection of luxury boutiques with high-end brands, including Gucci, Coach, and Vince Camuto. **Pechanga Gas Station Plaza and Mini-Mart** is a 24-hour convenience store next to Pechanga Resort and Casino, providing fuel, propane, snack food and beverages. For RVers, the **Pechanga RV Resort** is





rated among the best in the country. It has 210 sites with manicured grassy grounds and shade trees, plus deluxe sites with picnic tables, gazebos, fire pits and other amenities.

November 15, **Pechanga Pu'éska Mountain Day**, was proclaimed a city holiday by the City of Temecula in 2012 to celebrate the native culture and heritage of the Pechanga Band of Indians. The day marks the defeat of a proposed pit mine that would destroy Wexéwxi Pu'éska. Pu'éska Mountain is one of the most sacred places in the Luiseño religion. Pechanga Band of Luiseño Indians purchased Pu'éska Mountain in November 2012, and the event is commemorated annually. Temecula marks the day “To share our gratitude and respect for the Native culture of the Pechanga Band of Luiseño Indians.”

## Pala Band of Mission Indians

[www.palatribes.com](http://www.palatribes.com)

The Pala Band of Mission Indians reservation in northern San Diego County is home to most Cupeño and Luiseño Indians, who consider themselves one proud people — the Pala. The Cupeños called themselves *Kuupangaxwichem*, or “people who slept here.” More than 90 years ago, after California became a state, a rancher claimed the Cupa lands and demanded their eviction. The courts sided with him, and the Cupeños were expelled from their native homeland. President Rutherford Hayes ordered the Cupa to relocate to the Pala Reservation with the Luiseño Tribe. Today, The Cupeños and Luiseño call Pala home and live as one.

The **Cupa Cultural Center** hosts public events, including Cupa Days, during the first weekend in May every year. The event com-

memorates the removal of the Cupeño people from their village of Cupa in May 1903. The center is just steps from **Mission San Antonio de Pala**, the only historic mission facility still serving a Mission Indian tribe. It is located on the Pala Indian Reservation.

You will find amateur and pro auto and motorsport racing tracks at Fox Raceway and Campgrounds. Moto gear is available at the **Fox Pro Shop**. And, if you are hungry, you can grab a burger at **Red Plate Cafe**.

The **Pala Vineyard** produces several wines: Viognier, Grenache, Syrah, Sangiovese and Mourvèdre. While the Vineyard cannot accommodate visitors, its wines can be found at the **Pala Mini Mart** and **Pala Casino**.

While in the San Luis Rey River Valley, listen to **Rez Radio 91.3**, a non-commercial FM station owned and operated by the Pala Band of Mission Indians. The station blends music with cultural and language programs.

The **Pala Skatepark** was established in April 2008. The skatepark is open to the public for a small day-use fee and provides skateboarders with a safe, fun place to skateboard.

## Where to Stay

The **Pala Casino Spa Resort**, a AAA Four-Diamond resort, includes a luxury hotel with eight restaurants and Vegas-style gaming. Enjoy a casual open-air breakfast or lunch at the **Poolside Cafe & Bar**. Live indoor and outdoor performances and concerts. Stop at the **Impulse Gift Shop** for snacks, souvenirs or designer jewelry and accessories. The on-site **RV Resort** has paved pads and areas with grass. Campers enjoy pool and hot tub privileges. Purchase fuel and snacks at the **Pala Mini Mart**.

The **Pala Mesa Resort & Golf Course** is owned and operated by the Pala Band of Mission Indians. Unwind in our 128 beautifully appointed guest rooms, which offer views of the surrounding natural beauty.

The **Pala Mesa Resort Golf Course** is one of Southern California's most challenging golf courses. This beautifully manicured 18-hole, Par 72 championship course, accented with magnificent oaks, sycamores and elms, continues to be recognized as one of the most beautiful golf courses in the Greater San Diego area. Fresh culinary creations and libations await you at our on-site **Aquaterra Restaurant and Bar**.

Dine indoors or alfresco on the terrace patio, where panoramic views of the surrounding hills and lush green golf course accentuate the lively ambiance. This urban escape is the perfect setting for leisure getaways, executive meetings, conferences, weddings, catered events, fine dining and championship golf.

### Cupa Cultural Center

- 35006 Pala Temecula Road, Pala, CA 92059
- 760-891-3590
- [www.cupa.palatribes.com](http://www.cupa.palatribes.com)

### Rez Radio

- PMB 50, 35008 Pala Temecula Road, Pala, CA 92059
- 760-742-4200
- 91.3@palatribes.com

### Pala Skate Park

- 12196 Pala Mission Road
- Pala, CA 92059
- 760-891-3503
- [www.palatribes.com/businesses/pala-skatepark/](http://www.palatribes.com/businesses/pala-skatepark/)

### Fox Raceway and Campgrounds

- 12799 California Highway 76, Pala, CA 92059
- 760-482-7405
- [www.raceway.palatribes.com](http://www.raceway.palatribes.com)

### Pala Casino Spa Resort

- 11154 CA-76, Pala, CA 92059
- 877-946-7252
- [www.palacasino.com](http://www.palacasino.com)

### Pala Mesa Resort & Golf Course

- 2001 Old Hwy 395
- Fallbrook, CA 92028
- 760-728-5881
- [www.palamesa.com](http://www.palamesa.com)

Photo: Pala Casino Spa Resort







## Pauma Band of Luiseño Indians

[www.paumatribes.com](http://www.paumatribes.com)

“*Pauma*” means the “place where there is water.” The valley at the base of Palomar’s sloping hills is called “Pauma.” The term “Pauma” describes this area’s chief characteristic, the San Luis Rey River, which flows through the valley.

At nearby Palomar Mountain State Park, you can enjoy camping, picnicking, hiking, and trout fishing. You can also find bedrock milling stone mortars and metates for processing seeds like acorns here.

**Casino Pauma** opened in 2001 and provided much-needed revenue for the Tribe. **Pauma Cafe** features specials like a Surf and Turf buffet, Fried Chicken Day and more.

### Palomar Mountain State Park

- 19952 State Park Drive
- Palomar Mountain, CA 92060
- 760-742-3462
- [www.parks.ca.gov/?page\\_id=637](http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=637)

### Casino Pauma

- 777 Pauma Reservation Road
- Pauma Valley, CA 92061
- 760-742-2177
- [www.casinopauma.com/](http://www.casinopauma.com/)

## La Jolla Band of Luiseño Indians

[www.facebook.com/lajollagovernment/](https://www.facebook.com/lajollagovernment/)

La Jolla Band members belong to the Luiseño Tribe. Luiseño traditional territory covered lands north of the Kumeyaays’ land, including most of the San Luis Rey and Santa Margarita drainages. The term Luiseño is derived from the San Luis Rey Mission and has been used in Southern California. The name La Jolla is believed to come from the misspelling of the Spanish word *hoya*, which refers to a hollow formed in the earth. **La Jolla Indian Campground and Tubing** is San Diego County’s only campground with river and tubing access on the San Luis Rey River, which flows through the Reservation. The campground provides a three-mile run of inner tubing down the River. There are 36 RV sites and multiple campsites.

Are you looking for excitement? The **La Jolla Zip Zoom** can be found at the La Jolla Campground, which is more than a mile long over several towers, providing riders with spectacular views of mountain peaks, lush green canyons and rustic steep slopes of the reservation.

This **Luiseño Bike Park** features mountain bike trails carved from the scenic Palomar Mountains. The Park is open year-round. It is designed for riders of all levels, with trails composed of diverse and rugged terrain.

Bike rentals for a half-day up to three days are available.

In addition to gaming, the **La Jolla Trading Post Casino** includes a convenience store open seven days a week with discounted fuel and a full-service restaurant.

## Nearby Attractions

### La Jolla Indian Campground and Tubing

22000 CA-76, Pauma Valley, CA 92061  
760-742-1297  
[www.lajollaindiancampground.com](http://www.lajollaindiancampground.com)

### La Jolla Zip Zoom

22000 CA-76, Pauma Valley, CA 92061  
760-742-4994  
Facebook: La Jolla Zip Zoom

### Luiseño Bike Park

22000 Hwy 76, Pauma Valley, CA 92061  
760-742-0461  
[lajollaindiancampground.com/bike-park-pass/](http://lajollaindiancampground.com/bike-park-pass/)

### La Jolla Trading Post Casino

22003 CA-76, Pauma Valley, CA 92061  
760-742-0461,  
Store: 760-742-0460,  
Grill: 760-742-0459  
Facebook: [lajollatradingpostcasino](https://www.facebook.com/lajollatradingpostcasino)



## Rincon Band of Luiseño Indians

[www.rincon-nsn.gov](http://www.rincon-nsn.gov)

The Rincon Band of Luiseño Indians is one of six such Tribes in Southern California composed of Luiseño people. The Reservation was established near the Payomkawichum Village of Wáŋxa, located near California State Route 76. Route 76 parallels the Luiseño indigenous trail known as the **Rincon Reservation Road**. The trail ran along the San Luis Rey River from the headwaters in Palomar Mountain State Park to the mouth of Oceanside on the coast. They used this trail to travel across mountains to hunt for animals and gather acorns, a traditional diet staple. On the coast, they would fish among the rocks on the shore. The trail runs through several modern-day Indian reservations, including Pechanga, Soboba, Pala, Pauma and La Jolla.

The **Wasxayam Pomki Museum** celebrates Luiseño heritage by showcasing art and artifacts like the famed Luiseño basketry. The Museum also chronicles tribal history, including the diversion of the San Luis Rey River, which had a significant impact on southern California Tribes. Exhibits explain Luiseño life past and present, veterans' contributions and language revitalization.

The **Rincon Reservation Road Brewery** in Valley Center and Ocean Beach is Southern California's first tribally owned and operated brewery on a reservation. It aims to educate and pay tribute to its heritage while making quality craft beer from sustainable ingredients inspired by its culture. The Tribe invites visitors to enjoy the many varieties on their trip and journey down Rincon Reservation Road.

The **Rincon Travel Plaza** has some of the best fuel prices in San Diego. Owned and operated by the Rincon Band of Luiseño Indians, the Plaza includes a car wash and a convenience store with affordable food and beverages. It also has some of the best fuel prices in San Diego, a car wash and a smoke shop. Located next to Harrah's Casino, this is your one-stop shopping.

The Rincon Band has established hunting, harvesting and processing areas in **Palomar State Park**. In the Park, you can see traditional grinding stones, processing areas, and the natural materials collected to make the Tribe's famous and beautiful baskets.

The views of forest and mountain meadows are beautiful and will give you a sense of the enormity of the Tribe's territory.

## Where to Stay:

**Harrah's Resort SoCal** puts the fun in Funner, California. Constantly creating new ways to go bigger and better, this adult playground is known for big wins, eight restaurants and a trifecta of crystal-clear pools, including SoCal's first Swim-up Bar and a 400-foot Lazy River. Enjoy poolside tacos from **'ritas Cantina**, candlelit cuisine at the largest **Hell's Kitchen** in the country, or a fresh craft beer at **Rincon Reservation Road Brewery**, the first tribal-owned brewery in the country. In addition to the table games and slots, guests can treat themselves to a massage, facial or mani-pedi at **The Spa at Harrah's** or fill their suitcase with a trip to the two shops in the resort lobby. To top it all off, every month, the **Events Center** brings a host of fun with the biggest names in music, comedy and more. All this makes it clear why Harrah's Resort SoCal is voted "Best Resort in Funner, CA."

**Photo:** Rincon Reservation Road Brewery



## Nearby Attractions

### Wasxayam Pomki Museum

- One Government Center Lane, Valley Center, CA 92082
- 760-297-2635 Ext. 318
- [www.rincon-nsn.gov/culture-history/museum](http://www.rincon-nsn.gov/culture-history/museum)

### Rincon Reservation Road Brewery

- 777 S. Resort Drive, Valley Center, CA 92080
- 760-651-6571
- [www.3rbrewery.com](http://www.3rbrewery.com)

### Rincon Travel Plaza

- 33740 Valley Center Rd., Valley Center, CA 92082
- 760-749-2562,
- Facebook: Rincon-Travel-Plaza

### Palomar State Park

- 19952 State Park Drive, Palomar Mountain, CA 92060
- 760-742-3462
- [www.parks.ca.gov/?page\\_id=637](http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=637)

### Harrah's Resort Southern California

- 777 Harrah's Rincon Way, Funner, CA 92082
- 760-751-3100
- [www.harrahssocal.com](http://www.harrahssocal.com)



## San Luis Rey Band of Mission Indians

Since the beginning of time, the “*ataaxam*” have always occupied the San Luis Rey Valley. The Spanish established the Mission San Luis Rey in 1798 and imposed the name San Luiseño on the *ataaxam*. The San Luis Rey Mission Indian Foundation hosts an annual Powwow in June at Oceanside, California. The San Luis Rey Band of Luiseño Indians and the Mount Laguna Band of Luiseño Indians are the only Luiseño Bands not federally recognized. The State of California - California State Parks and the San Luis Rey Band of Mission Indians have a Memorandum of Understanding to facilitate the Tribe’s involvement in the management, preservation and interpretation of cultural and natural resources in the park units of Anza Borrego Desert State Park, Cardiff State Beach, Carlsbad State Beach, Palomar Mountain State Park, San Elijo State Beach and South Carlsbad State Beach.

Cardiff State Beach is located on the San Diego Coast, called the Riviera of the West. Known for its gently sloping sandy beach with warm water, it offers swimming, surfing and beachcombing. Adjoining Cardiff State Beach is **San Elijo State Beach**, which includes a state-run campground. San Elijo provides camping, swimming, surfing, showers and picnicking. Its nearby reef is popular with snorkelers and divers.

The San Luis Rey Mission Indian Foundation hosts an annual **Annual San Luis Rey Intertribal Powwow** in June at the San Luis Rey Mission Grounds in Oceanside, California. Shop at the Arts & Crafts Booths, take a break and enjoy the Food Booths. All Dancers & Drums are welcome; contest dancing and drawings for prizes.

### Annual San Luis Rey Intertribal Powwow

- 4050 Mission Ave., Oceanside, CA
- david@slrmissionindians.org

## Nearby Attractions

### Cardiff State Beach

- One mile south of Cardiff on Old Highway 101
- 760-720-7001
- [www.parks.ca.gov/?page\\_id=656](http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=656)

### San Elijo State Beach

- 2050 S Coast Hwy 101
- Cardiff, CA 92007
- 800-444-7275
- [www.parks.ca.gov/?page\\_id=662](http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=662)

**Photo:** Cardiff State Beach – Getty Images





# San Manuel Band of Mission Indians and the Kizh/Gabrieleno (Palm Springs to Los Angeles)

## THE SAN MANUEL BAND OF MISSION INDIANS

[www.sanmanuel-nsn.gov](http://www.sanmanuel-nsn.gov)

The Coachella Valley extends northwest to the base of the San Bernardino Mountains, home of the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians. The people who lived at *Yuhaaviatam* were known as the *Yuhaaviatam*, or “People of the Pines,” and were a clan of *Maara’yam* (Serrano) people. Our people, now known as the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians, are the *Yuhaaviatam* clan of *Maara’yam* (Serrano). They continue the tradition of holding sacred the land and everything it provides.

The San Manuel Band of Mission Indians is named after a great Yuhaaviatam leader, Santos Manuel. As the earliest Spanish colonial records attest, the Maara’yam were known to be warm and generous, welcoming to all who found themselves in their homeland. This friendly attitude reflects the sacred responsibility given to them by *Krukat* (Creator) since time immemorial to be stewards of their ancestral territory and all within it. In the 1770s, the Yuhaaviatam and other Maara’yam people were forcibly relocated to Mission San Gabriel Arcángel, about 10 miles east of downtown Los Angeles. In the 1860s, amid violence perpetrated against his people by California militias, Santos Manuel led the Yuhaaviatam to safety in the San Bernardino Valley.

The Act of Relief for Mission Indians was passed in 1891. It recognized the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians as a sovereign nation and secured their land, which today is a little over 1100 acres of their 7.4 million-acre ancestral territory. Since then, the Tribe has rebuilt their community in a way that remained true to their culture and tradition, as well as honor the gift and responsibility bestowed upon them by their Creator to be stewards of their land. The success of their economic enterprises has empowered the Tribe to maintain its sovereignty and support neighboring communities, the Las Vegas region, and Indian County.

The Tribe publishes ***Hamiinat Magazine***. The Yuhaaviatam has long used storytelling to honor its people’s strength, perseverance and resiliency. *Hamiinat*, the magazine of the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians, is filled with stories about the Tribe’s history, legacy, culture and future. Issues are available online or to the general public at San Manuel Pow Wow.

## What to Do

The **San Manuel Pow Wow** is a three-day celebration, held every September, that is free to the public and features Southern California traditional bird singers and dancers, as well as North American and Canadian

dancers and drum singing groups. Additionally, Native American dishes – including crowd-favorite foods like fry bread – and traditional Native American crafts and fine art from vendors representing Indian tribal nations from and throughout North America and Canada are available for purchase. For more information, visit [socalpowwow.com](http://socalpowwow.com).

The San Manuel Band of Mission Indians partners with Cal State San Bernardino to host the **California Native American Day Evening Celebration** held in September. This celebration of the distinctive cultures of California’s Native American people features traditional bird songs, music, art and food. It is a free event open to the public.

For more information, visit [nativeamericanday.org](http://nativeamericanday.org).

## Where to Stay

The **Yaamava’ Resort & Casino** at San Manuel is the only Forbes Travel Guide Four-Star, Five-Star-rated and AAA Diamond-rated entertainment destination in the Inland Empire. Designed as the ultimate Southern California get-away, *Yaamava’*, the Serrano word for ‘spring,’ offers an expansive pool deck where guests can relax in their own personal lounge or one of the seven private cabanas. This luxury resort features a 17-floor hotel with 432 spacious rooms



## San Manuel Listings



### San Manuel Powwow

- at California State University, San Bernardino
- 5500 University Parkway, San Bernardino, CA 92407
- 909-537-5000
- [www.facebook.com/powwowsanmanuel/](http://www.facebook.com/powwowsanmanuel/)



### California Native American Day

- at California State University San Bernardino
- 5500 University Pkwy., San Bernardino, CA 92407
- 909-537-3454
- [www.nativeamericanday.org](http://www.nativeamericanday.org)



### Yaamava' Resort & Casino At San Manuel

- 777 San Manuel Blvd., Highland, CA 92346
- 1-800-359-2464
- [www.yaamava.com](http://www.yaamava.com)



### Bear Springs Hotel

- 27959 Highland Avenue, Highland, CA 92346
- 833-258-4745
- [www.bearspringshotel.com](http://www.bearspringshotel.com)

## PALMS CASINO RESORT IN LAS VEGAS

San Manuel's **Palms Casino Resort** is making history as the first resort in Las Vegas entirely owned and operated by a Native American Tribe. The Palms Casino Resort features two distinct towers with 766 hotel rooms and suites, a diverse mix of bars, restaurants, live entertainment ventures and immersive lifestyle experiences across a 95,000-square-foot casino. The resort also includes over 190,000 square feet of meeting, convention and event space, including the **Pearl**, a 25,000-seat theater, an expansive pool and spa area, a wedding chapel, the Brenden Theatres 14-screen cinema and nearly 600 units at Palms Place condominiums.

Palms is located just west of the center of the Las Vegas Strip off I-15 on Flamingo Road. It is owned by the San Manuel Gaming and Hospitality Authority, a governmental instrumentality of the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians created to independently invest in, own and manage hospitality businesses outside of the San Manuel Reservation.

4321 W. Flamingo Road. Las Vegas, NV 89103, 866-752-2236, [www.palms.com](http://www.palms.com)

and suites, an elevated pool deck, the Forbes Five-star-rated **Serrano Spa and Salon**, a lavish full-service spa that provides a variety of transformative treatments and exquisite products and a state-of-the-art theater. Yaamava Resort is 70 miles from downtown Los Angeles in Highland, CA. It offers guests luxury retail shops, several award-winning dining options like the **Pines Steakhouse** and **Hong Bao Kitchen**, and more than a dozen bars and lounges, including the IE's premiere sports bar, the **909 Food Hall** and a wide variety of gaming options. The top floor of the hotel tower features an exclusive lounge with indoor and outdoor areas, allowing guests to take in sweeping views of the San Bernardino Mountains.



