

PSA Southern California Chapter Exclusive Experience

Santa Cruz Island Nature Tour Monday, June 9, 2025

The Photographic Society of America Worldwide (PSA), Southern California Chapter provides Exclusive Photography Experiences for PSA members. These experiences may be a tour, workshop, photo shoot, or other unique experience designed to provide Southern California PSA members with opportunities to photograph, enjoy the comradery of fellow photographers, and develop a strong sense of community.

These Exclusive Experiences will not be available to area clubs or other photography groups for at least a year, and, in many cases, they will never be offered again except as a SoCal Chapter Exclusive Experience.

Santa Cruz Island Nature Tour

Experience Overview: A nature photography tour to Channel Island National Park, Santa Cruz Island, for the opportunity to photograph island landscapes, pelagic birds, marine life, and the endemic Island Fox and Island Jay.

When: **Monday, June 9, 2025**

Where: **Island Packers, 1691 Spinnaker Drive #105B, Ventura, CA 93001**

Leader: **Sandy Zelasko**, an awarded wildlife photographer, enthusiast workshop leader, photography instructor and judge. Learn more about Sandy's workshops at: InvestInNature.org.

Required Minimum/Maximum: **10/16 participants**

Cost & Payment Schedule:

- **Registration Opens:** **February 16, 2025**
- **Early bird Registration fee:** **\$145.00**
- **Fee after** **March 10, 2025:** **\$175.00**
- **No refund after:** **March 10, 2025**
- **Waiting List:** A Waiting List will be maintained once the maximum number of participants has been reached and those first on the waiting list will be contacted if there is a cancellation.

- Included:

Transportation (boat) roundtrip to and from Santa Cruz Island.

Experienced trip leader with 25+ years of instructional experience. She is insured, licensed, and CPR/AED/ First Aid certified.

Participants will have an **enthusiastic, passionate nature photographer pro at their side!**

- Not Included

Transportation to and from home to Island Packers in Ventura (beginning tour location).

Meals

Lodging (not required)

Travel insurance (not required)

Gratuities

Schedule:

- Any participants arriving in Ventura on **Sunday, June 8**, can have dinner with the trip leader at a local restaurant at **6:30 PM**.
- Meet at Island Packers at **8 AM**, 1691 Spinnaker Drive #105B, Ventura, CA 93001, Monday, June 9 to meet the group and receive boat ticket.
- The boat will depart for Santa Cruz Island, Scorpion Cove at **9 AM**.
- The group will spend the day on the island and board for the return trip to Island Packers in Ventura at **4PM**.
- Arrive at Island Packers and the mainland at approximately **5 PM**.
- If any wish to have dinner, the tour leader will accompany them to **dinner** at a restaurant near Island Packers.

Additional information:

Santa Cruz is the largest of the islands in Channel Island National Park. There are scenic hiking trails, colorful tide pools, and a variety of plants and animals. It will be possible to photograph both the endemic (seen nowhere else on earth) Santa Cruz Island Fox and Island Scrub Jay during the visit. Marine animals can often be seen during transit to and from the mainland.

The island is exceptionally rich in cultural history and remnants of the ranching era can also be seen and photographed on your visit.

Participants need to have **breakfast** before arriving at Island Packers at 8AM and need to bring **easy to carry items to eat during the day**, e.g., nutritional bars, fruit, nuts, etc.

Potable **water** is available in the campground area. Participants need to bring water and/or a refillable water bottle.

Picnic tables are in the Visitor Center area. There will be a **planned stop for "lunch"** when appropriate during the day.

Vault style **restrooms** are located near the beach and there are two restrooms in the campground.

Island Packers **website** for Santa Cruise Island: <https://islandpackers.com/santa-cruz-island/>

Cancellation Policy: This Nature Tour will be cancelled, and registration fees will be returned, if the minimum number of participants (10) is not met by September 15. Registrants can cancel until September 15 and receive a full refund. There can be no refunds after September 15.