



City of Santa Clara Parks & Recreation Dept.
Santa Clara Senior Center
1303 Fremont St., Santa Clara, CA 95050
1 (408) 615-3170

Office hours:
Mon.-Fri., 7:00 AM-4:30 PM
Sat., 9:00 AM-11:30 AM
Sun., Closed

Adventures to Go...

carefree travel for ages 50 plus

February 2013 Newsletter

Day Trips

NEW! Año Nuevo State Park, February 6
Año Nuevo State Park, February 8
Day at the de Young, February 12
Wicked, February 13
Red Hawk Casino, February 26
SF Symphony Rehearsal, February 28
Santa Clara County Crime Lab, March 5
Ironstone Vineyards, March 12
NEW! Cache Creek Casino, March 26
NEW! Jersey Boys, April 17
NEW! Hornblower Brunch Cruise, April 21
NEW! Golden Gate Fields, April 25
NEW! Terracotta Warriors & Chinatown, May 9

Overnight Trips

NEW! Laughlin-Las Vegas Getaway, April 9-12
NEW! Ramona Pageant Getaway, May 4-6

**Trip descriptions are listed on the following pages.
Register early! Trips fill quickly. Waitlists available.
All trips are open to Santa Clara Residents and Non-Residents.**

Let's Talk Travel!

Next meeting: February 27, 2013 at 12:30 p.m.

Presentation: Ramona Pageant Getaway

Join us and *Let's Talk Travel!* We meet on the fourth Wednesday of each month at 12:30 p.m. in the Mezzanine. Come and learn more about upcoming tours, see travel presentations, or just to talk travel. Santa Clara residents can register for newly released tours following *Let's Talk Travel*. Call 1 (408) 615-3170 for more information.

Adventures to Go – General Information

Trip Availability: All trips are open to Santa Clara residents and non-residents, age 50 plus. Priority registration is given to residents for new trips released after *Let's Talk Travel* on the fourth Wednesday of the month; non-residents can register on the following Monday. Register early! Trips fill quickly! Wait lists are created once trips fill; those on the wait list are called as spaces become available. Trips not reaching the minimum enrollment required will be canceled.

Senior Center Registration Form: Travelers are required to complete a Senior Center registration form and sign a liability release each calendar year prior to participation in the *Adventures to Go* travel program.

Trip Attendance: Only those officially registered for a trip may attend. Participant substitutions are not allowed at time of check-in on day of trip. All travelers must register in advance at the Santa Clara Senior Center and have a current registration form on file.

Refund Policy:

- **Day/Extended Trips** – Please choose wisely; refunds will ONLY be given when a replacement can be found from the Senior Center trip wait list or trip is cancelled by the Senior Center.
- **Travel Insurance** – The Santa Clara Senior Center recommends you consider travel insurance, especially for extended trips. Check online at: <http://www.insuremytrip.com>, with Kanen Tours, AAA, or any insurance provider of your choosing.

Trip/Meal Substitutions: Trip itineraries may be modified due to unforeseen circumstances. Every effort will be made to replace the location and/or activity with one that is similar. Refunds are not guaranteed should there be a change in itinerary. Hosted meals may be modified at the discretion of the restaurant.

Trip Activity Levels/Special Needs: Activity levels listed are offered as a guideline. Travelers with accessibility concerns, special needs, or questions should call the Travel Administrator.

Trip Pick-Up/Drop-Off: Trips leave from and return to the old police station parking lot, near the corner of Lincoln Avenue and Civic Center Drive, in Santa Clara. Please arrive at least 15 minutes before trip departure for check-in. Motor coach will leave promptly at time specified. *Please note:* During a trip, if a situation (urgent or non-urgent) arises where you are unable to meet-up with your "travel group" at the pre-designated time and place identified by the tour escort(s), it will be your responsibility and expense to make arrangements to get yourself home. This would also apply to any other traveler who may decide to stay with you. A tour escort is not able to stay behind with you for any situation that may occur.

Gratuities: Trip fees include a modest gratuity for the driver of the motor coach and servers at hosted meals. When you experience exceptional service, you may choose to tip an additional amount. City of Santa Clara employees and tour escorts cannot accept gratuities.