**Yaamava Theater** opened in April 2022 and has welcomed acts like Red Hot Chili Peppers, P!NK, Tim McGraw, Duran Duran, Jonas Brothers, The Black Keys, Kevin Hart, Adam Sandler and many other top performers. Guests can enjoy this intimate up to 3,000-seat venue with state-of-the-art audio powered by internationally renowned L-Acoustics.

**Bear Springs Hotel** is a full-service hotel and event space nestled in the foothills of the San Bernardino Mountains in Highland, California. It offers a quiet boutique experience featuring the **Bear Springs Bistro & Lounge**, fitness center and pool.

## Nearby Attractions

**San Bernadino Museum** has been working with the Tribe since 2015 on exhibits and reparations. The Museum acknowledges, "the land on which our facilities are sited is the ancestral and unceded territory of the Maara'yam, commonly referred to as the Serrano people, which, in the contemporary era, are represented by two federally-recognized tribes: Yuhaaviatam of San Manuel Band Nation and Morongo Band of Mission Indians. Our histories and

stories are intertwined in this space, and by sharing them in culturally appropriate ways and co-stewarding collections, we hope to honor and celebrate our Indigenous neighbors and partners. We also seek to offer an accurate, clear and thorough picture of this region's complicated past and create a shared vision for the future that is mutually beneficial and respectful to all."

In 2024, the **San Gabriel Mountains National Monument** was expanded to include the expanse of the Angeles National Forest, which stretches south and west from the current boundary to the National Forest boundary near the foothill communities of Los Angeles. This area protects objects of scientific and historical interest. The Kizh Nation was a founding member of the San Gabriel Mountains Community Collaborative and played a vital role in the designation of the San Gabriel Mountains as a national monument. This expansion area contains evidence of thousands of years of use and occupation by Indigenous peoples. It sustained a mosaic of Indigenous peoples, including the Gabriellino, Kizh, Chumash Kitanemuk, Serrano and Tataviam Peoples. The **Mt. Baldy Visitor Center Interpretive Site** has a reproduction of a Gabriellino village.



### San Gabriel Mountains National Monument

- Mt. Baldy Visitor Center Interpretive Site
- 701 N. Santa Anita Ave., Arcadia, CA 91006
- 626-574-1613
- [www.fs.usda.gov/recarea/angeles/recarea/?recid=41942](http://www.fs.usda.gov/recarea/angeles/recarea/?recid=41942)

## PEOPLE OF THE EARTH: THE KIZH/GABRIELENO

### (Los Angeles Area)

The ancestral territory of the Kizh people, historically documented as the Gabrieliño, encompassed a vast region within present-day Los Angeles and Orange Counties. This territory extended from the Santa Susanna Mountains in the north to Piru, with Aliso Creek marking the southern boundary, the San Bernardino Mountains to the east, and the Pacific Ocean to the west. It also included the four Channel Islands: Santa Catalina, San Clemente, Santa Barbara, and San Nicolas.

Many of their ancestral village names are preserved in the names of modern cities,





such as Cahuenga and Topanga. In other cases, city names are derived from shortened versions of our village names, such as Azusa from Asucsabit, Jurupa from Jurúpet, and Corona from Coronababit, to name a few. Our place names often concluded with “*Anga*” or “*Nga*,” meaning “place of,” or “*Vit*,” “*Bit*,” or “*Pet*,” indicating “I am from” a specific location—historical records document over a hundred Kizh villages. Contrary to popular belief, the Gabrieleno people did not identify themselves by their individual villages but rather by their shared national identity as Kizh, also spelled Kisannos, Kechi, Kish, Kij, Quichi, Kesh, etc. This name has been historically documented since 1771 and variations up until today, with the authority of Indigenous people solidifying it as Kizh. This Kizh identity, recognized by our sister Tribes, is consistently documented throughout the California Mission, Mexican and American periods. “We hope everyone respects the accuracy of our history and ancestral lands on this Trail.”

The Gabrieliño thrived along the Los Angeles coast, the Southern Channel Islands and inland rivers. They lived in an estimated 51 villages throughout their 4,000-square-mile territory. At its height, the culture is estimated to have numbered about 5,000 people. The Gabrieliño fished and gathered along the coast and farmed and hunted inland along the Los Angeles River and other watersheds. They built domed-shaped homes called kish or kiitcha out of willow and tule reeds. Their canoes, called ti’ats, were seaworthy crafts built from redwood planks fastened to hollowed-out redwood logs. The Gabrieliño lived peacefully with the Chumash to the northwest. The designation of Tongva (“People of the Earth”) came about more recently.

Despite many hardships, the Gabrieliño descendants continue to fight for recognition by the United States as sovereign nations and the return of their homelands. To learn more about the unrecognized Tribes, check out their websites:

Gabrieleno Band of Mission Indians – Kizh Nation  
[gabrielenoindians.org](http://gabrielenoindians.org)

Gabrieleno (Tongva) Band of Mission Indians  
[www.gabrieleno-nsn.us](http://www.gabrieleno-nsn.us)

Fernandeño Tataviam Band of Mission Indians  
[www.tataviam-nsn.us](http://www.tataviam-nsn.us)

Gabrieliño–Tongva Tribe (San Gabriel Band of Mission Indians)  
[www.gabrielinotribe.org](http://www.gabrielinotribe.org)

## Nearby Attractions

The Gabrieliño helped the Gaspar de Portola Expedition of 1769 by revealing their **Kuruvungna Sacred Springs**, which are today located on the grounds of University High School in Santa Monica. These springs, described as flowing like Saint Monica’s tears, inspired the Spanish name for Santa Monica. The Gabrieliño-Tongva Springs Foundation now protects and operates the ancestral village of Kuruvungna Sacred Springs. The **Kuruvungna Springs Village Cultural Center** shares artifacts uncovered during construction at University High School in West Los Angeles. Kuruvungna, which means “Place where we are in the sun,” is the spring that sustained Gabrieliño villages for at least 8,000 years.

## THE STORY OF TOYPURINA:

Toypurina was a highly respected and influential Kizh medicine woman from the village of Jachivit and a sister of her village’s leader. As Spanish oppression and treatment became unbearable for the Kizh impacted by Mission San Gabriel, Toypurina was approached in 1785 by Kizh men planning an attack against the Spanish at Mission San Gabriel. She was asked to use her influence to recruit and organize other Kizh villages to participate in an attack against the mission. She successfully enlisted six other Kizh villages and was present to lend courage to the warriors on the October night as they approached the mission armed with bows and arrows. Other Kizh loyal to the Spanish notified the outnumbered guards of the approaching attack, and Toypurina and other attack leaders were arrested. During her trial, Toypurina stated she was “angry with the Padres and the others of the Mission because they had come to live and establish themselves” in her land. Found guilty, she was jailed at Mission San Gabriel and banished to Mission San Carlos Borromeo after three years. Eventually, she married a Spanish soldier, had three children and died at age 39 on May 22, 1799, at Mission San Juan Bautista. Today, Toypurina has become a symbol of the oppressed bravely rising against injustice, and she is commemorated throughout the Los Angeles area in murals. There are several murals of Toypurina in Los Angeles. One of the most famous is in East Los Angeles. A 60-by-20-foot mural adorns the main wall of Ramona Gardens, a public housing complex.

**Photo:** Toypurina mural taken by Naomi Torres. “Art Heals” by Raul González, Ricardo Estrada and Joséph “Nuke” Montalvo at Ramona Gardens, East L.A. (2008)



## Nearby Attractions



### Tongva Memorial at Loyola Marymount University, Playa Vista Campus

- 12105 E. Waterfront Drive, Playa Vista, CA 90094
- 310-338-2700
- [www.mission.lmu.edu/cis/gracefulsites/tongvamemorial](http://www.mission.lmu.edu/cis/gracefulsites/tongvamemorial)



### Mission San Fernando Rey de España

- 15151 San Fernando Mission Blvd., Mission Hills, CA 91345
- 818-361-0186



### The Autry Museum of the American West

- 4700 Western Heritage Way, Los Angeles, CA 90027
- 323-667-2000
- [www.theAutry.org](http://www.theAutry.org)
- [theAutry.org/nativevoices](http://theAutry.org/nativevoices)
- [theAutry.org/AIAM](http://theAutry.org/AIAM)



### Avila Adobe Museum

- 10 Olvera St., Los Angeles, CA 90012
- 213-485-6855
- [www.elpueblo.lacity.org](http://www.elpueblo.lacity.org)



### Tongva Exhibit at Heritage Park

- 12100 Mora Drive, Santa Fe Springs, CA 90670
- 562-946-6476
- [www.santafesprings.org/departments/community\\_services/family\\_and\\_human\\_services/heritage\\_park/tongva\\_exhibit.php](http://www.santafesprings.org/departments/community_services/family_and_human_services/heritage_park/tongva_exhibit.php)



### The Bowers Museum

- 2002 North Main Street, Santa Ana, CA 92706
- 714-567-3680
- [www.bowers.org](http://www.bowers.org)



### Catalina Museum for Art & History

- 217 Metropole Ave., Avalon, California 90704
- 310-510-2414
- [www.catalinamuseum.org/exhibition-archive/all+archived+exhibits/crossing-waters-contemporary-tongva-artists-carrying-pimugna](http://www.catalinamuseum.org/exhibition-archive/all+archived+exhibits/crossing-waters-contemporary-tongva-artists-carrying-pimugna)

The site is open to the public on the first Saturday of each month. Call to confirm before visiting.

In 1771, the Spanish forced the Gabrieliño to construct **Mission San Gabriel Arcángel** and to rebuild it after the 1776 flood. In 1797, they were also forced to build Mission San Fernando Rey de España at the site of the Gabrieliño village of Achoicominga. Gabrieliño villagers were forced to relocate to the missions, where they were baptized and often subjected to forced labor.

The Kizh were divided into groups between the two missions: the Gabrieliño and the Fernandeno. In 1785, a Kizh medicine woman named Toypurina led a rebellion against the Spanish at Mission San Gabriel Arcángel (See Toypurina Sidebar). It failed, and the Kizh subjugation continued.

## JUAN BAUTISTA DE ANZA NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL

Anza established three camps in what is now Los Angeles County:

### Mission San Gabriel Arcángel – Expedition Camp #62

The Spanish had established Mission San Gabriel Arcángel here in 1771 (the fourth of 21 Spanish missions in California) at the Tongva village of Yaanga site. The Anza Party arrived here on January 4, 1776. Anza left the colonists here for almost two months while he traveled to San Diego to support the Spanish in the aftermath of the Kumeyaay Rebellion. He returned to Mission San Gabriel Arcángel on February 12, continuing his colonial party to Monterey on February 21. Today, Mission San Gabriel Arcángel is an active parish that invites the public to visit its museum, gift shop and gardens. Learn more about the mission's history and the Gabrieliño People forced to relocate here by taking the City of San Gabriel Historical Walk, a brochure available at [www.sangabrielcity.com](http://www.sangabrielcity.com) under "About Us."

Mission San Gabriel Arcángel, 428 S. Mission Drive, San Gabriel, CA 91776. 626-457-3035, [www.sangabrielmissionchurch.org](http://www.sangabrielmissionchurch.org)

### Elysian Park and Griffith Park – Expedition Camp #72

On February 21, the Anza Party crossed the Los Angeles River near today's **Elysian Park**, setting up camp in what is now **Griffith Park**. A large mural on the

concrete slope of the L.A. River beneath the Taylor Railway Yard can be seen from Egret Pocket Park. The mural, painted by Frank Romero, uses stylized Kizh petroglyph-inspired graphics to depict Anza mounted on horseback. Elysian Park includes a bike path, hiking trail and horseshoe pits. Griffith Park is one of North America's largest municipal parks. This landmark is a rare example of untouched, natural chaparral in an urban center. The park's tree-studded canyons are criss-crossed with more than 70 miles of hiking and equestrian trails.

### Malibu Creek State Park – Expedition Camp #73

The Anza Party was encamped in this area on February 22, 1776, at what Anza called Aqua Escondida (hidden water) in his diary. Today, this area is near **Malibu Creek State Park**, a former 20<sup>th</sup> Century Fox movie ranch where the television series **M\*A\*S\*H** was filmed from 1972 to 1983. Its natural setting is mainly unchanged from the 1700s when Kizh and Chumash villages dotted the area, including the large Chumash village named Talepop. Several trails of various difficulties wind through the grasslands and hills of this 8,000-acre park.

## Anza Trail Attractions



### Mission San Gabriel Arcángel

- 428 S. Mission Drive, San Gabriel, CA 91776
- 626-457-3035
- [www.sangabrielmissionchurch.org](http://www.sangabrielmissionchurch.org)



### Elysian Park and Griffith Park

- 835 Academy Road, Los Angeles, CA 90012
- [www.laparks.org/park/elysian](http://www.laparks.org/park/elysian)



### Malibu Creek State Park

- 1925 Las Virgenes Road, Cornell, CA 91301
- 818-880-0367
- [www.malibucreekstatepark.org](http://www.malibucreekstatepark.org)

## Nearby Attractions

In 2000, Loyola Marymount University, a Catholic university, dedicated a garden to the history of the Tongva in Westchester. Marble plaques, granite walls and metal lettering describe the area's two thousand years of Tongva history and their cultural



beliefs. This **Tongva Memorial at the Loyola Marymount University** Playa Vista Campus ends with a quotation from Council member Martin Alcala. The LMU library also exhibits artifacts from two Gabrieliño village sites that were unearthed during the construction of the Leavy campus.

### **Mission San Fernando Rey de España**

was founded in 1797 on the Gabrieliño village Achoicomanga site. It is associated with the Fernandeno Tataviam Band of Mission Indians, some of whose ancestors lived in the Mission, and others lived in surrounding villages. Today, the mission is a Catholic church and home to the Archdiocese of Los Angeles Archival Center. The Mission Museum displays primarily items from the Mexican period of occupation. The church's elaborate reredos are a unique feature. Between 1797 and 1852, 2,425 Tongva were buried in the San Fernando Mission Cemetery.

The Anza Party camped within today's Griffith Park on February 21, 1776 (Camp #72), where today the **Autry Museum of the American West** features world-class galleries filled with Native American art and cultural materials, film memorabilia, historic firearms, paintings, interactive areas and more. The Autry presents many public events and programs throughout the year, including lectures, film, theater, festivals, family activities and music. The Autry also provides scholarships, research and educational outreach. The Autry's collection includes more than 600,000 pieces of art and artifacts, including one of the largest and most significant collections of Native American materials in the United States. The **Autry's Native**

**Voices Theatre** is devoted to developing and producing new works for the stage by Native American, Alaska Native, Native Hawaiian and First Nations playwrights. The museum's annual **American Indian Arts Marketplace**, held in June, presents acclaimed traditional and contemporary Native artisans from across the nation.

Part of the El Pueblo de Los Angeles Historical Monument and named a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1973, the **Avila Adobe Museum** is housed in the oldest home in Los Angeles, constructed in 1818 by Francisco Ávila, Los Angeles' alcalde (mayor) in 1810. The 44-acre El Pueblo de Los Angeles Historical Monument, originally Gabrieliño land, today honors the founders of the City of Los Angeles and includes families blended of Native American, European and African heritage who people from all over the world later joined. Of the monument's 27 historic buildings, 11 are open to the public as shops or museums. Festivals and art shows celebrating Indigenous and Hispanic heritage occur throughout the neighborhood year-round. Olvera Street is incredibly colorful on November 1 for its **Día de los Muertos** (Day of the Dead) celebrations.

Learn more about Tongva culture at the **Tongva Exhibit** at the **Heritage Park** in Santa Fe Springs, where a replica willow kiche home and canoe are displayed near a historic Gabrieliño village site. Designed by members of the Gabrieliño-Tongva Tribe, the replica village also includes signage explaining the traditional uses of various plants used in the landscaping.

## Nearby Attractions



### **Sherman Indian High School Museum**

- 9010 Magnolia Avenue, Riverside, CA 92503
- 951-276-6719
- [www.shermanindianmuseum.org/](http://www.shermanindianmuseum.org/)



### **Satwiwa Native American Indian Culture Center**

- Sycamore Canyon Trailhead, Newbury Park, CA 91320
- 805 370-2301
- [www.nps.gov/samo/planyourvisit/rvsatwiwa.htm](http://www.nps.gov/samo/planyourvisit/rvsatwiwa.htm)



### **Chumash Indian Museum**

- 3290 Lang Ranch Pkwy., Thousand Oaks, California 91362
- 805-492-8076
- [www.chumashmuseum.org](http://www.chumashmuseum.org)





As the largest and one of the oldest museums in Orange County, the **Bowers Museum** is devoted to local history. It features an extensive permanent collection of Native American art and artifacts in the exhibit *First Californians*. The exhibit is one of nine permanent collection exhibitions showcasing art and artifacts from cultures around the world, as the largest and one of the oldest museums in Orange County, the Bowers. Although groups from all regions of California are represented in the exhibit, special attention is placed on local groups that inhabit the coastal areas in Southern California. The **Catalina Museum for Art & History** recognizes its responsibility to the original and current caretakers of this land, water, and air: the Gabrielino peoples and all their ancestors and descendants, past, present and future. Today, their meeting place is home to many Indigenous peoples from all over the world, and they are grateful to have the opportunity to live and work in these homelands. The museum has 18,000 square feet of exhibition and support space.

The **Sherman Museum** can be found at the Sherman Indian High School. The first off-reservation boarding high school for Native Americans in California is still in operation. Initially opened in 1892 in Perris, California, the school was relocated to Riverside, California, in 1903 and renamed the Sherman Institute. The **Sherman Museum**, formerly the school's administration building, is the school's only original architecture. It has been designated a National Historic Landmark and Riverside Landmark. The Museum provides guided and self-guided tours, cultural events and workshops. In mid-April, the school hosts the **Sherman Indian High School Annual Powwow**.

Rancho Sierra Vista/ Satwiwa in the Santa Monica National Recreation Area features ranch structures and introduced grasses representing over a century of ranching, while native plants reflect an environment that Chumash Indians lived in for thousands of years. At the **Satwiwa Native American Indian Culture Center**, Native Americans representing Native cultures throughout the United States lead workshops, presentations and art shows yearly. *Satwiwa*, which means "the bluffs," was the name of a nearby Chumash village. To reflect this heritage, Satwiwa Native American Indian Culture Center and Natural Area was established by the National Park Service in partnership with the Friends of Satwiwa. The **Chumash Indian Museum** is a historical site and living history center. It is "dedicated to restoring and preserving an awareness of the Chumash people and their historical, cultural, material and present-day influence, as well as the natural environment and historical significance of this site." The museum has a Chumash replica village.

## NEARBY RECREATION AREAS

Many Native villages were located within what is now **Topanga State Park**, which dots the canyons and peaks of the Santa Monica Mountains. Over 30 miles of trails take visitors through grassland, oak forests and cliffs overlooking the Pacific Ocean. Grinding depressions in the bedrock can be found within the park.

Located in the high desert near Agua Dulce Springs, the **Vasquez Rocks Natural Area and Nature Center** is known for its spectacular rock formations. It is a popular

hiking, picnicking and equestrian area. The dramatic landscape has been used in many hit movies, television shows and commercials.

**Whittier Narrows Recreation Area** is the site of Mission San Gabriel Arcángel's first construction, primarily built with forced labor from the Tongva village of Yaanga. The mission was constructed along the Río Hondo in the Whittier Narrows that flooded there in February. The mission was rebuilt at its current location in San Gabriel at the Tongva village of 'Isanchanga, using forced labor. Today, the Whittier Narrows Recreation Area offers nature hikes and tours and is a popular birding location. At the southwest corner of North San Gabriel Boulevard and North Lincoln Avenue, a plaque marks the site of the first mission.



