

SUN LOVER'S ROAD TRIP: CORONADO TO JULIAN

Travel to world-famous attractions, perfect beaches, and majestic high country on this sun-splashed drive.

Trip length: 3 days

Total distance: 165mi/266km

DAY 1

CORONADO. Show the kids the [Hotel del Coronado](#), a 125-year-old classic with a movie-star past. Swim at ultra-family-friendly Coronado Central Beach. INFO [San Diego Tourism Authority](#); 619/232-3101

BALBOA PARK (6mi/10km; 12min). See koalas at [Conrad Prebys Australian Outback](#), San Diego Zoo's newest exhibit. Munch on mahi mahi tacos at [The Prado](#) at Balboa Park. INFO [Balboa Park](#)

DAY 2

MISSION BAY PARK (9mi/15km; 12min). At [SeaWorld San Diego](#), zoom on the Manta mega-coaster, then see Shamu, or take a behind-the-scenes tour to see belugas. INFO [SeaWorld San Diego](#); 800/25-SHAMU

LA JOLLA (8mi/13km; 8min). Paddle on a guided snorkel or kayak trip with [San Diego Bike & Kayak Tours](#). Dig into comfort foods at hip [Prepkitchen](#). INFO [La Jolla Village Merchants Association](#); 858/454-5718

DAY 3

TORREY PINES (8mi/13km; 17min). Learn about the nation's rarest pine tree at Torrey Pines State Natural Reserve. Putt and drive at legendary [Torrey Pines Golf Course](#). INFO [Torrey Pines State Natural Reserve](#); 916/653-6995

DEL MAR (2mi/4km; 7min). Browse in boutiques in the village, romp on the beach, then head to [Jake's Del Mar](#) for hula pie. Watch horses thunder by at [Del Mar Thoroughbred Club](#). INFO [San Diego Tourism Authority](#); 619/232-3101

DAY 4

CARLSBAD (17mi/27km; 22min). Experience LEGO Legends of Chima new 4-D film at [LEGOLAND California](#). Sound off at [Museum of Making Music](#), filled with instruments and exhibits. INFO [San Diego Tourism Authority](#); 619/232-3101

ESCONDIDO (20mi/32km; 25min). Feed nectar to lorikeets and watch a cheetah sprint by at [San Diego Zoo Safari Park](#). Walk among sparkling statues at [Queen Calafia's Magical Circle garden](#). INFO [San Diego Tourism Authority](#); 619/232-3101

DAY 5

PALOMAR MOUNTAIN (32mi/51km; 58min). Follow trails through towering conifers at Palomar Mountain State Park. Learn about the fascinating Hale Telescope at Palomar Observatory. INFO [Palomar Mountain State Park](#); 760/742-3462

JULIAN (63mi/101km; 1hr36min). Pull over for fresh pie in this apple-licious alpine town. Teach the kids to arch their pinkies with afternoon tea at [Julian Tea and Cottage Arts](#). INFO [Julian Chamber of Commerce](#); 760/765-1857

