



**Community
Services
Department**
Connecting People to Opportunities

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Cachuma Lake Recreation Activity Calendar **December 2014**

GENERAL DESCRIPTION:

December is a wonderful time of year to visit Cachuma Lake. In the midst of “Eagle Season,” lake cruises now highlight resident and migratory bald eagles, as well as other wildlife here for the winter season. The Lake is open year round for both camping and day use and is an ideal setting for a peaceful holiday getaway. The lake still has many coves to fish and explore, along with 80+ foot lake depths. Cachuma Lake Recreation Area is a beautiful outdoor destination set amidst oak woodlands in the picturesque Santa Ynez Valley in Santa Barbara County. For easy trip planning, Cachuma Lake takes online reservations for all camping options at www.sbparks.org. At Cachuma Lake you will find practically everything you need for a relaxing lakeside getaway in the great outdoors: Year-round cabin, tent, yurt, and RV camping, boating, boat and kayak rentals, fishing, wildlife cruises on the lake, the Neal Taylor Nature Center, bird watching, hiking, photography, picnics, and a general store. Mild temperatures, typically sunny skies, and good fishing conditions make year-round camping here exceptionally rewarding. Located off scenic Highway 154 in the Santa Ynez Valley, Cachuma Lake is midway between the coast of Santa Barbara, area wineries, and the Danish community of Solvang. Visit the Parks website at www.sbparks.org.

YEAR-ROUND NATURE PROGRAMS

Cachuma Lake Eagle Cruises – Two-hour cruises are offered mornings 10 am – noon Fridays, Saturdays & Sundays, and afternoons 2 pm – 4 pm Fridays and Saturdays. Santa Barbara County Park Naturalists lead 2-hour cruises that focus on bald eagles, local birds and migratory birds, local wildlife, flora, geology, and Native American and settler history. \$15/adults \$7/kids (4-12 years old; please, no children under 4). Reservations: (805) 568-2460 weekdays, (805) 686-5055 weekends. \$10 Park Admission per vehicle. Call the Naturalists’ office at (805) 688-4515 for more information or visit www.sbparks.org and click on “Nature Cruises.”

Cachuma Lake Nature Walk – Every Saturday, 10-11:30 am; meet at the Neal Taylor Nature Center. Santa Barbara County Park Naturalists and interpretive guides lead an easy paced ½-mile walk on the Don Wimpess Nature Trail. Free with \$10 Park Admission per vehicle. Large groups are encouraged to call the Park Naturalists in advance, (805) 688-4515.

Cachuma Lake Junior Ranger Program – Every Saturday, 12:30-1:30 pm; meet at the Nature Center. Kids earn a badge with the help of a Santa Barbara County Park Naturalist as they learn about wildlife and care of the natural environment. \$2 per child in addition to the \$10 Park Admission per vehicle. Call (805) 688-4515 for more information or visit the Calendar of Events at www.sbparks.org.

More...

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NEAL TAYLOR NATURE CENTER AT CACHUMA LAKE:

Neal Taylor Nature Center – Open Tuesday through Saturday, 10:00 am – 4:00 pm, and Sunday, 10:00 am – 2:00 pm. Located in the historic white ranch house behind the Cachuma Lake General Store. Exhibits and hands-on displays for all ages feature local wildlife, birds, plant life, geology, local history, as well as a gift and book shop. Free admission with \$10 per vehicle Park day use fee. For more information call (805) 693-0691, see park bulletin boards, or visit www.clnaturecenter.org.

OUTDOOR RECREATION AT CACHUMA LAKE:

Cachuma Lake Hiking – There are four miles of trails for self-guided hikes within the Park. Pick up a trail guide at the front gate. \$10 Park Admission per vehicle. Call (805) 688-4515 for more information or visit www.sbparks.org. Also, within a 15 minute drive of Cachuma, you can access multiple hiking trailheads in Los Padres National Forest.

Cachuma Lake Fishing –Fishing from shore in the campground or from a boat is open all year with a valid fishing license. The lake supports healthy populations of rainbow trout, large- and smallmouth bass, crappie, and channel catfish. See www.sbparks.org for the Weekly Fishing Report, and for strict boat inspection and launch requirements to control invasive plants and animals.

Cachuma Lake Marina & Boat Rentals – Open daily (1-15 December 7:00 am-4:30 pm & 16-31 December 7:00 am-5:00 pm). Boat rentals, party boats, pontoon boats, kayak rentals, slip rentals, 1-day fishing licenses and a full bait and tackle are available. Call (805) 688-4040 for prices and specific times. \$10 Park Admission per vehicle.

Bow Fishing for Carp – Bow fishing is permitted at Cachuma Lake. Permits are free and obtained at the lake. See [Carp Bow Fishing at Cachuma Lake](http://www.sbparks.org) at www.sbparks.org for completed information and regulations.

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