### Topanga State Park

- 20825 Entrada Road, Topanga, CA 90290
- 310-455-2465
- [www.parks.ca.gov/?page\\_id=629](http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=629)



### Vasquez Rocks Natural Area and Nature Center

- 10700 Escondido Canyon Road, Agua Dulce, CA 91390
- 661-268-0840
- [parks.lacounty.gov/vasquez-rocks-natural-area-and-nature-center/](http://parks.lacounty.gov/vasquez-rocks-natural-area-and-nature-center/)



### Whittier Narrows Recreation Area

- 750 S. Santa Anita Avenue, South El Monte
- CA 91733
- 626-575-5526
- [www.parks.lacounty.gov/whittier-narrows-recreation-area](http://www.parks.lacounty.gov/whittier-narrows-recreation-area)





# Seashell People: The Chumash

(Malibu to Morro Bay)

[www.santaynezchumash.org/chumash](http://www.santaynezchumash.org/chumash)

The meaning of Chumash is frequently described as both Seashell People and bead makers. The National Park Service writes, The word Michumash, from which the name Chumash is derived, means “makers of shell bead money” and is the term mainland Chumash used to refer to those inhabiting the islands. For thousands of years, the ancestors of today’s Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Mission Indians of the Santa Ynez Reservation enjoyed the temperate climate and abundant harvests of California’s South Coast and Central Coast. Archeological evidence places the Chumash civilization throughout Ventura, Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo counties. These villages along coastal marshes, in oak woodlands, and on the four northern Channel Islands were among the largest settlements on the West Coast.

Chumash itself is thought to mean “bead maker” or “seashell people.” The coastal Chumash used shell beads as “alchum” as a kind of currency to trade with other tribes and made beautiful jewelry and baskets. One group living in the Channel Islands called themselves Chumash, and the Spanish applied the name to all of the villages throughout this 4,000-square-mile area.

Traditionally, the Chumash were skilled at making long wooden canoes called *tomols*, from which they hunted sea mammals and fished. This skill is being reborn throughout Chumash communities. In tidal zones, shellfish such as abalone and mussels were collected, and acorns and plants were gathered inland. Deer and other animals were hunted into the Santa Monica Mountains. Many Chumash still collect and use traditional plants and animals as food and medicine and continue to make beautiful jewelry.

The Chumash were skilled astronomers, and petroglyphs and tree carvings such as the Scorpion Tree arbor glyph, which was discovered in 2006 in San Luis Obispo County, are evidence of the careful study of the night sky for agriculture, navigation and ceremony ([chumashscience.com](http://chumashscience.com)). The Portuguese and Spanish explorers

Photo: Chumash Casino Resort



made contact with the Chumash as early as the 1540s. European accounts tell of friendly meetings with the Chumash and Spanish admiration of Chumash skills and society structures. However, the Spanish colonization after the Anza Expedition would change Chumash culture forever.

The Chumash were forced to adopt Catholicism and Spanish traditions. From 1771 to 1804, the Chumash were enslaved to build El Presidio de Santa Barbara and Franciscan missions on Chumash lands at present-day Ventura, Santa Barbara, near Lompoc, and Santa Ynez. In 1824, the Chumash at the Santa Barbara, La Purisima, and Santa Inez missions revolted against the Spanish but were defeated.

Many factors, such as violence, disease and malnutrition, significantly decimated the Chumash population. The Chumash continued to suffer after the United States took over California from Mexico in 1848. By 1900, by some estimates, it’s estimated that only 200 Chumash remained from a population that once numbered as many as 22-25,000 people in 150 different villages.

Despite the hardships, the Chumash survived, even as their homeland and former villages grew into booming cities such as Santa

Barbara and Malibu. Malibu gets its name from a Ventureño Chumash village named Humaliwo that overlooked Malibu Lagoon. *Humaliwo* translates as “where the surf sounds loudly” in the Ventureño Chumash dialect. In 1855, 127 acres near the Santa Ynez Mission were designated for the 100 remaining Chumash near the mission. This group of Chumash survivors became the Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Mission Indians of the Santa Ynez Reservation. It was federally recognized in 1901 and is currently the only Chumash Band to be federally recognized.

There are several tribes and bands seeking recognition. To learn more about them, visit their websites.

**Barbareño/Ventureño Band of Mission Indians**, [www.bvbmim.com](http://www.bvbmim.com)

**Barbareño Band of Chumash Indians**, [www.bbc-indians.com](http://www.bbc-indians.com)

**Coastal Band of Chumash**, [coastalbandofthechumashnation.weebly.com](http://coastalbandofthechumashnation.weebly.com)

**Chumash Council of Bakersfield**, [www.facebook.com/CICOCB/](http://www.facebook.com/CICOCB/)

**Kizh Nation/Gabrielino Band of Mission Indians**, [gabrielenoindians.org](http://gabrielenoindians.org)

**Northern Chumash Tribal Council**, [northernchumash.org](http://northernchumash.org)

**YTT Northern Chumash Tribe**, [yttnorthernchumashtribe.com](http://yttnorthernchumashtribe.com)





## Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Mission Indians

[www.santaynezchumash.org](http://www.santaynezchumash.org)

Members of the Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians of the Santa Ynez Reservation, who call themselves Samala, primarily labored on non-Chumash farms and ranches through the 1900s. Gaming has a long tradition in Chumash culture, and many Chumash villages had designated areas for games of skill and chance, called malamtepupi. Today, Native American gaming is protected under tribal sovereignty and provides revenue essential to tribal government operations such as education, health care, infrastructure development and cultural preservation. With new gaming and hospitality revenue, the Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians has been able to invest in other enterprises focusing on local food and hospitality, which is so ingrained in Chumash culture. New generations of Chumash are discovering and honoring their heritage. They're learning and revitalizing the Samala language using knowledge passed down by Maria Solares, a tribal member born in 1842. Solares' collaboration with linguist and ethnologist John P. Harrington documented and preserved much of what today's Santa Ynez Chumash know about the Samala language.

Tomol canoes are once again being constructed and crewed to reconnect the Chumash with the traditions of their ancestors. Ceremonial dances take place on bluffs overlooking the ocean, thanks in part to the efforts of the Wishtoyo Chumash Foundation and others dedicated to preserving and honoring Chumash knowledge and heritage.

## What to Do

The **Santa Ynez Chumash Museum and Cultural Center** is a 14,000-square-foot facility incorporating architecture reflecting Chumash culture. The design of the Museum includes the Welcome House, Heritage House, traditional Tule House, Samala Language House, and a Tomol House. The buildings combine to create a village and are oriented toward the west to honor the Chumash's identity as "the guardians of the western gate. The project will include a 3.5-acre cultural park featuring native plants the Chumash uses for food, medicine, and traditional crafts. The Seattle-based, award-winning Jones & Jones Architects designed the Museum. Founding partner Johnpaul Jones is Choctaw/Cherokee by heritage and served as lead design consultant for the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of the American Indian on the National Mall in Washington, D.C. The museum and cultural center presents the Tribe's collection of historic items, including Chumash baskets, pottery, cordage, obsidian knives, other tools and more. Tribal members can research their Samala language, and the cultural center presents Chumash history and traditions. Outside, the 3.5-acre park has an amphitheater for storytelling and other Chumash culture programs.

The Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians hosts its annual **Chumash Intertribal Powwow** on the first weekend in October on land near the tribe's reservation. The Tribe also celebrates **Chumash Culture Day** on the third Saturday in October, with California-style Native American singing, dancing, basket-weaving demonstrations and food.

## Where to Stay

The AAA Four-Diamond-rated **Chumash Casino Resort** is set within the rolling hills of the Santa Ynez Valley, about 30 miles northwest of Santa Barbara. The 320-room property includes a 12-story tower and 58 suites, and the rooftop pool has fire pits and sweeping views of the Santa Ynez Valley from its 15,000-square-foot deck. The spa has nine treatment rooms, wet and dry saunas and outdoor mineral pools for soaking after guests enjoy signature treatments such as the Chumash Herbal Heat Massage. Enjoy AAA Four Diamond fine dining at **Willows** with its 160-bottle wine wall. Known for its steaks and seafood, Willows sources its produce from local farms. A food court and **Grains & Grounds Eatery** are also available for fast bites. The casino surrounds the **Center Bar** and has table games, slots, poker and bingo. National music acts take the stage in the resort's **Samala Showroom**. Don't miss the sculptures and art in the foyer.

**Corque Hotel**, named in honor of the surrounding wine country, is a boutique hotel with 122 rooms, including luxury suites. The Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians purchased the former Royal Scandinavian Inn in 2007. They spent millions renovating the three-story property in 2009, touting its rustic yet modern design and excellent service. Apart from the typically Danish appointments of Solvang's other hotels, Hotel Corque's rooms include Mission Rooms with views of the Santa Inés Mission. Next door, its restaurant **Root 246** celebrates the wines and farms of Santa Barbara County through its award-winning farm-to-table dishes.



Photo: Chumash Casino Resort





### Santa Ynez Chumash Museum & Cultural Center

- 3500 Numancia Street
- Santa Ynez, CA 93460
- 844-427-3558
- [chumash.gov/museum](http://chumash.gov/museum)



### Chumash Intertribal Powwow and Chumash Culture Day

- 100 Via Juana Rd., Santa Ynez, CA 93460.
- 805-688-7997
- [www.chumash.gov/powwow](http://www.chumash.gov/powwow)



### Chumash Casino Resort

- 3400 East Highway 246, Santa Ynez, CA 93460
- 800-248-6274
- [www.chumashcasino.com](http://www.chumashcasino.com)



### Hotel Corque

- 400 Alisal Road, Solvang, CA 93464
- 805-688-8000
- [www.hotelcorque.com](http://www.hotelcorque.com)

## JUAN BAUTISTA DE ANZA NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL CAMP AND SITES

### The Santa Clara River Area – Expedition Camp #74

The Anza Party's 74th camp was along the Santa Clara River on February 23, 1776. Members were awed by the ocean views and the abundant waterfowl in the river's wetlands. In Ventura County, the Anza Party first came in contact with the Chumash after descending the Conejo Grade. In today's Ventura County, the party first met the Chumash. The **McGrath State Beach Campground** and **Santa Clara Estuary Natural Preserve** are near where Camp #74 is believed to have been.

### Coastal Parks and Beaches – Expedition Camp #75.

was established on February 24, 1776, in today's Santa Barbara County, just over the Ventura County border within today's **Rincon Beach Park**. After observing the Chumash building their ocean-going plank canoes, known as tomols, members of the 1769 Portola Party dubbed a nearby area La Carpintería (The Carpenter Shop), a name still in use for the city of Carpinteria and **Carpinteria State Beach**. The site of the camp is preserved in Rincon County Beach Park. Carpinteria State Beach offers Chumash interpretive programs.

## California State and County Beaches – Expedition Camp #76–78.

The Anza Party made its way along the Santa Barbara coast, making Camp #76 at the Chumash villages of Mescalitán near today's Santa Barbara Airport, **Goleta Beach County Park** and the U.C. Santa Barbara campus. The Spanish soldiers were impressed by this island in the middle of a bay heavily populated by natives. It reminded them of an Aztec legend that involved a similar island in Nayarit, Mexico, called Mexcaltitlan (pictured above). The soldiers called not only the island Mescalitlan but the whole Goleta Valley. Many early Spanish charts label the area as Mescalitlan.

The large, bustling Chumash village was reminiscent of the Nahuatl people there. The Chumash villages of Mescalitán are commemorated with a plaque on the Coast Route Trail at South Patterson Ave. and the Atascadero Creek Bikeway in Goleta. Camps #77 and #78 were also along the coast, and today's **El Capitán, Refugio, Jalama** and **Gaviota State Beach Parks** give access to a hint of what the Anza Party would have experienced along this section.

## Other Nearby Attractions

The Barbareño/Ventureño Band of Mission Indians are working on a site they call *sa'aqtiyo* (place where they sun themselves) in Ojai, California.

Halfway between Los Angeles and Santa Barbara, you will find the **Tataviam Interpretive Village** at **Rancho Camulos Museum**. Rancho Camulos is considered the "crown jewel" of Heritage Valley. The Rancho Camulos received a National Historic Landmark designation as the setting for Helen Hunt Jackson's epic 19th-century novel *Ramona*, published in 1884 and still in print today. *Ramona* is a love story between Ramona, a half-Indian girl, and a Native American sheep shearer. In a family chapel, brick winery, barn, bunkhouse, a second Colonial Revival-style adobe, a 1930 school-house and a 19th-century carriage house, you will find a Tataviam Native American village.

Reached after a scenic 0.3-mile walk in the **Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area**, the **Satwiwa Native American Indian Cultural Center**

## Anza Expedition Sites



### McGrath State Beach Park

- 5 miles south of Ventura off Highway 101 via Harbor Boulevard
- 800-777-0369
- [www.parks.ca.gov/?page\\_id=607](http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=607)



### Santa Clara Estuary

- Spinnaker Drive, Ventura, CA 93001
- 805-585-1850
- [visitventuraca.com/business/santa-clara-river-estuary/](http://visitventuraca.com/business/santa-clara-river-estuary/)



### Goleta Beach Park

- 5986 Sandspit Road
- Goleta, CA 93117-3903
- 805-968-1033
- [www.countyofsb.org/813/Goleta-Beach-Park](http://www.countyofsb.org/813/Goleta-Beach-Park)



### Gaviota State Beach Park

- Tour Guide Building, Isla Vista, CA 93117
- 805-585-1869
- [www.parks.ca.gov/?page\\_id=606](http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=606)



### El Capitan State Beach

- Off Hwy 101 seventeen miles west of Santa Barbara
- 805-968-1033
- [www.parks.ca.gov/?page\\_id=601](http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=601)



**Photo:** Satwiwa Native American Indian Culture Center



**Photo:** Chumash Tomol Crossing (NPS)



## Nearby Attractions

### Tataviam Interpretive Village at Rancho Camulos Museum

- 5164 E. Telegraph Road, Fillmore, CA 93015
- 805-521-1501
- [www.ranchocamulos.org](http://www.ranchocamulos.org)

### Satwiwa Native American Indian Cultural Center

- Rancho Sierra Vista. Satwiwa in Newbury Park, CA 91320
- 805-370-2301
- [www.nps.gov/samo/planyourvisit/satwiwa-native-american-indian-culture-center.htm](http://www.nps.gov/samo/planyourvisit/satwiwa-native-american-indian-culture-center.htm)

### Albinger Archaeological Museum

- 113 E Main St., Ventura, CA 93001
- 805-658-4726
- [www.cityofventura.ca.gov/1747/Albinger-Archaeological-Museum](http://www.cityofventura.ca.gov/1747/Albinger-Archaeological-Museum)

### Chumash Heritage National Marine Sanctuary

- Office of National Marine Sanctuaries
- West Coast Regional Office
- 99 Pacific St, Bldg. 10, Suite F, Monterey, CA 93940
- 831-647-1920
- Office of National Marine Sanctuaries ([noaa.gov](http://noaa.gov))

### Channel Islands National Park

- 1901 Spinnaker Drive, Ventura, CA 93001
- 805-658-5730
- [www.nps.gov/chis/learn/historyculture/nativeinhabitants.htm](http://www.nps.gov/chis/learn/historyculture/nativeinhabitants.htm)

### Chumash Indian Museum

- 3290 Lang Ranch Pkwy, Thousand Oaks, CA 91362
- 805-492-8076
- [www.chumashmuseum.org](http://www.chumashmuseum.org)



Photo: Wishtoyo's Chumash Village (Facebook)

honors the Chumash, Tongva and Gabrieliño history of the area. Thriving trade routes crisscrossed the Santa Monica Mountains, and *Satwiwa* is the name of a Chumash village and means “the bluffs.” The center is open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays, and a Native American docent or National Park Service ranger is on-site to interpret the area’s extensive Native American history and significance. Native American workshops, art shows and demonstrations occur annually, and a reconstructed Chumash house, called an *‘ap*, is on the grounds. The Center has an outdoor calendar with a list of events.

The Northern Chumash Tribal Council hosted a gathering on Indigenous People’s Day at Dinosaur Caves Park in Pismo Beach to celebrate the creation of the first tribal-nominated national marine sanctuary. NOAA’s Office of National Marine Sanctuaries designated the **Chumash Heritage National Marine Sanctuary** in central California on Indigenous Peoples Day, October 11, 2024. Encompassing 4,543 square miles, the sanctuary will protect important ecological habitats such as kelp forests, rocky reefs, sandy beaches, a seabird hotspot and significant offshore features, including the Rodriguez Seamount, Arguello Canyon and a portion of Santa Lucia Bank offshore of central California.

The designation recognizes the region and its abundant resources and that it was home

to coastal, ocean-going Indigenous Tribes for over ten thousand years. Designating this sanctuary highlights Chumash and other Indigenous cultures and creates opportunities to understand better and protect ancient village sites that may exist along the now-submerged paleo-shoreline.

In Ventura Harbor, the Robert J. Lagomarsino Visitor Center at **Channel Islands National Park** is the gateway for discovering the Indigenous cultures of the Channel Islands. Ranger-led tours and talks interpret the history of the Chumash and Tongva people who lived here and their





relationship with the ocean and surrounding environment. For thousands of years, people seasonally lived on and traveled to and from the Channel Islands via tomols and plank canoes made of redwood logs.

Tomols ranged from eight to thirty feet long and held three to ten people. Sharkskin was used for sanding, red ochre was used for staining, and abalone was used for inlay and embellishment. Today, the Chumash Maritime Association, in partnership with the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary and the Channel Islands National Park, continues the tradition of the tomol by conducting Channel crossings. Learn more about the Chumash Tomol Crossing.

Located next to Mission San Buenaventura in Ventura, Calif., the **Albinger Archaeological Museum** displays Chumash artifacts such as shell beads, arrowheads and bone whistles, as well as later evidence of European arrival with crucifixes, glass and pottery. On the museum's grounds, the remains of a Spanish mission's foundation and a replica Chumash earthen oven speak to the area's past. The museum is built upon what was once the Chumash village of *Mitz-kanakan* (place of the jaw), and many of its artifacts came from excavations of the museum's grounds.

The Chumash community holds classes on Chumash history and culture, broadening the public's awareness of the shared history. In addition to the Mission Period, the site has two prehistoric components, the oldest of which is 3,500 years old.

Learn about Chumash's past and present at the **Chumash Indian Museum**. Displays and events examine historical and present-day ways of life, and the outdoor living history museum includes a recreation of a Chumash village. The gift shop sells Chumash educational material and work created by Chumash artisans. Many people from the Chumash community worked to make the museum a reality. Paul Varela (Chumash/Tataviam/Serrano) was selected as the first museum director when the Center opened at the end of 1994. It was envisioned to maintain the Chumash culture and educate children and other public members. Visit the Chumash demonstration village or ask about the guided nature hike for group tours or a specific event. The Oakbrook Park Chumash Indian Corporation, a non-profit organization, manages and operates the museum and the surrounding 25 acres of interpretive trails in cooperation with the Conejo Park and Recreation District.

## Los Angeles County Attractions

The **Moompetam American Indian Festival** has been held at the Aquarium of the Pacific for over twenty years. This celebration features traditional cultural craft demonstrations, storytelling, music and dance. The festival celebrates Indigenous California maritime cultures, including Tongva, Chumash, Acjachemen, Costanoan, Luiseño and Kumeyaay. The Aquarium of the Pacific's mission is to instill a sense of wonder,

respect and stewardship for the Pacific Ocean, its inhabitants, and ecosystems.

The **Haramokngna American Indian Cultural Center** focuses on historical and contemporary Tribal culture. *Haramokngna* means "place where people gather." The center opened in 1998 with a Special Use Permit from the Angeles National Forest. Converted from a former fire station, it provides an exhibit space that tells the story of the five tribes of the San Gabriel Mountains: Tongva, Tataviam, Chumash, Kitanemuk and Serrano. Held annually on the first weekend in April at Malibu Bluffs Park, the **Chumash Day Pow Wow** brings together the Chumash and other tribes to sing, dance, socialize, and heal. In 2024, the City of Malibu will celebrate 24 years of hosting the Annual Chumash Day Powwow and Inter-tribal Gathering. This is a non-competitive powwow.