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (ADA) – In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, the City of Santa Clara Parks and Recreation Department will ensure that all existing facilities will be made accessible to individuals with disabilities. Reasonable modifications in policies, procedures, and/or practices will be made as necessary to ensure full and equal access and enjoyment of all programs and activities for all individuals with a disability. In order to allow participation by individuals with severe allergies, environmental illnesses, multiple chemical sensitivity, or related disabilities, please **DO NOT wear scented products** to programs/activities at City facilities. Contact the Santa Clara Senior Center at (408) 615-3170 with accessibility concerns specific to this facility, and the Parks and Recreation office at (408) 615-2260 for accessibility concerns regarding other parks and recreation facilities/programs. For all other ADA questions, contact the City Clerk's office at 1 (408) 615-2220.

Adventures to Go – Trip Information

Trip availability can change from day to day. Contact the Senior Center office for registration information, 1 (408) 615-3170.

Año Nuevo State Park No. 48088 Friday, February 8

ADDED TRIP: No. 49092 Wednesday, February 6

\$102 per person

Activity level: MEDIUM – approx. 1 1/2 drive; long periods of walking and standing, possibly in windy, rainy conditions. Wear comfortable walking shoes and dress in layers.

We have arranged a very special opportunity for a small group to visit Año Nuevo State Park. A Naturalist guide will accompany the group out to the Año Nuevo State Park boardwalk via a passenger van for an up-close look at the Elephant Seals and their new pups playing in the sand and learning to swim in the tide. The guide will walk the group along the boardwalk for an up-close look at the wildlife without the strenuous walking that is usually required for this tour. Time is included to enjoy the Visitors Center offering interesting natural history exhibits and a bookstore-gift shop. Afterward, enjoy a hosted lunch at Ideal Bar & Grill at the Santa Cruz Wharf. Lunch will include choice of entrée, a cup of soup, warm sourdough rolls, a non-alcoholic beverage, and New York Cheesecake for dessert. Entrée choices are Salmon with Tropical Fruit Salsa, Chicken Breast topped with Artichoke Hearts, Capers, and Olives, and New York Steak served with French Fries. The restaurant is located just across the street from the NEW Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary Exploration Center. We've included time to visit the state-of-the-art interactive exhibits and watch the 15 minute film featuring magnificent underwater video. Please note: Tours at Año Nuevo go out rain or shine; umbrellas are not permitted. *Motor coach leaves promptly at 8:30 AM and returns at approximately 4:30 PM.*

Day at the de Young No. 48089 Tuesday, February 12

\$66 per person

Activity level: MEDIUM – approx. 1 hour drive; long periods of walking and standing; some stairs; elevator available. Bring money to purchase lunch.

We'll start our day at the de Young Museum in San Francisco with a timed-visit to see one of the most beautiful and artistically important paintings in the world: *Girl with a Pearl Earring*, by Johannes Vermeer, known as the "Dutch Mona Lisa." The exhibition will include 34 additional masterpieces from the 17th century Dutch Golden Age that are housed at the famed Royal Picture Gallery in Hague, the Netherlands. Complementing the exhibit will be *Rembrandt's Century*, drawing largely from a world-renowned collection of works on paper from the Fine Arts Museums' Achenbach Foundation for Graphic Arts. The collection includes a generous selection of etchings by Rembrandt van Rijn – arguably his generation's most influential artist. The de Young Museum will be the exhibition's first US venue. There will be plenty of time to enjoy a no-host lunch at the de Young Café and visit another limited engagement exhibition, *Rudolf Nureyev: A Life in Dance*. This special exhibition is dedicated to the life and work of the legendary dancer and choreographer Rudolf Nureyev and will showcase more than 80 costumes and 50 photographs from the dancer's personal collection. The Soviet-born Nureyev was recognized worldwide as the most magnificent and charismatic dancer of his time. *Motor coach leaves promptly at 8:15 AM and returns at approximately 4:30 PM.*

SENIOR CENTER APPLICATION RENEWAL IN PROGRESS

Travelers must update their applications before registering, being placed on a wait list, or traveling in 2013. Current proof of age and residency required. Update your application at the Senior Center office.

Wicked No. 47963 Wednesday, February 13

\$126 per person

Activity level: MEDIUM – approx. 1 hour drive; long period of sitting. Eat before arrival or bring a lunch to eat on the motor coach. No lunch or stop for lunch provided.

