

Elephant Seal Extravaganza

Family Field Trip



It's that time of year again; we're gearing up for our big trip. This year the trip will be to the Central

California Coast on February 12th and 13th. We have tours planned at Hearst Castle, the Piedras Blancas Light Station,



and the Coastal Discovery Center. This is a great time of year to view elephant seals as it is birthing season! Pick and choose which activities work



best for your family and kick off to February break on the coast! Below you'll find information on

times and costs for tours and such. Remember, we need you to sign up and **pay ahead of time** so that we can purchase tickets at a group rate.

Hearst Castle Grand Room Tour

February 12 meet at 12:30

The tour should be done by 2:00

There is a FREE movie that starts every 45 minutes and gives a good overview of the history of the estate. It is suggested that you watch the movie BEFORE the tour.

Cost:

\$7 for teacher (limit one per family)

\$18 for other adult

\$4 for students

Children under 5 are free



Coastal Discovery Center

February 13 at 2:00

The Coastal Discovery Center is an exciting hands-on museum near Hearst Castle. It also has a pier you can fish off of! This should take about two hours

Cost:

\$3 for Kindergarten and older

Piedras Blancas Light Station Tour

February 13 at 9:30

This Tour is limited to 30 people!

We will meet at the hotel and go on a tour of the light station which includes about a half mile interpretive walk. This should last for about an hour and a half.

Cost:

\$10 for adults

\$5 for students (age 6-17)

Children 5 and under are free

Elephant Seal Self-Guided Walk

February 13 12:00 to 1:00

This is a self-guided walk with docents along the way. We will be there at the peak of birthing/mating season. If this time doesn't work well for you, the area is open from sun up to sun down.

Cost:

FREE

Contact Kathi Bales with questions.

642-1422 x12

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Helpful Links:

Hearst Castle –

<http://hearstcastle.org/>

The Hearst Castle Visitor Center web site includes lots of great pictures, family history, and times for the movie (under the theatre link).

Coastal Discovery Center –

<http://montereybay.noaa.gov/vc/cdc/exhibits.html>

This site includes an overview of exhibits and history of the San Simeon area.

Friends of the Elephant Seals –

<http://www.elephantseal.org/>

Here you can find a link to a live webcam and lots of information about elephant seals.

Piedras Blancas Light House –

<http://www.blm.gov/ca/st/en/fo/bakersfield/Programs/pbls.html>

This site includes a brief description of the lighthouse and a brief history of the area.

Cambria Chamber of Commerce –

<http://www.cambriachamber.org/>

Located 16 miles south of Hearst Castle, with lots of restaurants and parks to play in, Cambria is a good place to stay.

San Simeon Chamber of Commerce –

<http://sansimeonchamber.org/>

Hearst Castle is just minutes north of San Simeon. San Simeon has many restaurants and things to do as well, making it another great place to stay.

Morro Bay Chamber of Commerce –

<http://www.morrobay.org/>

Located 30 miles south of Hearst Castle, Morro Bay is another great place to stay with many attractions. Lodging here can be slightly less expensive as well.

San Simeon State Park (Camping) –

http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=590

If you are interested in camping near Hearst Castle this is the website that takes reservations for the campground in San Simeon.