**Wishtoyo's Chumash Village** is an authentic recreation of a working Native American village on a four-acre historic site next to Nicholas Canyon County Beach in Malibu, on a bluff overlooking the Pacific Ocean. It is the only living Chumash cultural village in Southern California. Owned and operated by the Wishtoyo Chumash Foundation, the Wishtoyo Chumash Village preserves and promotes Chumash culture through its language program, *tomol* (canoe) construction and voyages to the Channel Islands, skills workshops such as traditional basket making, lecture series and other programs designed to educate Chumash youth and the public about Chumash culture. The Chumash Village is open for guided tours, programs, and presentations by appointment. On the site of an 8,000-year-old settlement, the village was constructed using traditional materials and techniques, and cultural events occur in the village overlooking the Pacific Ocean. The **Santa Monica Mountains Interagency Visitor Center** lies in the heart of the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area, bordering Malibu, in what was once the area of a Chumash village. The Visitor Center offers interactive exhibits and a 20-minute film about the area's history. The Visitor Center store carries an assortment of merchandise focusing on the Santa Monica Mountains, including a section devoted to Native Americans. Special programs and events are offered throughout the year. The Interagency Visitor Center is open Wednesday through Sunday between 9 am and 4 pm. A Park Ranger is on-site between 9 am and 4 pm.







### Aquarium of the Pacific

- 100 Aquarium Way, Long Beach, CA 90802
- 562-590-3100
- [www.aquariumofpacific.org/](http://www.aquariumofpacific.org/)



### Haramokngna American Indian Cultural Center

- Angeles Crest Hwy & Mt Wilson Red Box Road
- Azusa, CA 91101
- 626-449-8975
- [www.pukuu.org/services/haramokngna/](http://www.pukuu.org/services/haramokngna/)



### Chumash Day Pow Wow at Malibu Bluffs Park

- 24250 CA-1, Malibu, CA 90265
- 310-456-2489
- [www.malibuartsandculture.org/198/Chumash-Days](http://www.malibuartsandculture.org/198/Chumash-Days)



### Wishtoyo Chumash Village and Conservancy

- Nicholas Canyon County Beach Park
- 33904 Pacific Coast Hwy, Malibu, CA 90265
- 805-667-7818
- [www.wishtoyo.org](http://www.wishtoyo.org)



### Santa Monica Mountains Interagency Visitor Center

- 26876 Mulholland Highway, Calabasas, CA 91302
- 805-370-2301
- [www.nps.gov/samo/index.htm](http://www.nps.gov/samo/index.htm)

## Santa Barbara County Attractions

### Chumash Painted Cave State Historic Park

is a small state park that protects a sandstone alcove containing Chumash artwork, possibly 1,000 years old. The mineral-dye pictograph shows geometric designs and figures thought to express Chumash cosmology. State Parks has also worked with Barbareño Chumash elder Ernestine de Soto and the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History to provide accurate interpretive information about rock art and its importance to modern Chumash descendants. Take Highway 154 from Santa Barbara and turn right on Painted Caves Road. The cave is located on the left, about two miles up a steep, narrow road. The pullout at the site can only accommodate two vehicles. Trailers and RVs should not attempt the road.

Now part of **La Purísima State Historic Park** in Lompoc, **Mission La Purísima Concepción** was the 11<sup>th</sup> of 21 Franciscan missions established in what is today California. It was rebuilt in its current location after an earthquake destroyed an earlier mission complex in 1812. Reconstructed by the Civilian Conservation Corps in the 1930s, it's considered the most restored of the California missions, with ten original buildings, including its church, blacksmith shop and living quarters. The City of Lompoc was

the site of a large Chumash village, which means "lagoon" in the Purisimeño Chumash language. The mission has presented the Chumash Life program, which explores the ancestral and modern lives of the Chumash people. Free public guided tours of the historic grounds are offered Wednesday through Sunday at 1:00 p.m. and on Saturdays at 11:00 a.m. The tour begins at the visitor center and lasts about an hour and a half.



### Chumash Painted Cave State Historic Park

- CA-154, Santa Barbara, CA 93105
- 805-733-3713
- [www.parks.ca.gov/?page\\_id=602](http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=602)



### California Indian Museum and Cultural Center

- 5250 Aero Drive, Santa Rosa, CA 95403
- 707-579-3004
- [cimcc.org](http://cimcc.org)



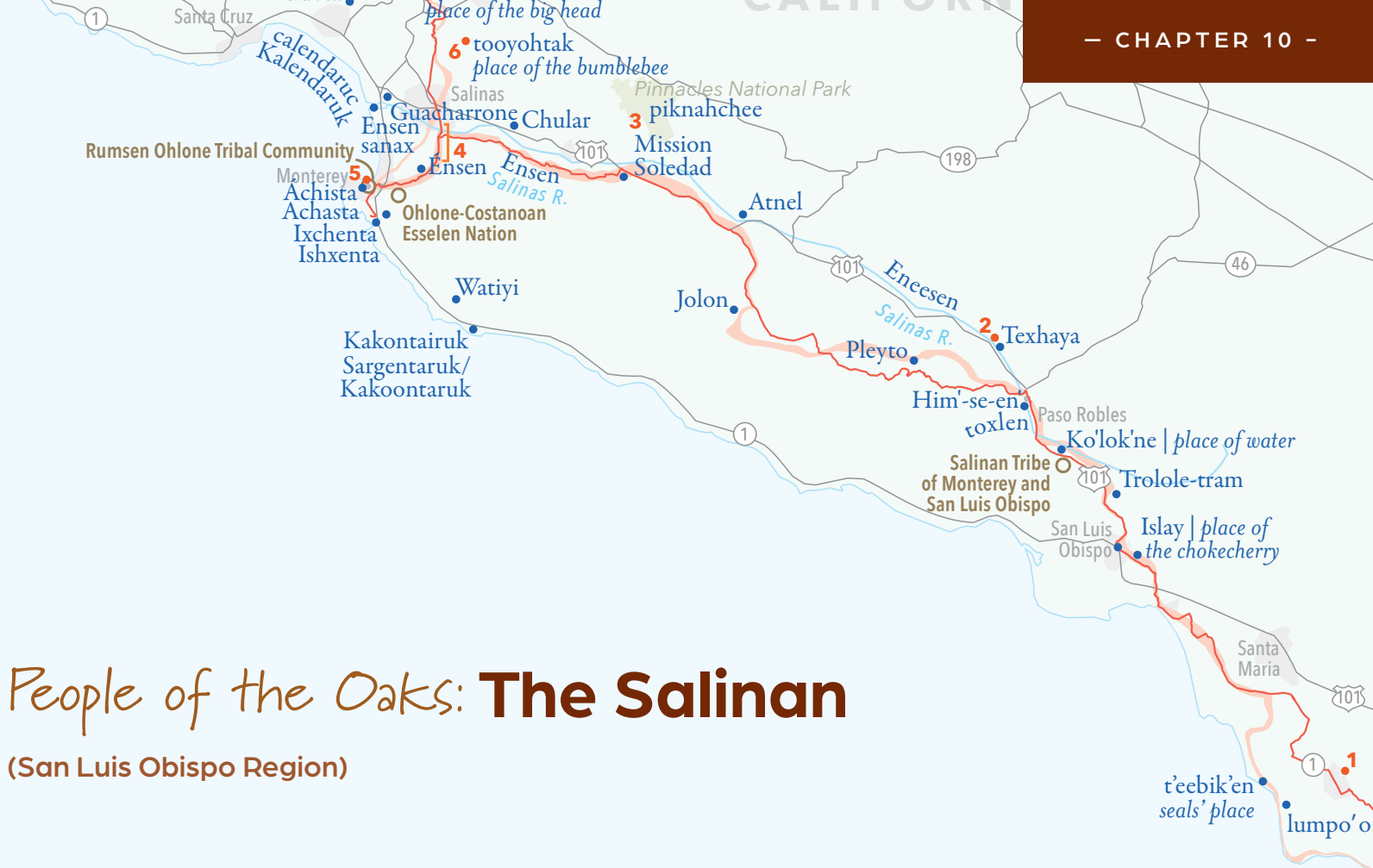
### La Purísima Mission State Historic Park

- 2295 Purísima Road, Lompoc, CA 93436
- 805-733-3713
- [www.parks.ca.gov/?page\\_id=598](http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=598)



Photo: Healthy Sequoia Grove (NPS)





# People of the Oaks: The Salinan

(San Luis Obispo Region)

Although this chapter focuses on the Salinan, much of this territory overlaps with the Chumash from the previous chapter. This section also includes the Central Valley and Sierra Nevada. The Salinan civilization thrived throughout current-day San Luis Obispo and Monterey counties, particularly Salinas River Valley. They fished and harvested shellfish along the coast and hunted and foraged along waterways and in forests farther inland. While their western name, Salinan, is taken from the Salinas River, they call themselves *T'epot'aha'l*, “People of the Oaks” in their Hokan family language. Traditionally, the Salinan lived in autonomous villages throughout the region. An estimated 3,000 Salinan lived in 150 villages in the 1770s. The Spanish divided the Salinan into two groups, assigning each group to a Spanish mission. The first group in the south was called the Miguelino after the **Mission San Miguel Arcángel** in today’s San Luis Obispo County. The second group was the Antoniano, named for the **Mission San Antonio de Padua** in today’s Monterey County. The Salinan language was spoken until the 1950s, and recordings made of the last fluent Salinan speakers are being used today to reconstruct and teach the language. Elders today work to teach younger generations the Salinan language, as well as stories and dances that came perilously close to being lost in the 1950s with the passing of the last native Salinan speakers.

Like many California tribes, the Salinan have a complex history with the Spanish missions. The Tribe is working toward gaining federal recognition. In 2000, 681 people identified as Salinan during the U.S. Census.

To learn more about the Salinan Tribe, visit their website, [salinantribe.com](http://salinantribe.com) and view the Tribe’s online gift shop.

## JUAN BAUTISTA DE ANZA NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL

### Guadalupe–Nipomo Dunes National Wildlife Refuge Camps #80

The Guadalupe-Nipomo Dunes National Wildlife Refuge protects 2,553 acres in a 20,000-acre coastal dune complex that stretches 18 miles from Point Sal to Pismo Beach. In addition to the refuge, other protected areas in these dunes include Oso Flaco Lake Natural Area, Rancho Guadalupe Dunes Preserve County Park, and Pismo Dunes Natural Reserve. The Guadalupe-Nipomo Dunes are home to many rare state and federally-listed plants and animals, as well as such large mammals as deer and mountain lions. A boardwalk trail leads past Oso Flaco Lake (named by the Portola Party in 1769 after they shot and ate a skinny bear) and to an unspoiled beach and Rancho Guadalupe Dunes Preserve features 550-foot-tall dunes—the tallest on the West Coast. Some of it is currently protected, including the National Wildlife Refuge, Oso Flaco Lake Preserve and Rancho de Guadalupe Dunes Preserve. A designated National Natural Landmark and one of the largest coastal dune systems on the west coast of North America, the refuge. The Dunes Center in Guadalupe explains this photogenic landscape’s natural and human history. Access to the protected dunes and shoreline requires a two-mile hike from the Oso Flaco Lake Preserve parking in San Luis Obispo County or at the shore of the Rancho-Guadalupe Dunes Preserve in Santa Barbara County. The Anza Party passed through this area on March 1.



### Pismo Beach and Expedition Camp #81

On March 1, the Anza Party camped at the Chumash village of El Buchón, which was in today's Price Canyon near Pismo Beach. The canyon is named for John Michael Price, founder of Pismo Beach, and you can visit his 1893 ranch house in the seven-acre **Price Historical Park**. The park is an official site on the Anza Trail, and its museum explains the Chumash, Salinan and Spanish history of the area and the development of Pismo Beach. Hiking and biking trails allow visitors to explore the scenic grounds.

### Mission San Luis Obispo de Tolosa Camp #82

The Anza Party camped on the grounds of **Mission San Luis Obispo** on March 2. The mission, built in 1772 alongside San Luis Obispo Creek, was where the colonists spent a day resting. Pedro Font baptized a Chumash boy, for whom Anza served as godfather. After leaving the Mission, the Anza party probably followed San Luis Obispo Creek northward.

### Santa Margarita River to Expedition Camp #83

Camp #83 was made along the Salinas River near Ferrocarril Road in Atascadero. In his diaries, Pedro Font writes about a Chumash village where the Anza Party met at the Santa Margarita River. That river is today's Santa Margarita Creek, mostly flowing through private land. The Anza Party followed the Santa Margarita River to the Salinas River, where they merged near today's Santa Clara Road, just south of Atascadero. Following the Salinas River north, Camp #83 was made at what Anza called "La Assumption" (today Asuncion) near Ferrocarril Road in Atascadero. The City of Atascadero has established two hiking trails that follow the Anza Party trail along the Salinas River. The south portion of the **Juan Bautista de Anza Trailhead** begins at Aragon Road, with 1.7 miles of accessible trail. The north portion begins at Sycamore Road and runs for six miles of easy-to-moderate trails.

public. Catholic services take place here, and the Mission is open every day of the year.

**Morro Bay State Park** protects 2,700 acres of wetland and estuary habitat important to marine life, waterfowl, and migratory birds. Morro Rock, a landmark with great cultural significance for the Chumash and Salinan peoples, commands entry to the bay. Visit the park's **Morro Bay Museum of Natural History** to see interactive exhibits focused on Native American cultural history and the bay's natural history. The park has sailing, fishing, hiking, and bird-watching opportunities. The park's Natural History Museum has exhibits that cover natural features and cultural history, Native American life, geology, and oceanography. The park also has a colorful marina and an 18-hole public golf course. The pristine saltwater marsh on the bay's northeast edge supports a thriving bird population.

**Hearst San Simeon State Park** and **Hearst San Simeon State Historical Monument** stretch over 20 miles along the San Luis Obispo County coast. The park comprises several units, including the Santa Rosa Creek Natural Preserve and San Simeon Natural Preserve, Pa-nu Cultural Preserve, Hearst Castle and Piedras Blancas Elephant Seal Rookery. The 13.7-acre Pa-Nu Cultural Preserve is a significant archaeological site that dates back nearly 6,000 years, documenting the early inhabitants of California.

Founded in 1797, **Mission San Miguel Arcángel** was built with Salinan labor and is California's sixteenth mission. Its location was chosen because it was meant to close the gap between Mission San Antonio to the north and Mission San Luis Obispo to the South. The original mission burned in 1806 and was rebuilt by 1821. It has been restored to its original appearance after falling into disrepair by the late 19th century and following severe damage in a 2003 earthquake. More than 1,000 Salinan lived and worked on the mission grounds until 1834, when California became part of Mexico, and the mission was secularized. The Salinan returned to their traditional homeland, which was later encroached upon by Mexican and American settlers. Today, Mission San Miguel Arcángel is open to the public and still holds Catholic services under the Diocese of Monterey. Its original frescoes, painted by Esteban Munras and other Salinan artists, can still be seen. According to Spanish records, the adjacent cemetery contains 2,249 Salinan graves. Reconstructed

## Nearby Attractions

The **Dana Adobe and Cultural Center**, or "Casa de Dana," is in Nipomo, about 25 miles south of San Luis Obispo. Opened for guided tours, the 1839 adobe is one of San Luis Obispo County's oldest residences. It was the home of rancher Captain William Goodwin Dana, his wife Maria Josefa Carrillo Dana and their large family. The grounds feature walking trails, a vineyard of Mission grapes, and the Chumash Garden, where you can see native plants.

The City of San Luis Obispo's namesake, **Mission San Luis Obispo de Tolosa**, was founded in 1772 by Father Junipero Serra. It is California's fifth mission. The Anza Party made its Camp #82 here. The Mission was built with help from Chumash laborers. In 1776, a fire in the thatch roof burned the buildings housing the priests and farm implements. This and other fires resulted in the Mission adopting adobe roof tiles. Although adobe roof tiles were first made at Mission San Antonio, they were perfected and mass-produced at Mission San Luis Obispo. During the 1830's, the Mission fell into disrepair. Known for its lush, historic gardens, it's California's only L-shaped mission and the only one to still hand-ring its bells for special events and holy days. Today, the mission is open for tours, and its small museum with a collection of Native artifacts and the gift shop are open to the

#### **Guadalupe-Nipomo Dunes National Wildlife Refuge**

- 1065 Guadalupe Street, Guadalupe, CA 93434
- 805-343-2455
- [www.dunescenter.org](http://www.dunescenter.org)
- [www.fws.gov/refuge/Guadalupe-Nipomo\\_Dunes](http://www.fws.gov/refuge/Guadalupe-Nipomo_Dunes)

#### **Price House Historical Park**

- 100 Rancho Pismo Dr., Pismo Beach, CA 93449
- [info@pricepark.org](mailto:info@pricepark.org)
- [www.friendsofpricehouse.com](http://www.friendsofpricehouse.com)

#### **Mission San Luis Obispo de Tolosa**

- 751 Palm Street, San Luis Obispo, CA 93401
- (805) 781-8220
- [missionsanluisobispo.org](http://missionsanluisobispo.org)

#### **Juan Bautista de Anza Trailhead**

- City of Atascadero & Atascadero Mutual Water Company
- N Ferrocarril Road, Atascadero, CA 93422
- 805-466-2428
- [www.amwc.us/anza](http://www.amwc.us/anza)





### Dana Adobe and Cultural Center

- 671 S. Oakglen Ave, Nipomo, CA 93444
- 805-929-5679
- [dana@danaadobe.org](mailto:dana@danaadobe.org)
- [www.danaadobe.org](http://www.danaadobe.org)



### Mission San Luis Obispo de Tolosa

- 751 Palm St., San Luis Obispo, CA 93401
- 805-781-8220
- [www.missionsanluisobispo.org](http://www.missionsanluisobispo.org)



### Morro Bay State Park and Morro Bay Museum of Natural History

- 20 State Park Road., Morro Bay, CA 93442
- (805) 772-2694
- [www.parks.ca.gov/?page\\_id=31273](http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=31273)



### Hearst San Simeon State Park and Hearst San Simeon State Historical Monument

- 500 San Simeon-Monterey Creek Road, Cambria, CA 93428
- 805-927-2035
- [www.parks.ca.gov/?page\\_id=590](http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=590)



### Mission San Miguel Arcángel

- 775 Mission St., San Miguel, CA 93451
- 805-467-3256
- [www.missionsanmiguel.org](http://www.missionsanmiguel.org)

Salinan items such as a willow-bundle canoe are displayed in its small museum, and a gift shop sells religious-themed art and crafts.

## The Yokut Tribes

The Yokut lived in what is now the San Joaquin Valley and the western foothills of the Sierra Nevada from the Sacramento Delta south to where Bakersfield is today, between the coastal mountains on the west and the Sierras on the east. At the time of contact with the Spanish, there were believed to be 50 to 60 Yokut Tribes in the Valley. The foothills of the Sierras protected the Yokut from Spanish military expeditions and helped many Yokuts escape capture and conversion at the missions. Following the discovery of gold in California in 1848, gold hunters and settlers flooded into the San Joaquin Valley and ran a ruthless campaign to drive the Yokuts off their land. Peter Burnett, Governor of the newly organized

state government, said that unless the Indians were moved east of the Sierras, “a war of extermination would continue to be waged until the Indian race should become extinct.” The state provided bounties on Native Peoples, \$5 a head or \$.25 for a scalp. The Yokut population was reduced by over 90%.

Federally recognized Tribes in California that are predominately Yokut include:

#### Tejon Indian Tribe of California

#### Tule River Indian Tribe of the Tule River Reservation

#### Tachi Yokut Tribe (Santa Rosa Rancheria)

#### Table Mountain Rancheria

#### Picayune Rancheria of Chukchansi Indians

The Anza Expedition came within 50 miles of the ancestral territory of the Yokut People. The Trail’s route passed relatively close to the western edges of the Yokut’s traditional lands in the San Joaquin Valley and the Sierra Nevada foothills through present-day San Benito and Monterey counties.