Back by “Popular Demand,” WICKED is coming to the Orpheum Theatre in San Francisco. Winner of 35 major awards, including a Grammy and three Tony Awards®, WICKED is “Broadway’s biggest blockbuster” says *The New York Times*. Long before that girl from Kansas arrives in Munchkinland, two girls meet in the land of Oz. One – born with emerald green skin – is smart, fiery and misunderstood. The other is beautiful, ambitious and very popular. From your orchestra seating, you will be entertained as you watch the two grow up to become the Wicked Witch of the West and Glinda the Good Witch, the witches of Oz. *Motor coach leaves promptly at 12:00 PM and returns at approximately 7:00 PM.*

Red Hawk Casino No. 48090 Tuesday, February 26

\$41 per person

Activity level: MEDIUM – approx. 2 1/2 drive; periods of walking, standing, and sitting.

Spend 5 hours at Red Hawk Casino, situated on an impressive mountain top in the City of Placerville. Red Hawk offers a new class of excitement and gaming action which includes: 2,100 Slots, Progressive Slots, 75 Table Games, Premier High-Limit Area, and an entirely Non-Smoking Lower Level, plus Premium Restaurants. Upon arrival, with valid I.D., receive a Casino Bonus of \$10 Free Slot Play. Bonuses subject to change without notice. *Motor coach leaves promptly at 7:30 AM and returns at approximately 6:30 PM.*

SF Symphony Rehearsal No. 48091 Thursday, February 28

\$85 per person

Activity level: MEDIUM – approx. 1 hour drive. Periods of walking, standing, and sitting; some stairs. Wear comfortable walking shoes and dress in layers.

What goes into a San Francisco Symphony performance at Davies Symphony Hall? What comes before the horns, the tapping baton, the expectant pause, the first fiery notes? Find out at the Open Rehearsal and “Inside Music” pre-concert talk, a remarkable morning of conversation, education and incredible music in the making. There is open seating – we will leave early from Santa Clara to allow plenty of time to choose the perfect spot for viewing. The pre-concert talk is designed to enhance your enjoyment of the concert by providing insights into the works of the program. The rehearsal will include selections by Mozart and Buckner conducted by Michael Tilson Thomas. We'll stop for lunch at Fog Harbor Restaurant and free time at Pier 39. The hosted lunch will include choice of Clam Chowder, Organic Mixed Greens or Caesar Salad and Pan Roasted Alaska Cod, Grilled Chicken in Mushroom Herb Sauce and Baked Shrimp Penne Pasta. Meals include Vanilla Ice Cream with a Biscoff Cookie and coffee or hot tea. *Motor coach leaves promptly at 7:15 AM and returns at approximately 4:15 PM.*

Santa Clara County Crime Lab No. 48092 Tuesday, March 5

\$77 per person

Activity level: MEDIUM – approx. 1/2 hour drive. Periods of walking and standing; some stairs. Wear comfortable walking shoes.

The Santa Clara County District Attorney’s Crime Laboratory is a nationally accredited forensic laboratory servicing all criminal justice agencies in Santa Clara County. The examiners evaluate and analyze evidence, interpret results, provide expert testimony related to the full spectrum of physical evidence recovered from crime scenes, and offer technical assistance and training to all user agencies. Service is provided in the major analytical disciplines of controlled substance analysis, firearms/tool marks, forensic biology (DNA), forensic toxicology, latent print processing, questioned documents, trace evidence and computer crimes. Even though we are not permitted to visit the lab, a video presentation conducted by a Criminologist will give us a good overview of the services the crime laboratory offers and offer an insightful question and answer session. Afterward, we’ll enjoy a 3-course hosted luncheon at Fiorillo’s Restaurant and a

Personal Safety Presentation by the Santa Clara Police Department. Entrée choices include Salmon Filet served with sautéed vegetables and roasted red potatoes, Roast Loin of Pork with sautéed vegetables and roasted red potatoes or Penne Pasta with Fiorillo's home-made meatball and topped with meat sauce. The presentation will help heighten awareness of your surroundings and empower you to make personal choices that will ensure your safety and well being. *Motor coach leaves promptly at 9:30 AM and returns at approximately 4:00 PM.*

Ironstone Vineyards No. 48093 Tuesday, March 12

\$125 per person

Activity level: MEDIUM – approx. 2 1/2 hour drive. Periods of walking, standing, and sitting; some steps; wear comfortable walking shoes and dress in layers.

