



MONTAÑA DE ORO CAMPING Trip Itinerary



Nestled in the hills and arroyos between the beaches and the coastal mountains, Montaña de Oro is a quiet hidden gem of our local Central Coast. Montaña de Oro State Park is renowned for spectacular scenery produced over millions of years by volcanic activity, plate tectonic interactions (subduction and collision), and erosion to shape this unique landscape. Marine terraces are evidence of regional uplift. This park features rugged cliffs, secluded sandy beaches, coastal plains, streams, canyons, and hills, including 1,347-foot Valencia Peak. Naturalists and backpackers enjoy the solitude and freedom found along the park's trails. The best-known beach is Spooner's Cove, across from the campground. The park's name, "Mountain of Gold," comes from the golden wildflowers that bloom in spring. Wildlife in the park includes black tailed deer and the black oystercatcher.

Come and enjoy the outdoors at Montaña de Oro! Don't miss the chance to enjoy incredible scenery while camping and hiking a couple hours north along the coast from Santa Barbara at Montaña de Oro State Park. Fun day hikes, and good companionship will be highlights of this outdoor camping trip, including nature trails and exploration of the beaches and coastal countryside. This trip is excellent for beginning campers and hikers and enjoyable for all!

In order for your experience to be a pleasurable one, we ask that you thoroughly read the information in the handouts provided, including the **Itinerary, the General Trip Expectations** and follow the recommendations on the **Packing list**. Fee covers group breakfasts and dinners while camping, round trip transportation, group cooking equipment, and guides. You must supply your own lunches, money for road meals, and personal equipment. (Camping gear rentals are available <http://recreation.sa.ucsb.edu/adventure-programs/outdoor-gear-rentals>) This trip requires that you be in good physical condition. Please feel free to contact the Adventure Center at (805) 893-3737 during business hours if you need any additional information and/or our leaders have not contacted you five days before departure date.

Minimum Experience Level: Beginners welcome. No experience necessary. Healthy, fun attitude!

Sample Itinerary (*tentative due to weather, road conditions and other factors beyond our control*):

Day 1 - Drive to Montaña de Oro State Park and camp. Scenic stops along the way. Campfire at night.

Day 2 – Breakfast, morning stretch, head out on the coastal trails and explore the Park for the entire day, including Spooner's Cove and Valencia Peak. Dinner and campfire under the stars.

Day 3 - After breakfast, pack up then day hike or enjoy any other free time activity (some more exploring, possible options for nature trail tours, interpretive walks, beach exploration, etc.). Late afternoon, drive back to UCSB.

Departure Location: Turnout to the right of the main entrance of the Recreation Center.

Departure Time: Meeting time at 3pm on first day so we can load your personal equipment and leave within an hour. Changes specified on website, introduction email and receipt. As a courtesy to the group, please be prompt. If you are not there on time we will leave without you. No refunds for no-shows.

Approximate Drive Time: 2-3 hours depending on road conditions and food stops.

Approximate Return Time: 8 P.M. on Day 3 depending on road conditions and food stops.

No Drugs or Alcohol: University regulations and program policies do not allow alcohol or drugs on this trip. Thank you for your cooperation.

Refund Policy: Once an offering is **full**, you will be offered a refund (less **\$20 service** charge) **only** if someone **pays** for your spot. If the offering is **NOT** full:

- **30 or more days** before the course date- Full refund less \$20 processing fee.
- **29 to 8 days** before the course date- 50% refund less \$20 processing fee.
- **Less than 8 days** before the course date- no refunds available.