## Tejon Indian Tribe

[www.tejonindiantribe.com/](http://www.tejonindiantribe.com/)

Tejon Tribal ancestors lived in the foothills of the Sierra Nevada mountains along the southern tip of the San Joaquin Valley. They were known as the Kitanemuk People. The Spanish settlers called them “Tejon,” the Spanish word for “badger.” In addition to the Kitanemuk, the Tejon Indian Tribe includes Yokuts, Paiute, Tataviam, Tubatulabal and Chumash People.

In 1853, Tejon lands became the first Indian reservation in California, established by the Bureau of Indian Affairs Superintendent Edward F. Beale as the “Sebastian Indian Reservation” on what would later become part of the Tejon Ranch. Eventually, the reservation was dissolved, and tribal members were forced to move to the Tule River Reservation. In 1924, the Bureau of Indian Affairs filed a lawsuit against the United States to secure a small remnant of the Tribe’s homeland.

The Tribe finally gained federal recognition after more than a decade of petitioning the U.S. for recognition. The Tribe hosts an annual “**Honoring Our Ancestors” Pow Wow** on the weekend of the fourth Friday in September when California Indian Day is celebrated statewide. This annual pow-wow is held in Bakersfield.

Tejon Tribal Offices and Community Center at 4941 David Rd. in Bakersfield

The Tribe is building a Hard Rock Casino Hotel scheduled to open in 2025.



### “Honoring Our Ancestors” Pow Wow

- Tejon Community Center, 4941 David Rd, Bakersfield, CA 93307
- 661-834-8566
- [office@tejonindiantribe-nsn.gov](mailto:office@tejonindiantribe-nsn.gov)
- [www.tejonindiantribe.com](http://www.tejonindiantribe.com)

## Nearby Attractions

**Carrizo Plain National Monument** is located in eastern San Luis Obispo County, about 70 miles west of Bakersfield and 60 miles southeast of Santa Margarita. Access is from State Highway 58. The Plain is home to diverse wildlife and plant species communities, including several threatened or endangered species. This area is culturally significant to the Chumash. Most pictographs, or painted images, found on Painted Rocks are characteristic of the Chumash, who lived on the Channel Islands, central coast and interior region of California. The painting style of the Yokuts from the San Joaquin Valley also suggests their use of Painted Rock. The **Goodwin Education Center** has displays featuring the lands preserved in the Monument over thousands of years, from the Native American period to the more recent historic Mexican and European American settlement on the Plain.

The **Buena Vista Museum of Natural History and Science** in Bakersfield has a Native American Lifeways exhibit with an interpretive display featuring reproductions of full-scale Yokuts village structures constructed by the Native American Preservation Council of Kern County. The Lifeways exhibit also houses an extensive collection of artifacts from many Kern County sites and from the Department of Energy and California State University, Bakersfield collections.

**Kern County Museum’s** Native American education center, **Owtsan House**, offers a Native American program, including school tours and community events. Presentations on Native American life can be accompanied by acorn grinding.



## Tule River Tribe of California

[tulerivertribe-nsn.gov/history](http://tulerivertribe-nsn.gov/history)

The Tule River Tribe was uprooted twice, once from Sebastian Reservation below Bakersfield and then from Madden Farm in East Porterville. In 1873, an Executive Order of President Ulysses S. Grant relocated the Tule River Indian Reservation to where it is today. It became the homeland for the Tule River, Kings River, Owens River, Monache Cajon and other Bands of Indians. After the Owens Valley Indian War of 1863, more than 900 Owens Valley Paiutes were marched and moved to the Tule River Reservation.

Guests can enjoy various table games and slots at the Eagle Mountain Casino in Porterville. You can be entertained by top-name entertainers in the Casino's state-of-the-art event center. Hungry for a gourmet meal? Try the **River Steakhouse**, enjoy the buffet at the **Acorn Diner**, watch a sports game and have a bite at the **Redwood Taphouse** sports bar. Not sure what you want? Visit the **Cedar Food Court** and select from Italian, Asian or Mexican cuisine. In a hurry, stop at the **Yokuts Coffee House** and grab a beverage, salad, sandwich or freshly baked pastry.

The Tribe has two **Eagle Feather Trading Posts**, one in Porterville and one in Avenal. Gas prices are competitive, and the convenience stores sell locally sourced products, including Native Brand accessories, apparel and outdoor equipment. **Stoney Creek Barbeque** is located inside the Trading Post store in the foothills of Porterville, off Highway 190. Meats are cooked low and slow on-site using a unique blend of spices and smoked to perfection using local mountain oakwood from the Tule River Indian Reservation. The Trading Post in Avenal has **Krispy Krunchy Chicken** and a **Dog Run**.

**Painted Rock** is located on the Tule River Indian Reservation above Porterville in the Sierra Nevada foothills. The site, adjacent to the Tule River, includes bedrock mortars, pitted boulders, midden and pictographs in a rock shelter. The most prominent pictograph is that of the Yokut Hairy Man, a Bigfoot-like figure who is the subject of traditional Yokut stories. A female and a child accompany the Hairy Man. Camping is available with permission from the Tribe.



### Eagle Mountain Casino

- 1850 West St, Porterville, CA 93257
- 800-903-3353
- [www.eaglemntncasino.com](http://www.eaglemntncasino.com)



### Eagle Feather Trading Post 1, Porterville, Stoney Creek Barbeque

- 31267 CA-190, Porterville, CA 93257
- 559-202-0124
- [eaglefeathertradingposts.com/locations/eagle-feather-trading-post-1/](http://eaglefeathertradingposts.com/locations/eagle-feather-trading-post-1/)



### Eagle Feather Trading Post 2, Avenal Krispy Krunchy Chicken

- 40103 Highway 33, Avenal, CA 93204
- 559-386-5500
- [eaglefeathertradingposts.com/locations/eagle-feather-trading-post-2/](http://eaglefeathertradingposts.com/locations/eagle-feather-trading-post-2/)



### Painted Rock

- Porterville, CA 93257
- 559-781-4271

## Tachi Yokut Tribe

[www.tachi-yokut-nsn.gov/rancheria](http://www.tachi-yokut-nsn.gov/rancheria)

The Tachi Yokut Tribe has deep roots in the Central Valley, where they have lived for countless generations. “*Yokuts*” means people, and “*Tachi*” means mud duck. Historically, many Yokut lived along the lakeshore of Tulare Lake or Pa’ashi but were forced off by the U.S. Army and farmers. The Santa Rosa Rancheria was established in 1921 on about

40 acres of desolate farmland in Lemoore, California, surrounded by the Central Valley’s farmlands and rolling hills. Lemoore is almost exactly midway between Los Angeles and San Francisco. The Tachi Yokut opened the **Tachi Palace Casino Resort**, a seven-story hotel in Lemoore with 255 guest rooms and suites. Relax and unwind at the pool or enjoy body treatments at the Spa. Live music, concerts and events add excitement to your stay. The Resort offers several dining choices, including the **Market Place at Pork Chop Hill**, **Pho-Nominal Eats**, the **Sunset Sports Bar**, and other concessions. The Casino sponsors an annual **Sun Kissed Summer Festival** at the Granite Park Sports Complex in Fresno.

The recently renovated **Sequoia Inn** in Hanford is about 20 minutes from Tachi Palace Casino Resort. This pet-friendly, non-smoking Hotel offers all guests free parking, free internet, and complimentary coffee. It also features an outdoor pool, spa, exercise room, conference room and coin-operated laundry facilities.

The **Coyote Entertainment Center** is a new entertainment venue offering an 8-screen luxury movie theater with reclining seating, 30 state-of-the-art bowling lanes, a sports bar, an arcade with more than 40 games, a prize store, private party spaces and meeting rooms for corporate gatherings. The center has three dining venues: the **Red Bud Bar**, **Tachi Lanes Sports Bar** and a concession area for popcorn and snacks.

**Yokut Gas Station** is near the Tachi Palace Casino Resort. Grab a quick lunch or snack and refuel your vehicle with the electric charging stations or via the gasoline, diesel, or racing fuel pumps.



### Carrizo Plain National Monument Visitor Center

- Goodwin Education Center, 17495 Soda Lake Road, Santa Margarita, CA 93453
- 805- 475-2131
- [www.blm.gov/programs/national-conservation-lands/california/carrizo-plain-national-monument](http://www.blm.gov/programs/national-conservation-lands/california/carrizo-plain-national-monument)
- [www.blm.gov/visit/goodwin-education-center](http://www.blm.gov/visit/goodwin-education-center)



### Buena Vista Museum of Natural History and Science

- 2018 Chester Ave, Bakersfield, CA 93301
- [www.buenavistamuseum.org](http://www.buenavistamuseum.org)
- 661-324-6350



### Kern County Museum

- 3801 Chester Ave, Bakersfield, CA 93301
- [kerncountymuseum.org](http://kerncountymuseum.org)
- 661-437-3330





### Sequoia National Park Giant Forest Museum

- Mile 16, Generals Highway, Sequoia National Park, CA 93262
- 559-565-3341
- [www.nps.gov/seki](http://www.nps.gov/seki)

**Photo:** Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks (NPS)



### Tachi Palace Casino Resort

- 17225 Jersey Avenue, Lemoore, CA 93245-9760
- 866-472-5223 or 559-924-7751
- [www.tachipalace.com](http://www.tachipalace.com)



### The Sequoia Inn

- 655 Mall Drive, Hanford, CA 93230
- 559-582-0338
- [SequoiaInn@TachiPalace.com](mailto:SequoiaInn@TachiPalace.com)
- [www.facebook.com/SequoiaInnHotel/](https://www.facebook.com/SequoiaInnHotel/)



### Coyote Entertainment Center

- 17225-B Jersey Avenue, Lemoore, CA 93245
- 559-924-7751
- [www.coyote-ec.com/info](http://www.coyote-ec.com/info)



### Yokut Gas

- 17051 Jersey Avenue, Lemoore, CA 93245
- 559-925-2554
- [www.yokutgas.com](http://www.yokutgas.com)



### Sun Kissed Summer Festival at the Granite Park Sports Complex in Fresno

- 4000 N Cedar Ave, Fresno, CA 93726
- 559-375-1003
- [www.graniteparkfresno.com](http://www.graniteparkfresno.com)

## Nearby Attractions

Want an outdoor escape? The entrance to **Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks** is just 75 minutes from the casino resort. Tribes, including the Tachi Yokut and the Tejon, are culturally connected to this forested mountain region. From the entrance, you'll climb into the high country, where easy trails take you past such giants as the **General Sherman Tree** (the world's largest) and the General Grant Tree. The contiguous parks offer more than 800 miles of trails, including the summit of 14,505-foot Mount Whitney—the tallest point in the Lower 48. Or explore Crystal Cave, a marble cave filled with stalactites and stalagmites underground. Sequoia offers over 800 miles of hiking trails, including **Mount Whitney**, the tallest mountain in the contiguous United States at just over 14,500 feet and the **Crystal Cave**, an underground wonder. German botanist Stephen Endlicher named the coastal redwood trees Sequoia sempervirens in honor of Cherokee Chief Sequoyia or Sikwayi, who invented a phonetic alphabet of 86 symbols for the Cherokee language.

## TABLE MOUNTAIN RANCHERIA

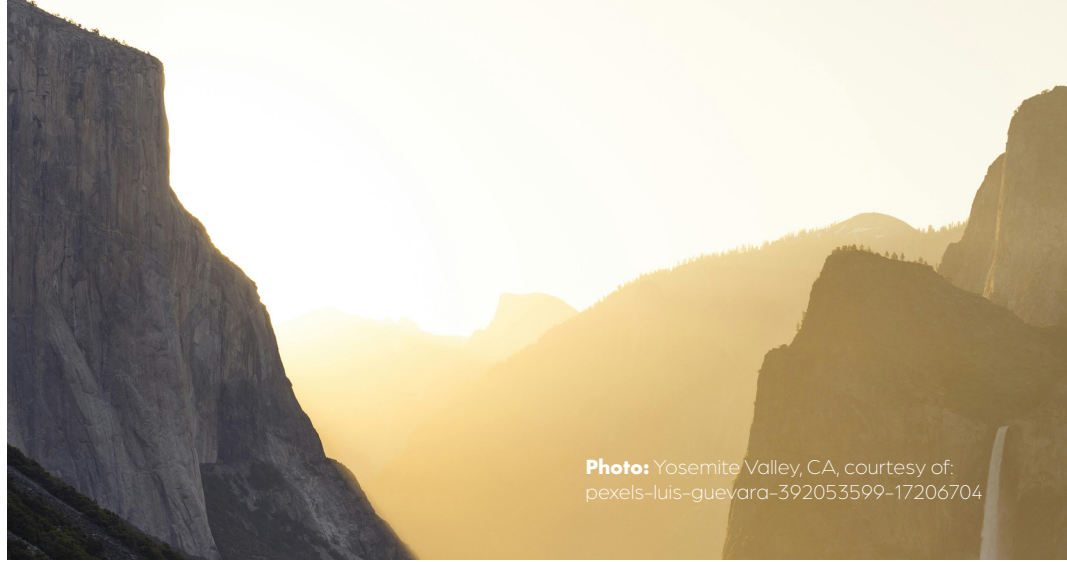
[tmcasino.com](http://tmcasino.com)

The 61-acre Table Mountain Rancheria is home to members of the Chukchansi Band of Yokuts and the Monache Tribe.

The **Table Mountain Casino Resort** offers 171 rooms with various suites and a fitness center for guests. Games include bingo, table games, slots and special promotions. The **Sukai Teppanyaki Grill** has a rooftop bar with panoramic views and outdoor seating just beyond their outdoor Japanese Garden. The **Eagles Landing Steakhouse** features a romantic view of the valley for any special occasion. **Blue Oak Grille** sports bar is a great place to watch sports on multiple screens while enjoying the food. For various choices, stop at the **Food Court** for Mangia Italian, 777 Tacos, Twisted Noodle, or Freddy's for frozen custard and steak-burgers. Concerts, dancing and top-tier entertainment are available every day.



In the foothills of the Sierra Nevada, **Eagle Springs Golf & Country Club** offers a retreat for golf enthusiasts and nature lovers. The 18-hole championship golf course weaves through rolling hills, oak trees and scenic water features, providing challenging play and breathtaking views. **Eagle Springs Cafe** serves a delectable array of dishes, from hearty breakfasts to lunches focusing on fresh, locally sourced ingredients. Enjoy the panoramic views of the golf course and surrounding landscape while you dine. The **Pro Shop** offers golf apparel, equipment, and footwear.



**Photo:** Yosemite Valley, CA, courtesy of: pexels-luis-guevara-392053599-17206704



#### Table Mountain Casino Resort

- 777 Jackpot Lane, Friant, CA 93626
- 559-822-7777
- 800-541-3637
- info@tmcasino.com
- tmcasino.com



#### Eagle Springs Golf & Country Club

- 21722 Fairway Oaks Lane, Friant, CA 93626
- 559-325-8900
- mbest@eaglespringsgcc.com, eaglespringsgcc.com/

## Picayune Rancheria of Chukchansi Indians

chukchansi-nsn.gov

The Picayune Rancheria of the Chukchansi Indians in Madera County is affiliated with the Chukchansi Yokuts culture, which is indigenous to Central California.

This group has occupied the San Joaquin Valley and Sierra Nevada foothills for over 12,000 years.

Picayune Rancheria is located in Madera County in central California. The Reservation was established by executive order in 1988. They struggled to buy back the land once stolen from them.

With more than 400 spacious rooms and luxury suites, the **Chukchansi Gold Resort & Casino** in Coarsegold is one of Central Valley's few casinos offering 40

Vegas-style table games, 2,000 slot machines and promotions. Enjoy entertainment at the **Chukchansi Outdoor Pavilion**. The tranquil **Serenity Springs Spa**, fitness center and luxurious indoor-outdoor pool are also available for guests.

Dining is always an adventure, whether you choose the **Vintage Steakhouse**, a three-time recipient of the Wine Spectator Restaurant Award of Excellence or **Nativos** with its breathtaking panoramas from its canopied terrace. The **California Market Buffet** is always a hit. Enjoy the home-style cooking at **'NOH?)? Cafe**. Its name is derived from the Chukchansi word for bear, symbolizing strength and warmth. Visit the **Gift Basket** for everyday necessities, Chukchansi Gold logo apparel, swimwear, sundries, souvenir gifts and offerings from the Picayune Native American Indian culture. Twenty electric vehicle charging stations are available on the first and fourth floors of the parking garage.

**Chukchansi Crossing Fuel Station & Travel Center** has 18 fuel pumps with four fuel grades and two electric vehicle charging stations. The convenience stores have a large selection of drinks, coffee and tea, hot dogs, sausages, nachos and cold sandwiches. The **Willow Glen Smoke Shop** offers a wide range of all-natural tobacco, premium cigars and Native American cigarettes. A **Sonic Drive-In** is located at the Crossing, with indoor dining and a drive-thru.

The Tribe welcomes singers, dancers, artists and the public to its homelands during October's annual **Chukchansi Pow Wow** at the Chukchansi Gold Resort & Casino. This largest cultural event of the year showcases traditional handmade regalia, singing, dancing, drumming, crafts and food.



#### Chukchansi Gold Resort & Casino

- 711 Lucky Lane, Coarsegold, CA 93614
- 866-794-6946
- info@chukchansigold.com
- chukchansigold.com



#### Chukchansi Crossing Fuel Station & Travel Center

- 32025 CA-41, Coarsegold, CA 93614
- Station: 559-335-4400,
- Smoke Shop: 559-335-4411,
- Sonic: 559-658-7664
- chukchansigold.com/more-information/chukchansi-crossing/



#### Chukchansi Pow Wow

- 711 Lucky Lane, Coarsegold, CA 93614
- 866-794-6946
- powwowinfo@chukchansigold.com
- chukchansigold.com/pow-wow-information



# Tribes of the Costanoan/Ohlone and Esselen Territory

(Monterey Bay to San Francisco Bay Region)

## Tribes of the Ohlone Territory

Stretching from the Monterey Bay region to the San Francisco Bay Area, the ancestors of today's Costanoan/Ohlone and Esselen people consisted of more than 50 tribes. They spoke eight languages. Tribes were distinct and autonomous, yet they shared related lifeways.

Beginning in 1769, the establishment of Franciscan missions, military presidios, and settlements that came with Spanish colonization, including Franciscan missions, military presidios and settlers, life for the Costanoan/Ohlone people changed drastically. Tribes, often called Ohlone in the 20th century, were forcibly removed from their ancestral lands and enslaved at the missions. Spanish farming and ranching techniques considerably altered the natural landscape and the diet of local Native peoples, making the Costanoan/Ohlone people dependent upon the missions for cultivated crops as food. More than 75 percent of all baptized Costanoan/Ohlone people died at the missions.

Mission records provide much of what is known about the Costanoan/Ohlone people before and during the early years of Spanish contact. Native peoples also use them to revitalize their culture and languages. Birth, marriage, and death records at the California missions provide information about their ancestors, including tribal identity and

location. Other historical documents also contain information on cultural elements, such as language, dance, and dress.

Like other California Indians, the Costanoan/Ohlone peoples became impoverished after the missions closed in the mid-1830s and continued to be marginalized when California became a state in 1850. While some Costanoan/Ohlone could retain their community and culture, others were less fortunate. In the 1960s, American Indians regained political momentum, and many of the Costanoan/Ohlone Tribes have since reasserted their sovereign rights as First Peoples. Today, there are several Tribes, Tribal organizations, families, and individuals within the Costanoan/Ohlone territory. Some are listed below.

