

HEARTCYCLE BICYCLE TOURING CLUB

SPRINGTIME IN SOLVANG

Dates: Orientation meeting: Saturday, April 22, 2023. Riding: April 23-28. Departure Saturday, April 29

Leaders: Polly & Mark Lestikow
SAGs: Mayoma Pendergast, Kathleen Schindler

Distance: Approximately 295 miles and 20,000 feet climbing, with options for less

Rating: Intermediate/Advanced

Riders: 30 (maximum) plus Leaders and SAGs

Price: \$1,600; Deposit \$400 due at registration.
Balance due by January 21, 2023. Single Supplement \$2,400

Cancellation: [Standard cancellation policy](#). Travel insurance is recommended

OVERVIEW

Join us for this fixed-base week-long tour in Solvang, CA; a quaint village known as the Danish capital of the US, located in the Central Coast wine country of California just north of Santa Barbara. It's a must visit destination for bicyclists to ride the quiet back roads through the rolling (and mountainous) terrain, to eat at Danish bakeries and the many fine restaurants in the area, and to sample wines at the many local vineyards and tasting rooms. The Amgen Tour of California often stops here. Other activities include the Old Mission Santa Inez, golf, visiting Nojoqui falls, and the Chumash Casino. On Saturday, April 22, we'll arrive at the Corque Hotel (www.hotelcorque.com), a recently remodeled luxurious boutique hotel, with inviting pool and spa, in the heart of Solvang at the edge of the Copenhagen Street shopping area and restaurants. Our Orientation meeting will be in the early evening. Breakfast is not included, but we have time in the mornings to visit the many Danish bakeries and restaurants that are just steps from the hotel. The rooms have mini-refrigerators if you wish to bring supplies in from near-by grocery stores (rooms do NOT have microwaves). The tour will include a group dinner.

ITINERARY

Our rides range from rambling through the countryside, to difficult mountain climbs. As a fixed-base tour, you can shorten or skip rides. Participants will receive detailed maps, cue sheets, and Ride with GPS files. The routes may vary as to which day we ride them, and when we take a rest day, depending on weather, and will include rides such as the following.



Valley Rambler - 37 (to 50) miles/1750' (to 2,600) vertical We orient ourselves to the valley with visits to the small towns of Santa Ynez and Los Olivos; and riding Foxen Canyon, Zaca Station and the Alamo Pintado roads, passing (or visiting) local wineries, lavender farms and more.



Jalama (pronounced-Halama) Beach Bash - 77 miles/ 5,800' vertical.

An epic local ride that combines the best scenery, challenging rolling hills, and spectacular scenic overlooks of the Pacific Ocean. Ride out Santa Rosa Rd (the Pinot Noir route), then on to the beautiful and challenging Jalama Beach Road for lunch at the remote Jalama beach park. Return through Alisal Canyon. Support to shorten the ride and climbing will be available.



Wine Trail/Los Alamos Loop - 58 miles/3,300 vertical.

This includes Chalk Hill, Ballard Canyon, Foxen Canyon (the Wine Trail). A gorgeous ride past vineyards and horse ranches!



Figueroa Mountain Masher - 48 miles/ 4,800' vertical.

This is the legendary local “challenge ride.” It includes sustained steep grades with over 9 miles of climbing averaging 7.5% and a short segment of rough hard-packed dirt road. If you choose to ride the entire 48 miles, be prepared for very rough roads with a steep downhill. You can also ride out to the beginning of the climb, come back and hit the casinos.



Drum Canyon and Harris Grade - 62 miles/ 3,350' vertical.

This ride climbs up Drum Canyon and over to Harris Grade with its nice climbs and long vistas, lunch at La Purisma Mission, then a return on Santa Rosa Rd (Pinor Noir route).

Notes:

Low gears (compact with 32 or greater on the rear cluster), and size 25 (or greater) tires are highly recommended. Some roads are in good shape, while stretches of many others reflect California budget limitations.

Dr. J's Bicycle shop in Solvang has a variety of bikes for rent, including carbon Specialized Roubaix Road bikes and Specialized Creo e-bikes. Bicycles can be rented by contacting Dr. J's directly at (805) 688-6263, or by visiting their website at www.drjsbikeshop.com. Dr. J's is a two-block walk from our hotel.

For further information contact:

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