

PSA Southern California Chapter

Exclusive Experience

Pismo Beach and Morro Bay Nature Tour

Monday, May 18, 2026

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.

Pismo Beach and Morro Bay Nature Tour

Experience Overview: A nature photography tour to the Pismo Beach and Morro Bay areas for the opportunity to photograph coastal landscapes, sand dunes, harbor and marine life.

When: **Monday, May 18, 2026**

Where: **Pismo Beach to Morro Bay area**

Leader: **Sandy Zelasko**, a PSA SoCal Chapter Board Member, awarded wildlife photographer, enthusiast workshop leader, photography instructor, and judge. Participants will have an **enthusiastic, passionate nature photographer pro at their side!** Learn more about Sandy's workshops at: <https://InvestInNature.org/>.

- Included:

Transportation on an electric boat at Morro Bay (one hour).

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

Group text with locations.

- Not Included

Transportation to and from home. Carpool to locations between Pismo Beach and Morro Bay.

Meals

Lodging (not required, but suggested) Sandy will be at the Best Western Casa Grande Inn, 850 Oak Park Boulevard, Arroyo Grande, CA 93420, 805-481-7398,

https://www.bestwestern.com/en_US/book/hotels-in-arroyo-grande/best-western-casa-grande-inn/propertyCode.05391.html

Travel insurance (not required)

Gratuities

Schedule:

- **5:15 AM** Meet at Shell Beach in Pismo Beach, CA, at for a sunrise shoot, location **TBD**
<https://www.californiabeaches.com/map/shell-beach-area-pismo-beach/>
- **8 AM** Los Osos Oaks State Natural Reserve, location **TBD**
<https://www.californiabeaches.com/attraction/los-osos-oaks-state-natural-reserve/>
- **10 AM** Montana de Oro State Park eucalyptus grove, location **TBD**
<https://www.californiabeaches.com/map/montana-de-oro-state-park/>
- **Lunch at 12 PM** Great American Fish Company, 1185 Embarcadero, Morro Bay, CA 93442
- **2 PM** Morro Rock/Bay electric boat tour, Estero Adventures, 501 Embarcadero, Morro Bay, CA 93442; two boats, two drivers
- **4 PM** Morro Beach, location **TBD** / Chapman Estate: <https://chapmanestatefoundation.org/>
- **6 PM** Oceano Dunes for sunset, location **TBD**
- **8:30 PM** Dinner, location **TBD**

- Participants arriving in the area on **Sunday, May 17** are welcome to have dinner with Sandy, the trip leader, at a local restaurant at **6:00 PM**.

- Participants are welcome to join Sandy **Tuesday, May 19** for a **5:15** sunrise shoot, location **TBD**

Additional information:

We will be visiting several locations along the beautiful California coast for sunrise, sunset and all hours in between. This will be a full day of photography with a midday lunch break to replenish our energy.

The area is exceptionally rich for the nature photographer. Rolling sand dunes, rugged coastline, moss covered oak trees and a beautiful eucalyptus forest await the group. A boat tour of Morro Bay could be the perfect opportunity to photograph marine life including the adorable sea otter.

Participants need to have **breakfast snack and easy to carry items to eat during the day**, e.g., nutritional bars, fruit, nuts, etc. Participants need to bring water and/or a refillable water bottle. There will be a **planned stop for lunch** when appropriate during the day.

There will be **restrooms** stops throughout the day. At any time during the day participants can take a time out to pace themselves if needed. Some walking will be necessary, especially when we are at the Oceano Dunes. Finding places without footsteps, clean leading lines or undisturbed soil in sand could require some effort.

Required Minimum/Maximum: **10/14 participants**

Cost & Payment Schedule:

- **Registration Opens: February 1, 2026**
- **Early bird Registration fee: \$159.00**
- **Fee after February 28, 2026: \$175.00**
- **Cancelation Fee: \$10, No Refund after: April 1, 2026**
- **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.**