**Amah Mutsun Tribal Band,**  
[www.Amahmutsun.org](http://www.Amahmutsun.org)

**Confederated Villages of Lisjan,**  
[www.Villagesoflisjan.org](http://www.Villagesoflisjan.org)

**Esselen Tribe of Monterey County,**  
[www.esselentribe.org](http://www.esselentribe.org)

**Muwekma Ohlone Tribe,**  
[www.muwekma.org](http://www.muwekma.org)

**Ohlone/Costanoan Esselen Nation,**  
[www.ohlonecostanoanesselenation.org](http://www.ohlonecostanoanesselenation.org)

**Ramaytush Ohlone,** [www.ramaytush.org](http://www.ramaytush.org)

**Costanoan Rumsen Carmel Tribe,**  
[www.Costanoanrumsen.org](http://www.Costanoanrumsen.org)

**Tamien Nation,** [www.tamien.org](http://www.tamien.org)

Photo: Linda Yamane In Tule Boat

"Costanoan" is used to identify a family of related languages. Costanoan originates from the word "*Costanoan*," which is used to identify a family of related languages. Costanoan originates from the Spanish word *costaños*, which means "people of the coast." Ohlone is often used as a substitute for Costanoan, although not all Native peoples living in this language-family area use either term. The eight Costanoan languages include Awaswas, Chalon, Karkin, Mutsun, Rumsen, Chochenyo, Ramaytush and Tamien.

## Anza Attractions

### Mission San Antonio de Padua Camp #85

As the Anza Expedition approached the Monterey Bay region in March 1776, winter gave way to pleasant spring weather. Journal entries detail excitement and relief as colonists entered their journey's final weeks. The Anza Expedition crossed the San Antonio River (just west of what is now the San Antonio River) and made camp at **Mission San Antonio de Padua** on March 6, 1776. Construction of the mission began in 1771, and today, it is an active parish of the Diocese of Monterey. Its museum interprets the Salinan culture and the members forced to build and work at the mission. The mission has exhibits on the life of the local Salinan people, interprets the Salinan culture, and commemorates the members forced to build and work at the mission.



### Mission San Carlos Borromeo del Río Carmelo Camp #89

The expedition arrived at Mission San Carlos Borromeo del Río Carmelo on March 11, 1770. Construction began on the mission in 1770 and was completed in 1797. Mission San Carlos fathers missioned tribal members who spoke the Esselen and Southern Costanoan Rumsen dialects. Father Junípero Serra, a controversial figure because of the Spanish mission system's negative impact and abuse of Native Americans, is buried here. While records show that he supported harsh tactics in forced conversions of Native Americans to Catholicism, he also wrote the *Representación*. This document protected Native Americans from abuse by soldiers and placed them under the protection of the mission as indentured servants. In 2015, Saint Junipero Serra was canonized. While controversial for some, the canonization was both protested and attended by Native peoples from all over California. Catholic readings were proclaimed in Native languages. The **Carmel Mission Basilica** is an active church and a sacred site for many cultures today.

### Salinas and Expedition Camp #91

While the colonists remained at Monterey, Anza sent an exploratory troop to San Francisco. They camped near Natividad Creek Park, where a wayside interpretive panel describes the indigenous use of native plants. It can be found on Laurel Drive (accessible via Highway 101) at Constitution Boulevard.

### Chitactac-Adams Heritage County Park and Expedition Camp #92

On March 24, 1776, a camp was made at Llagas Creek in Morgan Hill. Along the way, many Natives (and a village) were encountered. **Chitactac-Adams Park**, located 6 miles west of Gilroy, was the site of a Mutsun village named *Chitactac*, which means “place of dance.” The park provides proof of the community village along the beautiful Uvas Creek through concentric circle petroglyphs and bedrock mortars. The tribal members here were missioned into Mission Santa Cruz. An interpretive shelter focuses on how the Mutsun kept their culture alive throughout the centuries (i.e., through stories, arts, music, family, food, language, etc.). Reproductions of domed tule-reed homes, duck decoys, baskets made of reeds, and bone tools are displayed. A self-guided walk leads visitors through the park's history. Interpretive signs explain the Mutsun's many uses of plants and trees and

display how the Mutsun people respectfully managed the land along the creek to sustain a village for many generations.

### Mission San Carlos Borromeo del Río Carmelo

- 3080 Rio Road., Carmel, CA 93923
- 831-624-1271
- [www.carmelmission.org](http://www.carmelmission.org)

### Mission San Antonio de Padua

- End of Mission Road, Jolon, CA 93928
- 831-385-4478
- [www.missionsanantonio.net](http://www.missionsanantonio.net)

### Chitactac-Adams Heritage County Park

- 10001 Watsonville Rd, Gilroy, CA 95020
- 408-842-2341
- [education@prk.sccgov.org](mailto:education@prk.sccgov.org)
- [parks.sccgov.org/santa-clara-county-parks/chitactac-adams-heritage-county-park](http://parks.sccgov.org/santa-clara-county-parks/chitactac-adams-heritage-county-park)

## Nearby Attractions

### (Monterey & Santa Clara Counties)

Centuries before their forced relocation, the territory of the Chalon included today's **Pinnacles National Park**. This volcanically formed area has many natural shelters and is home to various trees, plants and animals. Evidence of the presence of the Mutsun and Chalon people includes depressions in the rocks where acorns and seeds were ground into flour. The nuts from the large pinecones of the gray pine were an important food source. The park is home to California condors, making this a popular destination for bird and wildlife watchers who can explore more than 30 miles of hiking trails and climb through mountains and cave systems. Members of the Amah Mutsun Tribal Band and Chalon Indian Nation volunteer, work and participate in eco-cultural restoration projects at Pinnacles. The ancestors of these people managed the land and its resources through sophisticated, non-agricultural practices that included weeding, pruning, sowing seeds and selective harvesting.

Following the expedition, **Mission San Juan Bautista** was established in 1797. Named after Saint John the Baptist, it was the 15th of the California missions. Structurally, it is the largest of California's missions, with three aisles. Mutsun, Chalon

and some Rumsen villages were relocated to the mission, and for some, it became the only life they knew. By 1803, mission records show 1,036 people from several Costanoan villages lived at the mission complex.

Mission San Juan Bautista gained the nickname the “Mission of Music” for its renowned choir, composed of Mutsun, Chalon and Rumsen choir boys. The mission's museum houses choir books with color-coded notes and other artifacts of daily life, such as kitchen implements. The mission's cemetery records 4,000 graves, mainly of the Mutsun, Chalon and Rumsen people.

Before she died in 1930, Amah Mutsun elder Ascencion Solorsano de Cervantes shared many stories, family histories and Mutsun language from the community with Bureau of American Ethnology Linguist John Peabody Harrington, and these records have been instrumental in the Tribe's petitioning for federal recognition. Solorsano is buried in the mission's cemetery. Just a mile to the south, a trailhead for the **Juan Bautista de Anza Historic Trail** is accessed and follows Old Stage Coach Road through the rolling hills of San Benito County.

**San Juan Bautista State Historic Park** encompasses Mission San Juan Bautista, its central plaza and several buildings dating to the early 1820s after Mexico's independence from Spain. The Plaza Hotel, Zanetta House/Plaza Hall, Plaza Stables and Castro-Breen Adobe are open to the public and are now museums explaining life during these times. The first level of the Plaza Hotel was built in 1792 and housed Mutsun laborers building Mission San Juan Bautista. It later served as the barracks for Spanish soldiers assigned to the mission before eventually serving as a stagecoach stop in the 1870s known for its dining room. Within the park is the **Mutsun Garden**, a heritage garden developed with the Amah Mutsun Land Trust, which shows native plants that were and are vital to Ohlone life.

**Ishxenta State Park**, the site of the Rumsen village it is named for, was established to preserve and protect an area of cultural significance and incredible biodiversity. Located on the northern Big Sur Coast and formerly known as the Point Lobos Ranch, the park contains one of the world's largest native Monterey Pine forests, examples of the rare Gowen cypress and areas of rare maritime chaparral plant community. The property and surrounding public lands





**Photo:** CA Parks Monterey State Historic Park

provide mountain lion habitat and protection for steelhead trout spawning grounds. Public access is available via guided tours with California State Parks staff and partner agencies.

The **Monterey State Historic Park** includes the **Pacific House Museum** and walking trails throughout downtown Monterey. The two-story adobe houses the Holman Collection of Native American Artifacts dating back 4,000 years. Extensive displays also feature traditional and modern examples of Rumsen Ohlone culture, including practices like basketry. Artifacts include pottery, clothing, beadwork, baskets and other art created by Plains, Southwest and California cultures. A large mural depicts Ohlone/Rumsen culture and the arrival of the Spanish.

Before Spain colonized California, Indigenous people along the Central Coast used tule boats for fishing in the wetlands, rivers and coastal waters. The **Monterey Bay Aquarium Bay** has a handcrafted boat on display, like those used by the Rumsen and Ohlone people. Linda Yamane, a member of the Rumsen Ohlone Tribal Community, an artist, historian and Seaside resident, constructs these boats. She's built more than 30 over the past 20 years — one of many ways she has, over more than three decades, helped keep alive the culture of her ancestors and their ways of living sustainably from the land and sea.



**Photo:** Tule Boat Monterey Bay Aquarium

The Juan Bautista de Anza Trail passes through **Fort Ord National Monument**, and the grounds are one of the best examples of what the Monterey area looked like pre-European contact. Before Fort Ord, there were intermarried ancestral Costanoan and Esselen Indians. The lands are still used for traditional activities. Basketmaking was still a tradition during Anza's passage through the area, and a wayside exhibit interprets the use of native plant materials. Established by the Bureau of Land Management and opened to the public in 2012, **Fort Ord National Monument** has more than 86 miles of trails allowing hikers, cyclists and equestrians to explore its 14,658 undeveloped acres of coastal forests, chaparral and rolling hills.

The Ohlone people (also known as "Costanoan") lived in this **Fremont Peak State Park for thousands of years**. The number of native people varies, but ethnographers estimate there were at least 50 villages. Residents of these villages spoke different dialects of the Penutian language. Visitors and campers can picnic, watch birds among the pine and oak woodlands, or walk along four miles of moderate trails.

With the advent of the Hispanic Empire's expansion into Alta California, in 1769, the first mission established in the Santa Clara Valley, **Mission Santa Clara de Thámien**, was established at a site located along the Guadalupe River (Thámien Rúmmeytak) by Franciscan Padres Thomas de la Pena and Joseph Antonio Murguía, on January 12, 1777. At the Indian village of Soco-is-u-ka (Place of the Laurel Trees), they erected a cross and shelter for worship to bring Christianity to our local Thámien Ohlone-speaking Tribes. Although many authors have spelled Tamien without the letter "h," Santa Clara University archivist/historian Arthur D. Spearman, however, in his earlier publication titled *The Five Franciscan Churches of Mission Santa Clara*, provided the following historic excerpt from a letter from Father Peña to Father Serra:

-  **Pinnacles National Park**
  - 5000 Highway 146, Paicines, CA 95043
  - 831-389-4486
  - [www.nps.gov/pinn](http://www.nps.gov/pinn)
-  **Mission San Juan Bautista**
  - 406 2nd St., San Juan Bautista, CA 95045
  - 831-623-2127 (Office)
  - 831-623-4528 (Gift shop)
  - [www.missionscalifornia.com/san-juan-bautista-mission](http://www.missionscalifornia.com/san-juan-bautista-mission)
-  **San Juan Bautista State Historic Park**
  - 19 Franklin Street, San Juan Bautista, CA 95045
  - 831-623-4881
  - [www.amahmutsunlandtrust.org/the-mutsun-gardens/shxenta-State-Park](http://www.amahmutsunlandtrust.org/the-mutsun-gardens/shxenta-State-Park)
-  **Ishxenta State Park**
  - Formerly Point Lobos Ranch property
  - 562 CA-1, Carmel-By-The-Sea, CA 93923
  - 831-649-2836
  - [www.parks.ca.gov/?page\\_id=569](http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=569)
-  **Pacific House at Monterey State Historic Park**
  - 10 Custom House Plaza, Monterey, CA 93940
  - 831-649-7118
  - [www.parks.ca.gov](http://www.parks.ca.gov)
-  **Monterey Bay Aquarium**
  - 886 Cannery Row, Monterey, CA 93940
  - 831-648-4800
  - [www.montereybayaquarium.org/stories/boats-connect-monterey-history](http://www.montereybayaquarium.org/stories/boats-connect-monterey-history)
-  **Fort Ord National Monument**
  - Toro Creek Road., Marina, CA 93933
  - 831-582-2200
  - [www.blm.gov/visit/fort-ord-national-monument](http://www.blm.gov/visit/fort-ord-national-monument)
-  **Fremont State Park**
  - 10700 San Juan Canyon Road
  - San Juan Bautista, CA 95045
  - 831-623-4255
  - [www.parks.ca.gov/?page\\_id=564](http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=564)
-  **Mission Santa Clara de Asís & de Saisset Museum at Santa Clara University**
  - 500 El Camino Real, Santa Clara, CA 95053
  - 408-554-4023
  - [www.scu.edu/missionchurch](http://www.scu.edu/missionchurch)
  - [www.scu.edu/missionchurch/historical-information](http://www.scu.edu/missionchurch/historical-information)



“The site of the Mission, which in the language of the natives is called Thámien, is a plain stretching more than three leagues in every direction, pleasant to behold, with much land for irrigation of crops and extensive areas for raising cattle. There is an abundance of Ash, Alder, White Poplar, Red Willow, Laurel, black and live Oaks. Initially identified in the mission records at its founding, Mission Santa Clara de Thámien, later changed to de Asís, was established soon after the arrival of the Anza Expedition and completed in 1777. The third, fourth and fifth missions are located on the grounds of Santa Clara University, California’s oldest university (founded in 1851). It stands on the ancestral heritage site of a Thámien village now named by the Muwekma Ohlone Tribe Širkeewis Riipin Tiprectak, meaning Place of the Black Willow Marsh Site. The Muwekma Ohlone Tribal ancestors were forced to build the mission, farm and ranch its fields. The Thámien blended with other neighboring Ohlone-culture tribes that were assigned to the mission as well. Today, these descendants are members of the Muwekma Ohlone Tribe, working toward federal recognition.

Mission research says the Indians were not forced to join the mission but were persuaded to convert. At first, there was a trickle, but then more Native Peoples joined during times of drought and food scarcity. The rub came when they wanted to leave; those who did attempt to leave were rounded up and returned by force.



**Photo:** Tule boat by Linda Yamane on display at the De Saisset Museum

The **De Saisset Museum at Santa Clara University** contains many artifacts dating to the Spanish Period. The Tamyen story is in its permanent exhibit, *California Stories from Thámien to Santa Clara*. The collection includes many artifacts and photographs from the past; a new exhibition features additional artifacts and historical objects as well as contemporary replicas, murals, and

other features that tell the story of the Santa Clara Valley, the establishment of Santa Clara University, and the continued presence of the Ohlone people. New additions include two large murals of Ohlone life before the arrival of the Spanish, a life-size tule boat, and several baskets created by Ohlone artist Linda Yamane.

## The Mutsun and Chalon Peoples

San Benito County is part of the traditional homeland of the Mutsun and Chalon people, two of eight groups that comprise the Ohlone people. Ohlone is a collective name for the separate yet related civilizations that spoke six distinct languages at the time of Spanish arrival: Chochenyo, Ramaytush, Tamyen, Thámien (San Francisco Bay Costanoan), Mutsun, Rumsen, Chalon, and Karkin.

Mutsun lived in the San Juan Valley and the Pajaro River Basin for thousands of years before the Spanish period of colonization began in the late 1700s. The area was rich with marshlands and water from the San Benito and Pajaro rivers and creeks. These were lands with plentiful grasslands and oak forests, and Mutsun People tended the plant communities for food, basketry materials, and other needs. The Mutsun ensured a sustained yield of plant and animal foods by carefully managing the lands, a responsibility given to them by the Creator. After the arrival of the Spanish, cattle were introduced into the grasslands and the marshlands were drained for European-style agriculture, drastically changing the landscape and the Mutsuns’ diet.

Today’s Amah Mutsun Tribal Nation members are descendants of the Mutsun and Awaswas people who were forced to build and relocate to Mission San Juan Bautista and Mission Santa Cruz. The tribe has approximately 600 enrolled members and continues to seek federal recognition.

The Ohlone/Costanoan-Esselen Nation in Monterey County is also pursuing federal recognition. Today, many descendants of the Chalon live near Bakersfield in Kern County, where the Chalon Indian Nation is also seeking federal recognition. Even as these cultures were being suppressed, priests at the Spanish mission carefully recorded everything from languages to births. These records and information passed down through Tribal elders, are used today to help reestablish Tribal communities and gain federal recognition.

## Nearby Attractions

**Mt. Umunhum** is where the Amah Mutsun Band of the Ohlone Indians believe they were created. The Ohlone word “*Umunhum*” means the “resting place of the hummingbird.” The hummingbird is an essential figure in their creation story. Thousands of years before Europeans arrived, Native Americans who lived near San Jose would come to the summit of Mount Umunhum to pray and cultivate medicinal plants. Today, they can return. A ceremonial circle of stones has been built for prayer thanks to a “cultural conservation easement,” a deal is a model for other tribes looking to re-establish access to their ancestral lands. The Ohlone people never lived on the peak; they used to climb its summit for prayer. The mountain’s towering elevation is 3,486 feet, the fourth tallest peak in the Santa Cruz Mountains. San Jose has two **Muwekma Ohlone Tribute** artworks. On Park Street, artists Peter Shiffrian and Todd Andrews created sculptures important to their traditions on the Park Avenue Bridge. The Coyote, the Hummingbird and the Eagle are part of the Muwekma Ohlone creation story. The Coyote was the father of the human race, responsible for creating people and teaching them how to live correctly. The hummingbird was wise and clever. The eagle was a leader. The second tribute is a colorful mural by Carlos Perez. It is a visual tribute to the Ohlone creation myth. The murals wrap around a service building at Seven Trees Community Center featuring hummingbirds, coyotes and water.

**El Palo Alto Redwood Tree** – the tall tree (stick) – is the name given to this redwood that stands 110 feet high and is over 1,000



**Photo:** Eagle sculpture Muwekma Ohlone Tribute



years old. The City of Palo Alto is named for this tree. It was revered by the area's Ohlone culture and recorded by Don Gaspar de Portolá in 1769 during his search for Monterey Bay. In 1776, Father Pedro Font included it on his map of San Francisco Bay during the Anza Expedition. It is within the half-acre El Palo Alto Park along San Francisquito Creek. A trail connects Palo Alto and Menlo parks.

On Mother's Day weekend in May at Stanford University, the **Stanford Powwow** began in 1971 to celebrate the University's Native American students and the Muwekma Ohlone land upon which the university is built. The Muwekma Ohlone Tribe blesses the "Powwow Grounds" each year. Categories of men's and women's Native dance include Northern and Southern Traditional, Jingle, Fancy, Grass, and Chicken, and elders participate in the Golden Age Women and Men's categories. A special presentation honors Native graduates and a special Mother's Day Honor Song is performed. Additionally, a 5K fun run/walk event is held. Stanford Powwow clothing can be purchased in person at the vendor's market, where Native artists from across the Americas (North and South) display and sell their artwork.

Anza and his exploratory party traveled east along the southern end of San Francisco Bay, entering today's Alameda County near **Mission Peak Regional Preserve**. They encountered many Chochenyo-speaking Ohlone villages, and both Anza and Father Font wrote in their journals that while all the encounters were peaceful, some Chochenyo welcomed and accepted small gifts such as beads. In contrast, others were fearful of the Spaniards and avoided contact.



**Photo:** Mural painted by Amy Hosa in collaboration with Ohlone artist Linda Yamane.

**Filoli Historic House and Garden** sits on the ancestral homeland of the Lamchin, an independent Tribe of the Ramaytush Ohlone people. The organization is working with the Association of Ramaytush Ohlone to create the new **Lamchin Interpretive Center**, which will share the story of the first people of the San Francisco Peninsula. The Interpretive Center will have a new trail, expanding access to the 650-plus acres of natural land surrounding Filoli's iconic House and Garden.

