



## Santa Cruz Island



### Santa Cruz Island

Official website: Channel Islands National Park - <http://www.nps.gov/chis>

Via Ventura Harbor

Island Packers (805) 642-1393 - <http://www.islandpackers.com/>

**DURATION/DISTANCE:** Multiple options to day hike or camp

### ABOUT THIS HIKE (for more info, see “Events” at [www.OC-Hiking.com](http://www.OC-Hiking.com))

Santa Cruz Island is located about 20 miles from the mainland coast, and travel time from Ventura Harbor on one of Island Packers swift catamarans is only one hour to east Santa Cruz Island Scorpion Anchorage, or one hour and twenty minutes to Mid Santa Cruz Island Prisoners Harbor.

Being the largest Channel Island, Santa Cruz is also the most diverse with interesting geological features including two mountain ranges, many canyons and a rugged shoreline. At least 600 plant species, well over 120 species of land birds including the endemic Island scrub jay, and a vast expanse of wilderness area exist for the curious to explore by land or sea.. There are multiple options for hiking/visiting.

Hiking there is like going back in time. The island looks much as it must have to European explorers in the 1500s -- pristine, with towering cliffs and lush rolling hills.

#### DIRECTIONS

DIRECTIONS: From Orange County, take the 5 Freeway North to the 101 North to Island Packers in Ventura.

Link: [Island Packers](http://www.islandpackers.com/)

Ventura Harbor  
1691 Spinnaker Drive, Suite 105B  
Ventura, CA 93001  
(805)642-1393

#### FEATURES

- Options to day hike or camp
- Cavern Point Loop (2 miles) or with Potato Harbor (5 miles) provides spectacular coastal views!
- Pit toilets and water are available at Scorpion campsites.
- All visits require booking with [Island Packers](http://www.islandpackers.com/)
- Camping requires additional reservations with [Recreation.gov](http://www.recreation.gov)
- [Channel Islands National Park](http://www.nps.gov/chis)



# Santa Cruz Island –Channel Islands National Park



## SAFETY TIPS

- 1) **THERE IS A STRICT 45 POUND LIMIT PER BAG**
- 2) You must review and comply with all policies of Island Packers, the National Park Service, and Recreation.gov
- 3) You are responsible for transportation of all your gear. Island Packers will not transport it
- 4) Fuel aboard the boat must be stowed separately as designated by Island Packers
- 5) Please dress appropriately for hiking. Loose, comfortable clothing with wicking capability and layers for temperature variation is recommended
- 6) Do not pack water/liquids in soft-sided gear that will be stowed below decks
- 7) The area is very windy - **NO FIRES ALL ALLOWED ON THE ISLAND!**
- 8) Waterproofing your gear is recommended

## WHAT OTHER PEOPLE SAID

"Amazing and humbling..." – Kristine

"I loved the boat trip to the Island with the big swells, wind and the trip back being smooth, relaxing and seeing all the porpoise, seals and birds. The trails were well maintained, challenging with beautiful points of interest" – Rick C.

"Perfect place to start the backpacking/camping experience. Great hikes and beautiful scenery." -- Diana