Join us for lovely day away in beautiful Calaveras County for a private tour with a knowledgeable guide at Ironstone Vineyards. Our guide will lead us through the spectacular gardens and facility. It's Daffodil time and we hope to see the extensive gardens featuring thousands of Daffodils in full bloom! We'll browse through the gourmet deli and gift shop, Heritage Museum, and Jewelry shop. In addition, our visit will include a tasting of Ironstone Vineyards wines in the massive tasting room accompanied by canapés to compliment each varietal and a hosted private luncheon. Our lunch will include bread, mixed green salad, Roasted Tri-Tip marinated in Red Wine, Garlic, Onions, Rosemary, Soy and Worcestershire sauce with Thyme Roasted Red Potatoes and seasonal vegetables, a "Chef's Choice" dessert, and coffee. A Vegetarian option is available. *Motor coach leaves promptly at 8:00 AM and returns at approximately 5:45 PM.*

Cache Creek Casino No. 49116 Tuesday, March 26

\$42 per person

Activity level: MEDIUM – approx. 2 1/2 hour drive; periods of walking, standing, and sitting.

Try your luck at Cache Creek Indian Casino in the City of Brooks. You'll have approximately 5 hours to gamble and enjoy a no-host lunch at one of the many restaurants on the premises. Your lunch options will include the Tuesday buffet offering a wide array of food choices at an affordable price. You will receive a casino bonus of \$10 match play and a \$5 food credit. Please note: The food credit cannot be used for the buffet. Remember to bring your Cache Club membership card for added bonuses and a Govt. issued photo ID in order to collect and receive any bonuses or winnings. (Refund packages are subject to change without notice). *Motor coach leaves promptly at 7:30 AM and returns at approximately 5:30 PM.*

Laughlin-Las Vegas Getaway No. 49115 Tuesday-Friday, April 9-12

Per person: \$298 double occupancy and \$338 single occupancy

Half the fee due at time at registration; balance due March 14.

Activity level: MEDIUM/HIGH – approx. 10 hour drive with a rest stop mid-way and lunch stop. A detailed itinerary will be mailed to travelers prior to the trip.

Enjoy three nights at Don Laughlin's Riverside Resort including baggage handling, and a complimentary breakfast and dinner buffet. The city of Laughlin is on the banks of the Colorado River, across from Bullhead City and just 77 miles from the more famous Nevada city of Las Vegas. It's all about fun in Laughlin, with casino action around the clock, live entertainment, and outdoor recreation in the river and surrounding desert. This getaway is designed to take you out of the mechanics of ordinary daily life and into a true desert escape. The third day of the stay will include a day trip to the fabulous Las Vegas strip! The day is yours to spend as you please...visit the Eiffel Tower, take the Las Vegas Trolley around town, watch the water dance at the Bellagio, or enjoy a matinee performance of a live Vegas style show. There's always something to do in Vegas! *The deluxe Preferred Charters motor coach leaves promptly at 8:00 AM on Tuesday and returns at approximately 6:00 PM on Friday.*

Jersey Boys No. 49117 Wednesday, April 17

\$107 per person

Activity level: MEDIUM – approx. 1 hour drive; long period of sitting. Eat before arrival or bring a lunch to eat on the motor coach. No lunch or stop for lunch provided.

Jersey Boys is “Working Its Way Back” to the Curran Theatre in San Francisco! This Tony, Grammy, and Olivier Award-winning Best Musical will take you through the early years of the Rock and Roll Hall of Famers The Four Seasons. The story will show you how four blue-collared kids became one of the greatest successes in pop music history. They wrote their own songs, invented their own sounds, and sold 175 million records worldwide before the age of 30! From orchestra seating you will hear their hit songs “Sherry,” “Big Girls Don’t Cry,” “Rag Doll,” “Oh What A Night,” and “Can’t Take My Eyes Off of You.” Please note: the show includes smoke, gun shots, and profane “authentic Jersey language.” *Motor coach leaves promptly at 12:00 PM and returns at approximately 6:30 PM.*

Hornblower Brunch Cruise No. 49118 Sunday, April 21

\$135 per person

Activity level: LOW – approx. 1 hour drive. Short periods of walking and standing; some steps. Wear comfortable walking shoes.