The **Sánchez Adobe Visitor Center Historic Site** in Pacifica shares the Ohlone Indian, Spanish and Mexican history of California. The Aramai were one of many tribal groups of a larger group known as the Ramaytush Ohlone. The Aramai lived in two primary villages, the larger of which was the Pruristac and was located in the area where the Sanchez Adobe stands today. The Center has a mural of the Pruristac village painted by Amy Hosa in collaboration with Ohlone artist Linda Yamane.

The **Misión San Francisco de Asís (Mission Dolores Basilica)**, dedicated in 1791, is the oldest intact building in San Francisco. The cemetery and gardens are planted with traditional native trees, flowers, and other plants, and an Ohlone ethno-botanic garden contains plants traditionally used for food and materials. Commonly called Mission Dolores because of the nearby Dolores Creek, it is the most original of the 21 missions of the California Mission System. It has taken great effort in the past few years to incorporate its Native American history into its narrative. The Mission Dolores adobe chapel contains a mural painted by Ohlone

artists in 1791. The mural covers the rear wall of the building. The mass grave of the Mission Indians buried here is called the Grotto of Our Lady of Lourdes Shrine.

The **Emeryville Shellmound** is the largest of more than 400 shellmounds throughout the San Francisco Bay Area, many of which have been destroyed. Shellmounds are hills of shellfish that contain burial sites made by the Chochenyo. The Emeryville Shellmound was part of a Chochenyo village on Temescal Creek that is believed to be almost 3,000 years old. Shortly after the arrival of the Anza Party, the villagers were forcefully moved to area missions. An amusement park was built atop the site in 1877, and an industrial plant operated there from 1924 to 1999 when it was removed. Contaminated soil was removed, and remains were found and reinterred on the site at an undisclosed location under the supervision of an Ohlone "Most Likely Descendent" (MLD) assigned by the California Native American Heritage Commission. Despite protests, the current Bay Street Shopping Center was built atop the site, with a re-creation of the shellmound built as a memorial across the street from the Sonesta Emeryville Oakland hotel. Stone markers around the circular memorial list significant dates and facts relating to the site, representing a small fraction of the shellmound. Although historically misidentified as "shellmounds," the archaeological evidence indicates that they were constructed over several thousand years as monumental territorial markers and mortuary mounds where the remains of the wealthy elites, craft specialists and fallen warriors were buried. They essentially represent the pyramids for the dead.



The Relocation Act of 1956 provided funding to improve employment opportunities for Native Americans by moving them from reservations to cities for vocational training. It established relocation centers for Native Americans in urban areas like Denver, Chicago, Los Angeles and San Francisco and financed the relocation of individual Native Americans and their families. Between 60,000 and 70,000 out-of-state Native Americans settled in Los Angeles and San Francisco. These cities now have two of the largest urban Native American populations in the United States.

The **San Francisco Board of Supervisors** designated the **American Indian Cultural District**. Cultural districts are geographical areas within San Francisco that embody a unique cultural heritage. The American Indian Cultural District is in what is now known as the Mission Neighborhood. The office is near Alcatraz along the water at the Fort Mason Center for Arts & Culture. This Hub is a collective working space for multiple San Francisco-based American Indian organizations.

Chochenyo gatherers found an abundance of shellfish, fish and crabs in estuaries, such as the one found at Crown Memorial State Beach's Crab Cove. As the largest sandy beach on San Francisco Bay, **Robert W. Crown Memorial State Beach** has been a popular recreation destination since it was developed in the 1880s. It was once called the Coney Island of the West for the carnival operated there, but it has been restored to a more natural state. The Elsie Roemer Bird Sanctuary and Crab Cove Visitor Center and Aquarium explain the area's natural history.

Photo: Wahpepahs Kitchen



The **West Berkeley Shellmound** is one of the most important and earliest known Ohlone settlements on the shores of San Francisco Bay. The shellmound sits within the territory of the Chochenyo people, a division of the Indigenous Ohlone. The village on the banks of Strawberry Creek dates back 5,700 years. It served as a burial and ceremonial ground, as well as a lookout and communications site, with the repository of shells, ritual objects and artifacts forming a massive mound. Today, the site is still an active place of Ohlone prayer and ceremony, and the burials remain under the surface of a paved parking lot. In July 2024, the land was transferred to the Ohlone-led Sogorea Te' Land Trust.

**'Ookwe Park**, an ancient Huchuin Ohlone Shellmound, is the first land the City of Richmond returned to the care of the Confederated Villages of Lisjan and Sogorea Te' Land Trust. 'Ookwe means medicine. The park features eleven granite boulders carved with symbols and stories from tribal members. "Those rocks, they're kind of a symbol of their connection to nature, the three important elements of nature: water, earth, and wind," explained Koyoto artist Masayuki Nagase, who worked with Ohlone elders to create his artwork.

With the purpose of "teaching the public about our beautiful, living culture," chefs Vincent Medina (Chochenyo Ohlone) and Louis Trevino (Rumsen Ohlone) create meals using ingredients traditional to the Ohlone culture at their restaurant **Café Ohlone by**

**Mak'amham** on the UC Berkeley campus. Diners enjoy the courtyard surrounded by gardens as they savor meals including dried rosehip and stinging nettle tea, local mussels and clams roasted with salty pickleweed and scallions in a seasonal umami-heavy caramelized chanterelles, bespeckled waxy quail eggs, and black oak acorn soup. Sweets like hazelnut milk chia porridge, hazelnut flour, and bay salt brownies finish the meals.

A scenic overlook in Oakland's Joaquin Miller Park has a new Chochenyo name—**Rinihmu Pulte'irekne**, meaning "Above the Red Ochre" as a result of the City of Oakland's return public land to the Sogorea Te' Land Trust through a cultural conservation easement. Oakland became the first city to convey all land ownership rights to a tribal group. At Rinihmu Pulte'irekne, the trust plans to hold ceremonies, restore native plants and create space for education and outreach. **Alameda Museum's** Native American Artifacts Display houses items excavated in 1908 from a shellmound that was destroyed to construct Santa Clara Avenue between High Street and Mound Street. Arrowheads, ornamental shell jewelry, bone tools, mortars and pestles speak to life in Alameda County before European arrival.

Chef Crystal Wahpepah of the Kickapoo Nation of Oklahoma was raised in Ohlone homelands in Oakland, Calif., and brings pan-Native cuisine to her seasonal menus at **Wahpepah's Kitchen**. Kickapoo Chili with Bison, Wild Rice Harvest Salad, Blue Corn Waffles, Wild Rice and Salmon Traditional





Mayan Amaranth Chocolate Cake are just a few of her inspired dishes. Wahpepah has been featured on the Food Network's *Chopped* and states that her mission is to serve excellent Native-inspired food while furthering Native rights, cultures and understanding. After years of offering catering-only services, she opened her first restaurant in late 2021. Murals painted by Votan Ik (Mayan/Nahua) and Leah "Povi" Lewis (Pueblo/Dine) of NSRGNTS and Tony Abeyta (Navajo) decorate the restaurant.

## Nearby Attractions



### Mount Umunhum

- 17100 Mt Umunhum Road Los Gatos, CA 95030
- 650-691-1200
- [www.sanjose.org/attraction/mount-umunhum](http://www.sanjose.org/attraction/mount-umunhum)



### Muwekma Ohlone Tribute (Park Street)

- Park Street Woz Way, San Jose, CA 95110
- 408-793-4330
- [www.sanjoseca.gov/Home/Components/FacilityDirectory/FacilityDirectory/3161/1396?](http://www.sanjoseca.gov/Home/Components/FacilityDirectory/FacilityDirectory/3161/1396?)



### Muwekma Ohlone Tribute

- 3590 Cas Drive, San Jose, CA 95111
- 408-793-4330
- [www.sanjoseca.gov/Home/Components/FacilityDirectory/FacilityDirectory/3122/1396?](http://www.sanjoseca.gov/Home/Components/FacilityDirectory/FacilityDirectory/3122/1396?)



### El Palo Alto Redwood Tree

- 117 Palo Alto Avenue, Palo Alto, CA 94301
- 650-329-2697
- [www.cityofpaloalto.org](http://www.cityofpaloalto.org)



### Stanford Powwow

- Eucalyptus Grove at Galvez and Campus Drives, Stanford, CA
- 650-723-4078
- [stanford-powwow@stanford.edu](mailto:stanford-powwow@stanford.edu)
- [www.stanfordpowwow.com](http://www.stanfordpowwow.com)



### Lamchin Interpretive Center at Filoli

- 86 Cañada Road., Woodside, CA 94062
- 650-364-8300 ext. 235
- [filoli.org/new-indigenous-led-initiatives-and-trail-access-at-this-historic-estate/](http://filoli.org/new-indigenous-led-initiatives-and-trail-access-at-this-historic-estate/)



### Sanchez Adobe Park Visitor Center

- 1000 Linda Mar Blvd., Pacifica, CA 94044
- 650-359-1462
- [www.smcgov.org/parks/news/discover-new-sanchez-adobe-visitor-center](http://www.smcgov.org/parks/news/discover-new-sanchez-adobe-visitor-center)



### Misión San Francisco de Asís (Mission Dolores Basilica)

- 3321 16th St., San Francisco CA 94114
- 415-621-8203
- [www.missiondolores.org](http://www.missiondolores.org)



### Emeryville Shellmound Memorial

- 5555 Shellmound Street, Southeast corner of Shellmound Street and Ohlone Way, Emeryville, CA 94608
- 510-596-4300
- [www.ci.emeryville.ca.us/699/Memorialization](http://www.ci.emeryville.ca.us/699/Memorialization)



### West Berkeley Shellmound

- 1900 Fourth St., West Berkeley, CA 94702
- 510-575-1098
- [info@rematriatetheland.org](mailto:info@rematriatetheland.org)
- [sogoreate-landtrust.org](http://sogoreate-landtrust.org)



### 'Ookwe Park

- S 27th St., Richmond, CA 94804
- [info@rematriatetheland.org](mailto:info@rematriatetheland.org)
- [sogoreate-landtrust.org](http://sogoreate-landtrust.org)



### Café Ohlone by Mak'amham

- 2430 Bancroft Way, Berkeley, CA 94704
- [www.makamham.com/cafeohlone](http://www.makamham.com/cafeohlone)



### Robert W. Crown Memorial State Beach

- 8th Street and Otis Drive, Alameda, CA 94501
- 510-544-3175
- [www.ebparks.org/parks/crown\\_beach](http://www.ebparks.org/parks/crown_beach)



When **Andrew A. Galvan** (Ohlone, Bay Miwok, Plains Miwok and Patwin Indian) was named the curator of San Francisco's famed **Old Mission Dolores** in 2004, he became the first American Indian to oversee a California mission. His challenges were many, including presenting a comprehensive, objective and critical interpretation of history—a telling that, up until that point in time, had frequently misinterpreted or even ignored the contributions of his Ohlone descendants, whose ancestral homes were located throughout the San Francisco Bay Area.

"Proudly, I will tell anyone who will listen that the missions were built by Indians and for Indians. There is much that has been neglected in the telling of the history of the Mission Indians. Because of the Spanish invasion, the Native world was overwhelmed. The introduction of foreign plants and animals dramatically damaged the environment. The flu and measles epidemics were very destructive. It was a time of survival and my ancestors came into the missions to survive," said Galvan.

"It is comparatively easy to point out mistakes and simple to indicate errors. It is different and difficult to correct those mistakes and to supplant those errors with critical truth. Such is the task before all of us who study and write about the Alta California Franciscan Missions. It must be realized that such an accomplishment is necessarily slow, tedious and painstaking," Galvan once wrote, echoing a sentiment that runs strong through most interpreters of Native American history. Galvan's efforts have focused on developing ways to preserve information about America's ancient past for the benefit of future generations.





### Rinihmu Pulte'irekne (Sequoia Point)

- 10909 Skyline Blvd., Oakland, CA 94611
- 51-575-1098



### Alameda Museum

- 2324 Alameda Ave., Alameda, CA 94501
- 510-521-1233
- [www.alamedamuseum.org](http://www.alamedamuseum.org)



### Wahpepah's Kitchen

- 3301 East 12th St., Suite #133, Oakland, CA, 94601
- 510-698-4067
- [www.wahpepahskitchen.com](http://www.wahpepahskitchen.com)



### American Indian Cultural District, Fort Mason Center

- 2 Marina Blvd. Building D, Suite 230, San Francisco, CA 94123
- [americanindianculturaldistrict.org](http://americanindianculturaldistrict.org)

## Anza Attractions

### Mountain Lake Camp #95

After traveling up the San Francisco Peninsula, Anza and a small expedition of men made camp at Mountain Lake on March 27-28, 1776 — in today's **Presidio of San Francisco**. The 2.7-mile-long trail passes through scenic natural areas with views of the Pacific Ocean and San Francisco Bay. The Anza Trail has four designated scenic viewing areas in the Presidio: the Lobos Valley Overlook, Pacific Overlook, Golden Gate Overlook, and Immigrant Point Overlook.

The **Lobos Valley Overlook** is a great end or start to the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail, which also connects to three other scenic overlooks.

**Immigrant Point Overlook** is a stunning vista point overlooking the Pacific Ocean. It is set in a well-designed stone plaza with places to sit or enjoy a picnic.

**Pacific Overlook** is beautiful; however, the nearest bathrooms are half a mile away, and no parking lot exists. The beach is a 10-minute walk.

**Golden Gate Overlook** offers spectacular views of the Golden Gate Bridge. Wooden benches in a curved concrete plaza provide a comfortable place to rest and enjoy the view.

This final destination for the Anza Expedition was Ramaytush Ohlone homeland. The Presidio of San Francisco was

established as a Spanish military post to secure California for the Spanish Empire. It was their northernmost outpost in western North America. By March 23, the main body of the Anza Expedition rested at the Monterey Presidio, while a small group led by Anza ventured ahead to choose the expedition's final destination and site of the San Francisco Mission and Presidio. Visitors can walk 2.7 miles, following the route Anza and his expedition took from their original campsite at Mountain Lake to the Golden Gate. The Center has interactive exhibits, touchscreens, maps, books, a large park model, and 12 trails to explore. The National Park Service works alongside Ohlone/Costanoan groups to preserve and interpret their ancestral sites in the Presidio.

### De Anza Park, San Lorenzo Creek Camp #98

Anza and his men camped along San Lorenzo Creek, then called Arroyo de la Harina, on March 31, 1776. Today, the site is Hayward City Park, also known as de Anza Park. Anza writes, "Today in passing, we have seen six villages, whose inhabitants, not accustomed to seeing us, fled like wild beasts. Notwithstanding this, about forty heathen have come close to us, and I have given them presents. The last one whom we encountered discovered us about forty paces away, and although less than five steps from where he was, there was a place where he might have hidden, such was his terror that he lay down in his tracks...I tried to relieve his fright and to get him to stand up, but for a long time, I was unable to succeed...I thought it best to leave the unfortunate fellow alone." A small park and interpretive display at the corner of Foothill Boulevard and City Center Drive in Hayward commemorates this day.

### Camp #101

The camp has a plaque on the east side of the fishing pier that commemorates a friendly exchange with members of a Bay Miwok village that happened nearby on April 3, 1776. The fishing pier is open 24 hours daily, year-round. Depending on the season, fish caught from the pier include striped bass, channel catfish, Sacramento pike, sturgeon, steelhead, and salmon. A fishing license is required for all anglers aged 16 or older.

Before and after the American takeover of California (1846-1848), several Muwekma Ohlone rancherias were established on Californio rancho lands in the East Bay as refugees due to the hostility of Americans towards California Indians. At least six

Muwekma Indian rancheria communities emerged and were maintained as refuges during the 19th and early 20th centuries in the East Bay. These rancherias were located at San Leandro/San Lorenzo ("The Springs"), Alisal near Pleasanton, Sunol, Del Mocho in Livermore, El Molino in Niles, and later a settlement in Newark. These rancherias principally became the only safe havens where ex-missionized Indians could live.

The direct ancestors of enrolled Muwekma lineages resided on and cultivated the San Leandro/San Lorenzo Rancheria lands. Two brothers, Silvestre Avendano and Ancioto, applied for an 1853 land claim on behalf of the Muwekma Ohlone Indians residing there under the U.S. Land Claims Commission. Still, they were denied title to those lands and access to the freshwater creeks.



### The Presidio of San Francisco

- 1750 Lincoln Blvd., San Francisco, CA 94129
- 415-561-5300
- [www.presidio.gov/trails/juan-bautista-de-anza-national-historic-trail](http://www.presidio.gov/trails/juan-bautista-de-anza-national-historic-trail)



### Lobos Valley Overlook

- 14 Wedemeyer Street, San Francisco, CA 94129
- 415-561-4323
- [presidio.gov/explore/attractions/lobos-valley-overlook](http://presidio.gov/explore/attractions/lobos-valley-overlook)



### Pacific Overlook

- California Coastal Trail, San Francisco, CA 94129
- 415-561-4323
- [presidio.gov/explore/attractions/pacific-overlook](http://presidio.gov/explore/attractions/pacific-overlook)



### Golden Gate Overlook

- Langdon Court, San Francisco, CA 94129
- 415-561-4323
- [presidio.gov/explore/attractions/golden-gate-overlook](http://presidio.gov/explore/attractions/golden-gate-overlook)
- PHOTO (PATH & OCEAN): [presidio.gov/explore/attractions/golden-gate-overlook](http://presidio.gov/explore/attractions/golden-gate-overlook)



### Immigrant Point Overlook

- Washington Blvd, San Francisco, CA 94129
- 415-561-4323
- [presidio.gov/explore/attractions/immigrant-point-overlook](http://presidio.gov/explore/attractions/immigrant-point-overlook)



### De Anza Park

- 22373 N 3rd Street, Hayward, CA 94541
- 510-881-6700
- [www.hmdb.org/m.asp?m=28815](http://www.hmdb.org/m.asp?m=28815)



Photo: Courtesy of California State Parks, 2024.

# Miwuk and Pomo Indian Tribes

**Wassama Round House State Historic Park** preserves the traditional meeting place of the Southern Sierra Miwok people. Local Native Americans use this site as a ceremonial meeting place. The park features special events and tours. Gathering Days, held annually on the third Saturday of October, include dancing, crafts and basket-weaving demonstrations.

The entrance to **Yosemite National Park** in the Sierra Nevada is less than an hour from Coarsegold. The Native American presence in Yosemite dates back nearly 4,000 years. The Ahwahneechee, a Southern Sierra Miwok group, were the primary inhabitants, living in the Yosemite Valley for centuries. However, Tribes like the Yokuts and Central Sierra Miwoks, who lived in the San Joaquin Valley and central California, visited Yosemite to trade and intermarry. The National Park Service evicted the Native people living in the park and destroyed the village as part of a fire-fighting exercise. A reconstructed “**Indian Village of the Ahwahnee**” sits behind the **Yosemite Museum**, next to the Yosemite Valley Visitor Center. The Yosemite Museum, next to the Yosemite Exploration Center, has displays that interpret the cultural history of Yosemite’s traditionally associated tribes. Seven associated tribes still actively use the Indian Village.

Part of the Southern Sierra Miwok’s traditional homeland, iconic Yosemite National Park is the home of the Village of Ahwahnee. Behind the Yosemite Museum is a reconstruction of Ahwahnee, with traditional bark-covered homes and later European-influenced cabins. Sweathouses, ceremonial roundhouses and the Captain’s Houses were found throughout Yosemite.

## Wassama Round House State Historic Park

- 42877 Round House Road, Ahwahnee, CA 93601
- 209-742-7625
- [www.parks.ca.gov/?page\\_id=586](http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=586)

## Yosemite Museum and the Indian Village of the Ahwahnee in Yosemite Village

- Yosemite Museum, Village Drive, Yosemite Valley, CA 95389
- 209-372-0200
- [www.nps.gov/yose/learn/historyculture/indian-village-of-the-ahwahnee.htm](http://www.nps.gov/yose/learn/historyculture/indian-village-of-the-ahwahnee.htm)

## The Miwok/Me-Wuk Tribes

While San Francisco was the terminus for the Anza Expedition, the arrival of Spanish colonists rippled far beyond the Anza Trail. Miwok Villages were moved to support Spanish missions, including Mission Dolores in San Francisco and Mission San José in Fremont. Even though subsequent Mexican and American colonization greatly impacted and diminished the Miwok population and homelands, Miwok communities have worked hard to survive and maintain their cultures.

