

HeartCycle Bicycle Touring Club
Springtime In The South Bay – Crisscrossing The Coast
Ranges, California, 2024

Dates: May 19, 20 - 26, 2024
Leaders: Carol Fredrickson and Janet Slate
SAGs: Mayoma Pendergast and Kathleen Schindler
Miles: Approximately 275 miles and 17,000 feet
Rating: Advanced
Riders: 30
Price: \$1900 double occupancy, deposit \$500, single supplement \$2850, balance due February 19, 2024.
Cancellation: [Standard Cancellation Policy](#). **Travel insurance is strongly recommended.**

OVERVIEW

Ride some classic routes on this 6-day tour in the South Bay Area of California. Starting and ending in Campbell, a mere 15-minute drive from San Jose International Airport, we'll make our way over the Coast Ranges to Half Moon Bay, down the coast to Santa Cruz for two nights, then back over the Coast Ranges to Campbell, where we'll stay for the remainder of the tour and ride to Morgan Hill and up Mount Hamilton. Average grades of the climbs are 5-7%, but some sections are steeper. Descents can be narrow on roads with sharp turns. Roads will range from rural and remote with little traffic to some city streets with urban congestion, although we plan to ride the latter on weekend days when we expect the traffic will be lighter. Weather can be variable with fog typical along the coast. Expect average lows in the mid 50s and highs in mid 80s in the South Bay; temps at the coast (Half Moon Bay to Santa Cruz) are cooler with lows in the low to mid 50s and highs in the low to mid 60s. Wildflowers and green hillslopes make the South Bay a beautiful place to ride in May. Accommodations are included on the last night of the tour.

Ride with GPS files will be provided in advance to tour participants. Routes include the following (several days have options for more riding).

A limited number of bicycles may be transported from Denver and back for a \$150.00 fee.

ITINERARY

Day 0: Sunday, May 19 – Campbell. Arrival and orientation meeting.



Silicon Valley and the Coast Ranges from Alum Rock Park
https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/3/38/AlumRockViewSiliconValley_w.jpg

Day 1: Monday, May 20 – Campbell to Half Moon Bay – 58 miles, 3000 feet.

Over the Coast Ranges we go via Kings Mountain Road and Tunitas Creek Road. Giant waves have made Half Moon Bay famous for the “Mavericks” surf contest. Only 25 miles south of San Francisco, Half Moon Bay feels like a world away. As of the 2020 census, just ~12,000 people live in Half Moon Bay.



Half Moon Bay, by Fred Hsu
https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/0/0e/NorCal2018_Beach_and_Cliff_at_Ritz-Carlton_Half_Moon_Bay_S0515061.jpg/220px-NorCal2018_Beach_and_Cliff_at_Ritz-Carlton_Half_Moon_Bay_S0515061.jpg

Day 2: Tuesday, May 21 – Half Moon Bay to Santa Cruz – 56 miles, 3500 feet.
Heading south, we have the Pacific Ocean to our right and the Coast Ranges on our left.



View from Pigeon Point

Day 3: Wednesday, May 22 – Rest Day Santa Cruz

At the north end of Monterey Bay, Santa Cruz is known for its beaches, surf culture, boardwalk, and University of California campus. While in Santa Cruz, you can enjoy a ride to Watsonville or a day off to go kayaking, visit the surf museum (or surf yourself!), visit the UCSC Arboretum, or go to the beach boardwalk and ride the Big Dipper.



*Natural Bridges State Beach, Santa Cruz, by Annette Teng,
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Santa_Cruz,_CA,_USA_-_panoramio_\(10\).jpg](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Santa_Cruz,_CA,_USA_-_panoramio_(10).jpg)*

Day 4: Thursday, May 23 – Santa Cruz to Campbell – 50 miles, 3700 feet.
Back over the Coast Ranges we go to spend the final three nights of our tour in Campbell (where we started).



Through the forest

Day 5: Friday, May 24 – Campbell to Morgan Hill and back – 60 miles, 1700 feet.
A ride along the east side of the Coast Ranges will take us to Morgan Hill where we'll visit a local winery.



Coast Ranges from Morgan Hill, by Evan Blaser, https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/6/6a/Friday_May_10%2C_130_365_%288761584621%29.jpg/120px-Friday_May_10%2C_130_365_%288761584621%29.jpg

Day 6: Saturday, May 25 – Campbell to the top of Mount Hamilton – 58 miles, 5700 feet. We complete our tour with one of the most iconic climbs in the South Bay to the top of Mount Hamilton. We cross the Silicon Valley and ascend with more bicyclists than motorists to Lick Observatory, which we can visit.



Mount Hamilton
<https://pjammcycling.com/climb/334.Mt.%2520Hamilton%2520West>

Sunday, May 26. We say our goodbyes and depart the South Bay.

For bicycle safety, registrants should bring a cable and lock.

For more information contact:

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