

# Desert to Sea

**No state has the extremes of California. From the highest mountain in the lower 48 states (Mount Whitney) to the lowest point in North America (Death Valley), California has always done its best to be all things to all people. For those with a penchant to enjoy the waves, California boasts some of the best surf in the world. Like to backpack? The Golden State has thousands of miles of backcountry trails. You a skier? California's Sierra Nevada range is by far the best range for snow sports. But most people travel to California for either the surf or the desert so let's take a look at what Explore California has to offer in these two extremes.**

## TOUR INFO

**Duration:** 2 Weeks

**Cost per person:**  
\$5000 (based upon  
double occupancy)

**Departure Dates:** March  
10, June 15, September 24.

**Included:** All meals  
and lodging.

**Not included:** Travel  
insurance, travel to and  
from departure city.

Explore California has been working in California for years, showing people from all over the world the true beauty and complexity that makes California. We are so proud of our state, its history, its people, and its landscapes — that's why we started this company. And to best show off our marvelous state, we've developed two packages — one sporting, one relaxing — to show you around our California.

### Explore California — Sporting

This week-long package is entirely developed with the sporting enthusiast in mind. We will start out in the Southern California desert in Palm Desert, CA where you'll experience all the exotic nature of the sands, riding ATVs through the desert (on dedicated trails of course), looking at the most amazing vistas in America. The next day its out to Manhattan Beach, where you'll enjoy the sand and surf on water craft, surf boards, and beach volleyball. You'll be basking

the sun just around feet away from some of the best waves in America. The next stop is Mammoth Lakes, where the snow pack stays beautiful all year long and the skiing and snowboarding is amazing. The next morning we'll get moving down to San Francisco Bay and the Alameda Yacht Club. You'll have the chance to sail the bay in a 55ft catamaran or on a personal windsurfing board. The next day brings more winter fun — a cross-country skiing excursion from Big Bend to Paradise, CA. It's a 20 mile experience through the trees and hills of Northern California and the Tahoe National Forest; a relaxing and invigorating day to be sure. Finally, its on to Crescent City — home of the California Mountain Biking Championships. You'll have the opportunity to ride the same trails the pros do — on bikes we'll provide. Its an amazing package — well over 1900 miles of California — where you'll see the state from every angle (including some unexpected ones.

Joshua Tree National Park







## Explore California — Relaxing

Californios have a reputation for being a little more laid back than the rest of the nation — and that perception is not far wrong. We work hard and we play hard, but when we relax, we really know how to relax. This package was designed to really show you how we relax in California. The first day is a quiet and peaceful day in San Diego, voted the most beautiful weather in America by Weather Magazine. On this first day, we'll go on a small tour of the gardens of Balboa Park, then relax with native teas from Mexico at the Coronado Resort and Spa. The next day, we'll travel to Palm Springs and enjoy a native Hota experience — hot rock treatments, sweat lodge, and a refreshing pool of real hot springs to relieve all of your stress. A quiet evening of chamber music and scented candles finishes the day. The following day is an exciting one — a chance to rub elbows with the California elite. You'll have a full day at the Beverly Hills Day Spa for as many treatments as you want. You can have a massage one table over from



a starlet or share a sauna with your favorite soap star. Next, it's off to Santa Barbara and the Bocarata Resort and spa and swimming with the dolphins. Your final day will be in beautiful Monterey — where tall trees meet the surf, and the pace of life slows to a crawl. Truly, this package offers all of the relaxation anyone could ever want. As with all of our tours and packages, Explore California is dedicated to making your California experience truly enjoyable, and that means making it completely adaptable to your needs. When booking the Sporting and Relaxation packages, you will be asked to complete a detailed questionnaire about your skill level, any existing health problems and any special requests. Take this opportunity to tell us what you would like from your California adventure and we'll do our best to make it happen.

### FACT FILE

**Palm Desert** is home to a unique non-profit conservation effort called The Living Desert [www.livingdesert.org](http://www.livingdesert.org). The grounds are open for visitors and are home to a huge variety of plant and animal species.

**Joshua Trees** are a variety of Yucca named by Mormon settlers crossing the Mojave Desert in the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century.

**Fact:** The Mojave Desert is believed to support between 1,750 and 2,000 unique plant species.

**April** is chief wildflower time in California. Look for lupine, poppies and owlclovers.

**Fact:** California's coastline is 840 miles long but the tidal shoreline (including bays and inlets) is a whopping 3427 miles long.

**California tide pools** are home to such fanciful creatures as periwinkle snails, fingernail limpets, buckshot barnacles and sunburst anemones.

### The Big Sur coastline.