The vast Miwok civilization enjoyed lifestyles similar to the other Tribes and Bands in

California. They lived in autonomous villages and interacted peacefully with others throughout the coastal and mountainous region north of San Francisco Bay. Miwok villages dotted the coast north of the Bay, the Clear Lake Basin inland, and the Sierra Nevada Range valleys and mountains, including Yosemite National Park.

Today, 11 Miwok Tribes are federally recognized, and several more seek recognition within 30 to 100 miles of the Anza Trail.

### Chicken Ranch Rancheria of Me-Wuk Indians

### Tuolumne Band of Me-Wuk Indians of the Tuolumne Rancheria

### California Valley Miwok Tribe

### Buena Vista Rancheria of Me-Wuk Indians

### Jackson Rancheria of Me-Wuk Indians

### Ione Band of Miwok Indians of Ione, California

### Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians, Shingle Springs Rancheria

### United Auburn Indian Community of Auburn Rancheria

### Wilton Rancheria Indian Tribe

### Middletown Rancheria (members of this tribe are of Pomo, Lake Miwok, and Wintun descent)

### Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria





## Chicken Ranch Rancheria of Me-Wuk Indians

chickenranchtribe.com/home

The Chicken Ranch Rancheria Me-Wuk Indians of California lived in the Sierra Nevada foothills. The Rancheria has been reduced to a few acres below the southeastern face of Table Mountain.

**Chicken Ranch Casino Resort** is located off Highway 108 in Jamestown, CA, just two hours from San Francisco International Airport and near the entrance to Yosemite National Park. The casino offers slots, table games and bingo. Enjoy the **Perch Rooftop Dining** with spectacular views of the area. The Chicken Ranch Casino Resort partners with The Fruit Yard Amphitheater, which hosts quality concerts and events for the community.

The Tribe's historic **Jamestown Hotel** evokes the days of the California Gold Rush. Located in Tuolumne County, the hotel is conveniently located an hour from Yosemite National Park, area wineries, skiing and other attractions.

### Chicken Ranch Casino

- 16929 Chicken Ranch Rd, Jamestown, CA 95327
- 209-984-3000
- chickenranchcasino.com

### Fruit Yard Amphitheater

- 7948 Yosemite Blvd, Modesto, CA 95357
- 209-577-3903

### The Jamestown Hotel

- 18153 Main St., Jamestown, CA 95327
- 209-984-3902
- www.thejamestownhotel.com

## Tuolumne Band of Me-Wuk Indians

mewuk.com

### Black Oak Casino

This casino, hotel and RV park features an indoor action park, live entertainment in the **Willow Creek Lounge**, dining at **Seven Sisters**, a Wine Spectator Award of Excellence-rated restaurant, and the **Black Oak Café**. The family can enjoy **Elevate**, the indoor action park with a trampoline area, multi-sport simulators and a junior jumpers zone. Shop for handcrafted jewelry made by Tribal elders from the Tuolumne Band of Me-Wuk

Indians at the **Gift Basket** boutique. These one-of-a-kind pieces are made with metal and seed beads, stone, glass, and shells.

### Black Oak Casino

- 19400 Tuolumne Road North, Tuolumne CA 95379
- 877-747-8777
- www.blackoakcasino.com

**The Bear Creek Station** convenience store has 12 fueling stations, a car wash and a Mexican food kiosk.

### Bear Creek Station

- 19380 Tuolumne Rd N, Tuolumne, CA 95379
- 209-928-9552
- www.blackoakcasino.com/amenities/bear-creek-station

### Annual Acorn Festival

The typical Me-Wuk village consisted of umachas (cedar bark homes), chakkas (acorn granaries) and a hangi (ceremonial roundhouse). The Tuolumne Band of Me-Wuk Indians continues to celebrate the significance of acorns to their culture at this annual festival held during the second weekend of September. It features cultural demonstrations, traditional foods, dance and Native American vendors.

## Buena Vista Rancheria of Me-Wuk Indians

www.buenavistatribe.com

Buena Vista Rancheria of Me-Wuk Indians, located in the Sierra Nevada foothills, is a federally recognized Indian Tribe that has lived in and around Amador County for thousands of years. The Mission Period, Gold Rush and diseases reduced the Buena Vista Band to a few families.

Opened in 2016, the **Upusani Cultural Center** honors and shares the culture, history, and traditions of the Buena Vista Rancheria of Me-Wuk Indians, whose ancestors came from the village of Upusani. Upusani is the village name. On Memorial Day every year, **Louie and Annie's Memorial Day Comeback** celebrates the return of Tribal members to their land and the establishment of the Buena Vista Rancheria of Me-Wuk Indians. Area Tribes attend and enjoy dancing, food, music, raffle contests, and children's activities.

**Harrah's Northern California Casino** in Amador County is a short drive from Sacramento. Operated by the Buena Vista Rancheria of Me-Wuk Indians, the casino has slot machines and table games, with quick bites at its Marketplace restaurants or fine dining at **Louie Oliver's** Restaurant and Bar, named for the modern founder of the Tribe. The bar features monthly drink specials celebrating local growers and supporting local charities.

### Harrah's Northern California Casino

- 4640 Coal Mine Rd., Ione, CA 95640
- 866-915-0777
- www.norcal-fun.comwww.buenavistatribe.com/upusani.html

## Jackson Band of Me-Wuk Indians

www.jacksoncasino.com/tribal/history/

The Jackson Band of Miwuk Indians is based in Jackson, in Amador County, approximately 45 miles southeast of Sacramento. The Tribe's reservation is part of the traditional territory of the Miwuk people, who historically inhabited the central Sierra Nevada region and the surrounding foothills.

The Tribe holds various ceremonies throughout the year to mark important events and seasonal changes. One of the most significant

Photo: Buena Vista Rancheria





events is the traditional **Bear Dance**, held in the spring, the season of rebirth and renewal. It is also when the bears emerge from their hibernation and the natural world emerges from its winter dormancy. Dancers wear traditional regalia that include bear claws, fur, and other regalia that symbolize the bear. The dance movements portray the bear's power and grace. Elders and cultural leaders share stories about the bear. Traditional foods like acorn soup, venison, salmon, trout, nuts, and berries are served. The Bear Dance is primarily a tribal event.

The **Jackson Rancheria Casino Resort** in Amador County is a luxury hotel and RV park. Dine at the Lone Wolf Restaurant, the Pacific Grill or Margaret's Cafe and Bakery.



#### Jackson Rancheria Casino Resort

- 12222 New York Ranch Rd., Jackson, CA 95642
- 800-822-9466
- [www.jacksoncasino.com](http://www.jacksoncasino.com)

### Ione Band of Miwok Indian

[sionemiwok.net](http://sionemiwok.net)

The Ione Band of Miwok Indians is composed of Northern Sierra Miwok and Nisenan peoples. For thousands of years, their people have lived on today's lands that make up Amador County and the

surrounding area. The arrival of the Spanish brought significant changes to their way of life, which became even worse with the discovery of gold in California in 1848. Settlers flooded the region in the heart of the Mother Lode, an area famous for its gold mining history. Despite these challenges, the Miwok people adapted and continued to survive. Following their restoration to federal recognition in 1994, the Tribe has worked tirelessly to acquire and restore the lands they once called their own to sovereign status.

The Ione Band of Miwok Indians has a special relationship with the **Chaw'se Indian Grinding Rock State Historic Park**. A significant cultural site for the Miwok and other tribes, the park hosts special programs, festivals, artist demonstrations and special events in collaboration with the Ione Band of Miwok Indians. Chaw'se, which means "grinding rock" in the Miwok language, gets its name from the numerous mortar holes found in the large outcroppings of limestone made by the Miwok for grinding acorns and other seeds. Guided tours at Chaw'se Indian Grinding Rock State Historic Park are often led by tribal members or park rangers knowledgeable in the Miwok people's history, culture and traditions. The park includes a ceremonial roundhouse used for tribal ceremonies and events and the **Chaw'se Regional Indian Museum**, which houses an extensive collection of artifacts and cultural items.



#### Chaw'se Indian Grinding Rock State Historic Park

- 14881 Pine Grove Volcano Road, Pine Grove, CA 95665
- 209-296-7488
- [www.parks.ca.gov/?page\\_id=553](http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=553)

### Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians

[www.shinglespringsrancheria.com](http://www.shinglespringsrancheria.com)

The Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians are descendants of the Miwok and Southern Maidu "Nisenan" Indians. They flourished for thousands of years in what is now California's Central Valley, strategically living on the Sacramento River at the confluence of the Feather and American Rivers. In the early 1900s, the Tribe was relocated by the government to what is now known as the Shingle Springs Rancheria in the Sierra Nevada foothills of El Dorado County, approximately 40

miles east of Sacramento. Despite many hardships, the Tribe has persevered and thrived. Originally 160 acres, the Rancheria now encompasses almost 1,000 acres.

The **Red Hawk Resort + Casino** offers guests six award-winning restaurants, the all-new Apex amusement center, and a 156-room hotel. The hotel and casino's architecture is in harmony with tradition, nature, and our stunning setting. Floor-to-ceiling windows in every room offer sweeping views of the surrounding foothills. The hotel provides guests easy access to gaming, a pool, and a fitness center. Dining options include **Henry's Steakhouse**, the **Koto Buffet**, and **Asian Cuisine at Pearl**. The **Apex** includes indoor go-kart racing, a bowling center, a golf simulator, and an arcade. It is located on a beautiful hilltop less than 20 minutes east of Sacramento on Highway 50.

**Express Fuel** is located across Highway 50 from Red Hawk Casino. The convenient location offers fuel, a car wash, and a convenience store. The store also sells handcrafted Tribal jewelry and accessories created by regional California Native artists.

The **Maidu Museum & Historic Site** sits at an ancient site where Nisenan Maidu families lived. It offers a world-class museum and a 6,000-year-old Native Californian Indian village site. Graced by oak trees and bordered on the south by a branch of Linda Creek/Strap Ravine, the nature area offers a loop trail that takes you past ancient petroglyphs and hundreds of bedrock mortars for grinding acorns, evidence of Nisenan/Southern Maidu occupation of the site for thousands of years. The exhibits inside the museum feature California Indian traditional practices, such as acorn processing and basket weaving.



#### Red Hawk Casino

- 1 Red Hawk Pkwy., Placerville, CA 95667
- 530-677-7000
- [www.redhawkcasino.com](http://www.redhawkcasino.com)



#### Express Fuel

- 3920 Shingle Springs Drive, Shingle Springs, CA 95682
- 530-313-9340
- [expressfuelmart.com](http://expressfuelmart.com)



#### Maidu Museum & Historic Site

- 1970 Johnson Ranch Drive, Roseville, CA 95661,
- 916-774-5934
- [www.roseville.ca.us/government/departments/library/maidu\\_museum\\_historic\\_site](http://www.roseville.ca.us/government/departments/library/maidu_museum_historic_site)





## United Auburn Indian Community of Auburn Rancheria

[www.auburnrancheria.com](http://www.auburnrancheria.com)

The historic Auburn Rancheria is located in the Sierra Nevada foothills in Auburn, California. Located in Placer County, the United Auburn Indian Community is composed of Miwok and Maidu people, whose ancestors have lived in this region for centuries. These Tribes were originally semi-nomadic, with a deep connection to the land, thriving on hunting, fishing, and gathering in the valleys and surrounding hills.

**Thunder Valley Casino Resort**, operated by the UAIC, offers luxury accommodations, dining and entertainment just minutes from Auburn. Enjoy California weather at the **Coconut Pool and Bar** and get a massage at the **Thunder Valley Spa**. Upscale dining options include **High Steaks Steakhouse** and **Red Lantern Asian Cuisine**. Thunder Valley is an AAA Four Diamond award-winning resort destination. With its proximity to major destinations like Sacramento, Lake Tahoe, and the Sierra Nevada, the Auburn Indian Community is an ideal stop for those interested in cultural exploration and outdoor adventure.

Located 30 minutes from Sacramento, the **Whitney Oaks Golf Club** was purchased by the United Auburn Indian Community in 2012. Designed initially by pro golf legend Johnny Miller and local architect Fred Bliss, this challenging 6,800-yard course incorporates water or wetlands features on every hole, which attract various indigenous animals such as mallards, geese, raccoons, beavers, wild turkeys, coyotes, and deer.

The nearest major airport is Sacramento International Airport (SMF), located about 35 miles southwest of Auburn. The drive from the airport takes around 45 minutes. The Auburn Amtrak station is the closest for train travel, only 4 miles away. It offers a convenient option for visitors arriving by rail. The Amtrak station connects to the Capitol Corridor route between San Francisco and Sacramento.



### Thunder Valley Casino Resort

- 1200 Athens Avenue, Lincoln, CA 95648
- 877-468-8777
- [www.thundervalleysresort.com](http://www.thundervalleysresort.com)



### Whitney Oaks Golf Club

- 2305 Clubhouse Drive, Rocklin, CA 95765
- 916-632-8333
- [www.whitneyoaksgolf.com](http://www.whitneyoaksgolf.com)

## Wilton Rancheria

[www.wiltonrancheria-nsn.gov](http://www.wiltonrancheria-nsn.gov)

The Tribe's Indigenous Territory encompasses Sacramento County. In 1851, ancestors of the Tribe were party to the treaty signed at the Forks of the Cosumnes, which ceded the lands encompassing Sacramento County and promised lands for a rancheria. In 1958, the United States Congress enacted the Rancheria Act, authorizing the termination of federal trust responsibilities to 41 California Indian Tribes, including Wilton Rancheria. In the 1970s, Congress reconsidered its termination policy after ten years of struggle. A U.S. District Court decision restored the Tribe's federal recognition in 2009.

Wilton Rancheria's **Sky River Casino** is off Highway 99 in Elk Grove. It includes the upscale Sky River Prime Steakhouse, authentic Chinese hot pot and dim sum options at Dragon Beaux, and The Market at Sky River, a food hall with 11 unique dining choices, from casual to made-from-scratch cuisine. Enjoy food and entertainment at 32 Brews Street Pub, which also features a variety of regional beers and more.



### Sky River Casino

- 1 Sky River Way, Elk Grove, California 95758
- 916-866-0200
- [www.skyriver.com](http://www.skyriver.com)

### California Native American Day

Native American Day is celebrated annually on the fourth Friday of September at the State Capitol in Sacramento. Hosted by the California Tribal Chairpersons Association, the ceremonies include honoring Tribes, veterans, and elders. Tribal flags are flown, and traditional dances are performed. Speakers include Tribal leaders and other elected officials. As this day honors the culture and contribution of the Native Americans, organizations and community groups

provide learning initiatives focusing on their traditions and history. Other activities include an art market, dancing, and singing.



### California Native American Day – State Capitol

- 1315 10th St, Sacramento, CA 95814
- 916-373-3710
- [www.facebook.com/NativeAmericanDay](http://www.facebook.com/NativeAmericanDay)
- [Info@catribalchairs.org](mailto:Info@catribalchairs.org)

## Middletown Rancheria of Pomo Indians of California

[www.middletownrancheria-nsn.gov](http://www.middletownrancheria-nsn.gov)

The original ancestors of the Middletown Rancheria, also known as Lake Miwok Indians, found themselves landless and homeless during the 1800s, and they settled in the area of Middletown and throughout Lake County. With the establishment of the Middletown Rancheria at the turn of the century, members of other Tribal groups, such as Pomo, Wappo, and Wintun, joined with the people of the Tribe through marriage or customary adoption.

The wine-tasting-themed **Twin Pine Casino and Hotel** includes a national park-like lodge hotel and gift shop. Golf packages with nearby Hidden Valley Lake Golf & Country Club are available. Casual dining at **Manzanita Restaurant** and live entertainment are available at the **Grapevine Bar & Lounge**. They have private-label wines and often feature a winery of the month.

**Uncle Buddy's Pumps** has been named in honor of John Yee, a Tribal member who lived on the land where the fuel station was built. The discounted gas and convenience store is next to Twin Pine Casino and Hotel.



### Twin Pine Casino and Hotel

- 22223 CA 29, Middletown, CA 95461
- 800-564.4872 or 707-987-0197
- [www.twinpine.com](http://www.twinpine.com)



### Uncle Buddy's Pumps

- 22223 Hwy 29 Rancheria Road, Middletown, CA 95461
- 707-987-9000
- [www.facebook.com/unclebuddypumps](http://www.facebook.com/unclebuddypumps)
- [unclebuddypumps@unclebuddypumps.com](mailto:unclebuddypumps@unclebuddypumps.com)





Photo: Point Reyes National Seashore

## Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria

gratonrancheria.com

The Graton Rancheria community is a federation of Coast Miwok and Southern Pomo based in Rohnert Park, Sonoma County, about 50 miles north of San Francisco. Sebastopol is about 1 mile from the north boundary of Miwok territory and the southern edge of Southern Pomo territory. Although their lands were taken from them, they lived in Marin and Sonoma counties. In 1920, the government purchased 15.45 acres of land in Graton, CA, for a village home for the Tribe. In 1958, the government terminated federal recognition of the Tribe. In 2000, the Tribe successfully restored their recognition after years of fighting.

The **Graton Resort Casino** has an AAA Four Diamond rating for hospitality. It features a full-service spa and salon, a fitness center, and a relaxing resort-style pool area with cabanas. Fine dining is available at **630 Park Steakhouse** and **Boathouse Asian Eatery**, and casual dining is available at the **Daily Grill** and **Tony's of North Beach**. Live entertainment showcases major national acts in the theater.

The **Museum of the American Indian** is located on a Coastal Miwok village site and interprets Native American art and artifacts across the United States. On the grounds are reproductions of a Coastal Miwok home and granary, and the Coast Miwok Room focuses specifically on the region's first people.

Within the **Point Reyes National Seashore** homeland of the Coastal Miwok (the descendants of the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria) is a recreated village called "**Kule Loklo**," meaning Bear Valley. It depicts a typical Coastal Miwok village with bark homes and gardens filled with traditional plants that would have been gathered. Every July, the annual Big Time Festival at Kule Loklo celebrates the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria with storytelling, skills demonstrations, and dancing by Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria Tribal members.



### Graton Resort Casino

- 288 Golf Course Dr. West, Rohnert Park, CA 94928
- 707-588-7100
- [www.gratonresortcasino.com](http://www.gratonresortcasino.com)



### Museum of the American Indian

- 2200 Novato Blvd., Novato, CA 94947
- 415-897-4064
- [www.marinindian.com](http://www.marinindian.com)



### Point Reyes National Seashore Bear Valley Visitor Center

- 1 Bear Valley Road, Point Reyes Station, CA 94956
- 415-464-5100
- [nps.gov/pore/learn/historyculture/people\\_coastmiwok.htm](http://nps.gov/pore/learn/historyculture/people_coastmiwok.htm)
- [www.nps.gov/places/point\\_reyes\\_kule\\_loklo.htm](http://www.nps.gov/places/point_reyes_kule_loklo.htm)

Greg Sarris is the tribal chairman of the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria. He is in his 15th consecutive elected term and is leading the Tribe's economic development endeavors. Greg Sarris has published notable books, including *Grand Avenue* (1994), a highly acclaimed and awarded collection of short stories that was adapted for an HBO miniseries of the same name. His play *Mission Indians* opened at Intersection Theatre in San Francisco in February 2002. It received the 2003 Bay Area Theatre Critics Award for Best Script. He also coproduced, advised, and was featured in a 16-part series on American literature for Public Television called *American Passages*, which won the prestigious Hugo Award for Best Documentary in 2003.

[greg-sarris.com/about/biography](http://greg-sarris.com/about/biography)





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