

HeartCycle Bicycle Touring Club Springtime in Solvang

- Dates:** Orientation meeting Saturday, April 12, 2025. Riding Sunday, April 13 – Friday, April 18, with departure on Saturday, April 19 (lodging last night included).
- Leaders:** Polly and Mark Lestikow; **SAGs:** Mayoma Pendergast and Kathleen Schindler
- Miles:** 260–275 miles and 13,000–14,000 feet of climbing with options for less
- Rating:** Intermediate
- Riders:** 30
- Price:** \$1,660 (double occupancy); Deposit \$400 due at registration. Balance due by January 12, 2025. Single supplement \$2,490.
- Cancellation:** [Standard cancellation policy](#)

Travel insurance is strongly recommended.

OVERVIEW

Join us for this fixed-base, week-long tour in Solvang, California, a quaint village known as the Danish capital of the U.S., located in the Central Coast wine country of California, just north of Santa Barbara. Solvang is a must-visit destination for bicyclists to ride the quiet backroads through the rolling (and mountainous) terrain. Eat at wonderful Danish bakeries and the many fine restaurants in the area (including a great restaurant at our hotel). Sample wines at the many local vineyards and tasting rooms. The Amgen Tour of California often stopped here. Other activities include the Old Mission Santa Inez, golf, visiting Nojoqui Falls, and the Chumash Casino.



On Saturday, April 12, we'll arrive at the Corque Hotel (www.hotelcorque.com), a recently remodeled luxurious boutique hotel with an inviting pool and spa in the heart of Solvang. Our orientation meeting will be in the early evening. Breakfast is not included, but we'll have time in the mornings to visit the many Danish bakeries and restaurants that are just steps from the hotel. The rooms have mini-refrigerators if you wish to bring supplies from nearby grocery stores (rooms do NOT have microwaves). The tour will include a group dinner.



Our rides range from rambling through the countryside to picturesque mountain climbs. Many of our SAG and lunch stops are at local wineries! As a fixed-base tour, you can shorten or skip rides. Participants will receive detailed maps, cue sheets, and Ride with GPS files. The routes may vary as to which day we ride them and when we take a rest day, depending on weather, and will include rides such as the following.



ITINERARY

Saturday, April 12: Orientation meeting in evening.

Sunday-Friday, April 13–18: Five rides and one rest day. Routes may include any of the following or alternates based on road conditions.

Valley Rambler – 37 (to 50) miles/1750 feet (to 2,600) of elevation gain

We orient ourselves to the valley with visits to the small towns of Santa Ynez and Los Olivos; riding Foxen Canyon, Zaca Station, and the Alamo Pintado roads, passing (or visiting) local wineries, lavender farms, and more.



Lompoc/Ocean Park/Santa Rosa Rd Loop – 64 miles/2450 feet of elevation gain

This scenic ride gets us out to vistas overlooking the Pacific Ocean. During the morning SAG stop, take time to visit La Purisima Mission, founded in 1787. LaFond Winery picnic area is a perfect place to stop and fuel up before the final ride through wine country and back to our hotel.

Fess Parker/Cambria Loop – 52 miles/3,275 feet of elevation gain

We carpool to the famous Fess Parker (think Davy Crockett!) Winery and enjoy a lovely morning ride through rolling hills and vineyards. We then ride alongside freshly planted fields of vegetables to enjoy a lunch at the Cambria Winery with a beautiful view of the Santa Maria River Valley.

Wine Trail/Los Alamos Loop – 58 miles/3,300 feet of elevation gain

This includes Chalk Hill, Ballard Canyon, and Fox Canyon (the Wine Trail)—a gorgeous ride past vineyards and horse ranches!

Happy Canyon/Figueroa Mountain Road – 50 miles/2350 of elevation gain

Today, we ride through green carpeted rolling hills loaded with spring wildflowers, pass horse ranches, and ride to the base of Figueroa Mountain Park.



Saturday, April 19: Departure

Notes:

Low gears (compact with 32 or greater on the rear cluster) and 25-mm (or greater) tires are highly recommended. Some roads are in good shape, while stretches of many others reflect California budget limitations. A couple rides require us to ride along Highway 1 for a few miles. The shoulders are nice and wide.

Santa Barbara Wine Country Cycling in the nearby town of Ballard (2449 Baseline Ave, Suite 104) has a variety of quality bikes for rent including carbon Specialized Roubaix road bikes and Specialized Creo e-bikes and gravel bikes. Bicycles can be rented by contacting Santa Barbara Wine Country Cycling at (805) 686-9490 or by visiting their website at www.winecountrycycling.com. The Sprinter will be driven from Denver and can accommodate 10 bicycles.

For further information contact:

Mark Lestikow
mark.lestikow@closetfactory-colorado.com
(303) 919-0426

