



Exploring San Miguel Island



Welcome to San Miguel Island, one of five islands in Channel Islands National Park. This is your island. It is also your responsibility. Please take a moment to read this bulletin and learn what you can do to take care of San Miguel. This information and the map on the back will show you what you can see and do here on San Miguel.

About the Island

San Miguel is the home of pristine tidepools, rare plants, and the strange caliche forest. Four species of seals and sea lions come here to breed and give birth. For 10,000 years the island was home to the seagoing Chumash people. Juan Rodriguez Cabrillo

set foot here in 1542 as the first European to explore the California coast. For 100 years the island was a sheep ranch, and in the last 60 years it has been used by the military. In 1980 it became part of Channel Islands National Park.

Open Areas

Many parts of San Miguel are closed to protect wildlife, fragile plants, and geological features. Several areas, however, are open for you to explore on your own. Others are open to you when accompanied by a park ranger.

On your own you may explore the Cuyler Harbor

beach, Cabrillo monument, and the Lester ranch site.

The Nidever Canyon trail will take you to the ranch site, monument and ranger station. The trail begins at the top of the dune above Gull Rock. It climbs along the east wall of the canyon.

Contacting a Ranger

To see other parts of the island, such as Point Bennett or the caliche forest, you must go with a ranger.

The San Miguel ranger can be contacted on Marine Radio Channel 16. You can also arrange a hike with the ranger through park headquarters at (805) 658-5730.

Island Rules

Everything you see is protected. Do not collect anything.

No pets are allowed on shore.

No smoking or fires.

Take your trash off the island with you.

Hikers must be escorted except where indicated on this map.

Stay on the trails.

Safety

Use caution when crossing the rockfall along the beach.

The Nidever Canyon trail is steep and slippery. Watch your step.

Hantavirus has been found in deer mouse populations on San Miguel. This is a potentially fatal disease and some basic precautions should

be taken: avoid contact with rodents; do not feed wild animals; keep food and drink in rodent-proof containers. For more information, please see the bulletin board in the campground.

Carry plenty of water and drink it.

Hikers should never hike alone—use the buddy system.

Richardson
Rock
State
Marine
Reserve
No Commercial or
Recreational Fishing Allowed



Boating prohibited within 300 yards of shore from Castle Rock to Judith Rock from Apr. 30 to Oct. 1 and Dec. 15 to Mar. 15. No boating within 100 yards of shore year-round.

Point Bennett

Cuba Wreck

Adams Cove

Judith Rock

Judith Rock State Marine Reserve

No Commercial or Recreational Fishing Allowed

Tyler Bight

Otter Harbor

Green Mountain
817 ft

Caliche Forest

San Miguel Hill
831 ft

Crook Point

Lester Point

Simonton Cove

Harris Point

Harris Point State Marine Reserve
No Commercial or Recreational Fishing Allowed

Palm Trees

Judge Rock

Gull Rock

Cabrillo Monument

Lester Ranch site

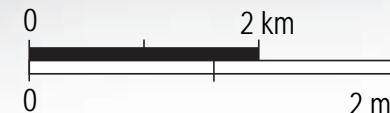
Prince Island

Bay Point

Cardwell Point

*To avoid disturbing sensitive seals, sea lions, and seabirds, please stay away from the shoreline where you see them congregate.

*Refer to the National Marine Sanctuary's *Protecting Your Channel Islands* brochure for more information on State Marine Reserves.



Using This Map

This map is your guide to the open areas on San Miguel Island. The dotted lines mark the trails and sections of beach that you may travel on your own.

- On the beach, you may walk to either end of the beach to where the sand runs into the rock.
- The distance from the palm trees to the campground is about one mile.
- Pit toilets are available at both the ranger station and the campground.
- There is no drinking water on the island.
- Landing is only permitted on the beach at Cuyler Harbor.
- Only the unshaded portion of Cuyler Harbor (outside of the marine reserve) is open to fishing.