There’s nothing like springtime in the city, especially when you are sailing through the picturesque San Francisco Bay. We’ll spend some time aboard an elegant yacht, dining, listening to music, and taking in the sights surrounding us. Our vantage point will offer magnificent views of landmarks such as Coit Tower, the city skyline, the Golden Gate Bridge, and more. Hornblower Cruises presents this scenic 2-hour cruise, which features a scrumptious traditional Champagne Brunch, along with live music to serve as the perfect backdrop for this visual and culinary feast. *Motor coach leaves promptly at 9:30 AM and returns at approximately 3:00 PM.*

Golden Gate Fields No. 49119 Thursday, April 25

\$75 per person

Activity level: LOW – approx. 1 hour drive; moderate walking; some stairs; elevator.

Enjoy Thoroughbred horse racing at Golden Gate Fields in Berkeley. A buffet lunch at the Turf Club will include prime rib, chicken, a variety of salads, fresh fruits, desserts, and a non-alcoholic beverage. View the races from your Turf Club seats. Please remember there is a dress code of “Business Casual,” meaning no jeans, shorts, tank tops, or flip flops. Men must wear collared shirts. *Motor coach leaves promptly at 10:00 AM and returns at approximately 6:00 PM.*

Ramona Pageant Getaway No. 49120 Saturday-Monday, May 4-6

Per person: \$628 double occupancy and \$814 single occupancy

Half the fee is due at time of registration; balance due April 12.

Activity level: MEDIUM/HIGH – approx. 8 hour drive with a rest stop mid-way and lunch stop. A detailed itinerary will be mailed to travelers prior to the trip.

The Mission Inn Hotel & Spa has an illustrious history as a home away from home for world leaders, celebrities, and discerning travelers who seek a luxurious and classically elegant place of refuge and renewal. From its modest beginnings as a two-story adobe guest house in 1876 to its current position as an icon of breathtaking architecture, timeless beauty, and old world charm, The Mission Inn Hotel & Spa is a place where history, grandeur, and inspiration are found around every corner. Since 1923 "Ramona" has delighted audiences of all ages. Entering the Ramona Bowl Amphitheatre for a performance of "Ramona" is like taking a journey back through time. The natural landscape of the Ramona Bowl remains almost as it was during that first performance, April 13, 1923. The romance and the tragedy of Ramona & Alessandro transfixes the crowd as they watch it unfold, offering a glimpse, though fictional, of the history of southern California. Tour highlights include a 2 night stay at the luxurious Mission Inn & Spa, docent led tour of the Mission Inn Museum and Property, a Welcome Banquet Dinner and shaded upper box seats with padded seating at the Ramona Festival with waitress service and

a BBQ Lunch. Round trip transportation provided by Royal Coach Tours. *Motor coach leaves promptly at 8:00 AM on Saturday and returns at approximately 5:30 PM. on Monday.*

**Terracotta Warriors & Chinatown No. 49121 Thursday, May 9
\$99 per person**

Activity level: MEDIUM – approx. 1 hour drive. Periods of walking and standing; some steps. Wear comfortable walking shoes.

We will join San Francisco Tour Guide, Craig Smith, for a day of Chinese culture. Our first stop will be the Asian Art Museum to see the exhibit *China's Terracotta Warriors: The First Emperor's Legacy*. The exhibit features 120 rare objects from the massive tomb complex of China's first emperor. The centerpiece of the exhibit is 10 of the 8,000 extraordinary life-size terracotta figures that fill much of the emperor's tomb. In the afternoon we will satisfy our appetite with a hosted "family style" lunch at the Hunan Home Restaurant in Chinatown. Lunch will include appetizers, Sizzling Rice Soup, Sweet & Sour Pork, Cashew Nut Prawns, Chicken with Spicy Garlic Sauce, Sizzling Beef, Assorted Vegetables, Chow Mein, and Steamed Rice. We will end our day with a walk through Chinatown. Craig will share stories about the area and take us to points of interest that include the Fortune Cookie Factory, Tao Temple, and Street of the Painted Balconies. *Motor coach leaves promptly at 8:30 AM and returns at approximately 6:15 PM.*

**COMING IN 2013
Mark your calendars now!**

Elkhorn Slough – May 15 (release date February 27)
SF Giants vs. Oakland A's – May 30 (release date February 27)
Carmel with Gael Gallagher – May 23 (release date February 27)
SF Symphony Rehearsal – June 19
SF Giants vs. LA Dodgers – July 7
Santa Cruz Follies – September 12
SF Giants vs. San Diego Padres (Fan Appreciation Day!) – September 29

Look for trip details in upcoming issues of the *Adventures To Go Newsletter*.