

Multiday Outdoor Classroom on Santa Cruz Island

The Channel Islands National Park offers excellent opportunities for a wide range of outdoor education programs. Our backdrop for the outdoor classroom is at Scorpion Anchorage on Santa Cruz Island. With a customizable educational focus, students can focus on actively experiencing and documenting the diverse ecosystems of the Channel Islands National Park through a variety of activities. Our emphasis at this remote island location is to have fun in a true wilderness setting, using the adventure of kayaking to create a life-changing experience and connection with each other and nature, while learning about conservation, stewardship, leadership, and personal responsibility.



Sea Cave Kayaking & Camping at Channel Islands National Park

Students and faculty meet their guides at Ventura Harbor in the morning to board the ferry boat out to Santa Cruz Island, looking out for whales and dolphins along the way. Once the boat reaches Scorpion Anchorage, friendly and knowledgeable guides will outfit everyone in kayaking gear and give a paddle lesson and safety briefing on the beach.

Once on the water, guides will facilitate in depth paddle challenges and teambuilding games. Students will work together to maneuver their kayaks in and out of sea caves, through kelp beds, and along the coast. The Channel Islands are renowned for incredible sea caves, so each day of kayaking includes different caves and portions of the coast.

Programs can also include team building, service learning projects, snorkeling, camping, and hiking. Campgrounds are rustic and secluded, set in historical Scorpion Ranch, which offers miles of beautiful trails to explore.

Level of Difficulty

Moderate

Cost

Starting at \$150.00 per student per day.

Please call our office for a custom proposal for your group.

Trip Includes

Authorized concessionaire boat transportation, knowledgeable guides, double kayaks and paddling gear, wetsuits, paddle jackets, sea cave kayaking (conditions permitting), campsites, tents, camp kitchens, hiking.

Program may be customized or combined to fit group size, time frame, goals, and budget.

Please see the next page for our optional education focuses for school groups.

Optional Educational Focuses for Channel Islands Sea Cave Kayaking

We offer a diverse array of educational focuses for school groups. All of our Channel Islands guides are knowledgeable in marine ecology and natural history. Please note when booking your school trip if you'd like an education focus for your tour.

Native American History – Learn about the Chumash history of the Channel Islands! As the first humans on the islands there is a rich Chumash maritime history of hunting and trading, tomol canoe building and paddling, the village of Swaxil at Scorpion and mythical legends such as Rainbow Bridge. We'll discuss this integral California Native American history.

Geology – Our geology tour focuses on showing and explaining underwater island formation. We'll check out the fault lines visible at Seal Beach, the chert and diatomaceous earth of Geology Cove, evident of landslides near Cavern Point, and examples of local lava and sedimentary rocks. Our geology tour will rock your student's minds!

Ecosystem Balance – Learn about restoration projects and species decline and recovery efforts specific to Santa Cruz Island. We'll also kayak around Scorpion Rock to discuss and view the ongoing seabird habitat restoration project.

Volcanic Caves – With conditions permitting we'll explore a series of caves that show extensive examples of rocks created by underwater volcanism. We will point out pillow lava along with fault lines, and learn about littoral sea cave erosion, lichens and algae, and freshwater drips.

Intertidal Ecology – We'll focus on exploring this rich transitional area with an abundance of diverse creature. We'll use low tide to our advantage for the best viewing of tide pools.

Kelp Bed Ecology – Learn about the incredibly rich dynamic kelp ecosystem of Channel Islands National Park. We'll identify different species, and discuss ecosystem balance, predator protection, canopy structure and growth. The many *Macrocystis Pyrifera* kelp forests around Scorpion Anchorage on Santa Cruz Island offer a lot of flexibility for our tour route.

Marine Protected Areas – We will tour the protected Channel Islands Marine Sanctuary between Scorpion Rock and Potato Harbor, noting diverse species variety and volume while discussing various species benefits to keeping the ecosystem afloat.

Botany Tour – We'll hug the coastline close to the shoreline to view endemic and native plants (dudleya, choreopsis, hazardia, rock cress, etc.), algae, and lichens on rocky cliffs.

All of our programs may be customized or combined to fit group size, time frame, goals, and budget. We are also able to accommodate specific standards or curriculum needs. Please reach out to us to discuss your groups specific needs and desires at (805) 884-9283 or letsgo@sbadventureco.com.