

## HeartCycle Bicycle Touring Club

# PASO ROBLES WINE COUNTRY TOUR 2022

**Dates:** Orientation Saturday evening, April 9. Ride April 10-16. Depart April 16, 2022.  
**Leaders:** Cindy Alvarez & Ken Condray    **SAGs:** Melissa Collins & Danna Korak  
**Rating:** Intermediate/Advanced, ~50 miles per day, 2100-4300 ft. climbing  
**Riders:** 30  
**Price:** \$1,690 (Double occupancy); Deposit \$400; Single Supplement \$2,535  
Balance due 2/9/2022.

**Cancellation:** [Standard cancellation policy](#). *Trip insurance is advised.*

### OVERVIEW

You are invited to join your fellow cyclists for the popular fixed-base tour through California's fastest growing wine region—Paso Robles. This area is home to more than 250 wineries, many of which are small boutique producers that dot the countryside amongst 26,000 vineyard acres. In addition to wineries, the area is known for its distilleries and walnut, olive oil, and cheese tasting rooms. The town is packed with excellent restaurants. The majority of the riding is on quiet, winding, hilly back roads through vineyards, farms, and forests. A few short stretches are on major roadways. The daily mileage is ~50 miles with 2100–4300 ft elevation gain. Since mileage is relatively short, there will be ample opportunity to stop and sample the local fare.

**LODGING & MEALS** Seven nights lodging is provided at the Paso Robles Oxford Suites. The hotel is close to restaurants, shopping, wine tasting, and entertainment. The property has a heated pool and jacuzzi. All rooms are equipped with a microwave and mini-fridge. Breakfast is provided daily at the hotel. The tour will provide both snacks and lunch on riding days. Dinner is on your own. One group dinner is included in the cost of the tour.

**WEATHER** The average high temperature in April is 73° with an average low temperature of 41°. Average monthly rainfall in April is 0.67 inches. These averages predict beautiful, sunny cycling weather but mornings and evenings will be cool. As usual, riders should also be prepared for rain.

**GETTING THERE** Paso Robles is located about halfway between San Francisco (190 miles) and Los Angeles (213 miles.) Amtrak's Coast Starlight makes two stops daily both southbound and northbound in San Luis Obispo. United, American, and Alaska Airlines fly into San Luis Obispo Airport. We will make one trip on each Saturday to shuttle riders to and from the SLO airport and train station.

## ITINERARY

Mileages and climbing are approximate. The order of the rides is subject to change.

### Day 1: Tobin James Winery Loop, 50 miles, 2500 feet

Today, we head south out of Paso Robles on quiet roads past many of the most popular wineries in the region—Cass, Hansen, Sarzotti, Pomar Junction, and Bubank. Our lunch stop is at Tobin James Winery. The wine shop is worth a quick visit. Any wine purchases can be transported back to the hotel on the SAG vehicle. The return trip to Paso Robles is through vineyards on some of the quietest roads in the region.

[www.tobinjames.com](http://www.tobinjames.com)



## **Day 2: San Andreas Fault/Parkfield, 67 miles, 3800 feet**

The Parkfield ride has two options. First option is the long route starting in Paso Robles. Second option is a remote start, which would be 42 miles with 3100 feet. Parkfield is known as the “Earthquake Capital of the World,” because the town sits astride the San Andreas Fault and is one of the most heavily studied earthquake areas in the world. The route travels through



forests and farmland north of Paso Robles. The road has virtually no cars with mile after mile of uninterrupted cycling. If we are lucky, we will be able to enjoy an authentic rancher’s BBQ lunch at the Parkfield Cafe.

## **Day 3: Cowboy Loop, 44 miles, 3000 feet**

Today’s ride is a remote start. We will drive about 20 miles south to the quaint town of Santa Maria. HC will transport bikes and people for those who do not have a car. The lunch stop at the Vintage Cowboy Winery sets the tone for the day. The sag vehicle will transport any wine purchases back to the hotel for you. If you cherish pedaling long, uninterrupted miles on quiet back roads, through beautiful forests, with next to no cars, you will love today!

## **Day 4: Wednesday – Day Off**

Things to visit in Paso Robles:

Drive to the coast – Cambria, Morrow Bay, Hearst Castle, Elephant Seals, and more; Paso Robles City Park with its Carnegie Library, completed in 1908; Estrella Warbird Air Museum (4251 Dry Creek Rd); Paso Robles Pioneer Museum (2010 Riverside); Studios on the Park (1130 Pine St)—over 20 artists and craftspeople display and sell an eclectic variety of art for almost every taste; Paso Robles Walking Food and Wine Tour <https://www.zerve.com/CCFoodTours/Paso>; wineries, wineries, and more wineries!

## Day 5: Adelaida & Peachy Canyon, 48 miles, 4300 feet

Today's ride is highlighted by beautiful rolling hills on quiet back roads lined by ancient oaks. Since the roads are so quiet, wildlife sightings are expected. Watch out for tiny mule deer and wild turkeys! Our lunch stop is at a Pasolivo Olive Oil Company with an opportunity for olive oil tasting. On the return to Paso Robles, we will follow roads used in the Tour of California and find out how much fun they had! For those who want a shorter ride, there is an option to bypass one 13-mile loop.



## Day 6: Sculpterra Loop, 51 miles, 2600 feet

The day starts on quiet, winding roads through countless vineyards. The first stop will be in the town of Santa Margarita to refuel before continuing through winding, hilly forested roads then past pristine horse ranches to Creston for lunch. The afternoon ride will pass Sculpterra Winery, where we will stroll through their larger-than-life granite and bronze sculptures.



## Day 7: San Miguel Loop, 46 miles, 2100 feet

Mission San Miguel Arcangel (founded in 1797) and Rios Caledonia Adobe (founded in 1835) are today's destinations. The route heads for Hog Canyon where you may see the remains of old almond orchards, as well as old buildings and equipment from the early farming days. The ride back to Paso is along the Salinas River, the world's largest underground river, called the "upside down river" by locals. Hopefully, it will have water flowing after a wet winter!



For additional information:

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