

NEWS FROM www.SantaBarbaraCarFree.org

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New 2009 Santa Barbara Car Free Promotion “Take a Vacation from the Gas Pump!” ~ Travel Green and Save Some Green When Arriving by Amtrak

Santa Barbara, California—The **Santa Barbara Car Free Project** announces today a 2009 year-long promotion featuring savings up to 50 percent at 40 hotels, activities and restaurants—all designed to help visitors take a vacation from the gas pump. Mary Byrd, manager of the award-winning eco-tourism project at the Santa Barbara County Air Pollution Control District says, “Show your current Amtrak train ticket to Santa Barbara to receive dozens of discounts that will increase your vacation savings and decrease your impact on the environment.” Vehicles are a major source of smog-forming pollution, and of greenhouse gases contributing to global climate change. The Project encourages car free travel to and around Santa Barbara for cleaner air and a healthier planet. Amtrak offers 11 trains arriving/departing daily from Santa Barbara including the Pacific Surfliner (between San Diego & San Luis Obispo) and the newly refurbished Coast Starlight (traveling between Los Angeles and Seattle).

Through December 31, 2009, visitors who show their current Amtrak train ticket can receive discounts from 22 **hotels** including: Beach House Inn & Apartments, Best Western Beachside Inn, Best Western Encina Lodge, Best Western Pepper Tree Inn, Brisas del Mar, Cabrillo Inn at the Beach, Casa Del Mar Inn, Cheshire Cat Inn, Colonial Beach Inn, Eagle Inn, Fess Parker’s DoubleTree Resort, Franciscan Inn, Holiday Inn Express-Hotel Virginia, Hotel Oceana, Hotel Santa Barbara, Inn by the Harbor, Inn of the Spanish Garden, Old Yacht Club Inn, Prufrock’s Garden Inn by the Beach, Ramada Limited Hotel, Simpson House Inn and the Upham Hotel. (Some restrictions apply; rooms subject to availability.)

Activities offering special discounts include: Adventure Company of Santa Barbara (kayaking); Captain Jack’s Santa Barbara Tours (active adventures); Cloud Climbers Jeep & Wine Tours; Condor Express (whale watching cruises); Luxury Limo (any service); Pedal & Paddle (bike & kayak trips); Personal Tours LTD (escorted tours); Santa Barbara Sailing Center (catamaran cruises); Santa Barbara Trolley Tours (sightseeing); Sunset Kidd’s Sailing Cruises; Sustainable Vine Wine Tours (trips to organic and biodynamic vineyards); Wheel Fun (bike and rollerblade rentals); and Wine Edventures (wine country tours). These **restaurants** offer a free dessert with purchase of any entrée when presented with Amtrak train tickets: Aldo’s Italian Restaurant, Café Los Arcos and Louie’s at the Upham Hotel.

To make it even more rewarding to arrive in Santa Barbara car free, when registering for a special code at www.SantaBarbaraCarFree.org, the Project has a 20 percent savings offer on Amtrak Pacific Surfliner and San Joaquins® (and linked buses) to/from all nine Amtrak stations in Santa Barbara County (Santa Barbara, Goleta, Carpinteria, Solvang, Buellton, Lompoc, Surf, Guadalupe & Santa Maria) valid for travel through December 13, 2009 (three-day advance purchase required; blackout dates and restrictions apply; full offer details, terms & conditions at www.santabarbaracarfree.org).

Once in Santa Barbara, car free visitors can take a 25-cent electric shuttle that runs along State Street and the waterfront, rent and ride bikes along beautiful off-road bike paths, and stroll to attractions. Plus, visitors receive 20 percent off fares all around town from Lucky Cab (with a hybrid Toyota Prius fleet), when mentioning Santa Barbara Car Free.

For complete information on the “Take a Vacation from The Gas Pump” offer and hundreds of car free options including a free, colorful map—visit www.SantaBarbaraCarFree.org. To receive the map by mail, leave a message with name and address at 805-696-1100. Now is the time to travel green and save some green!

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