

# SPRING BREAK IN SOLVANG TOUR

## APRIL 7 - 14, 2018 (7 Day Tour – 7 Nights Lodging)

Total cost: **\$1385 if 18-24 Paid Participants**

Total Cost: **\$1200 if 25 or more Paid Participants**

Single supplement: **\$600** (paid at time of registration)

Deposit: **\$450** (paid at time of registration)

Final Payment: **\$935/\$750 due by January 10, 2018**

Rider limit: **30**

**Tour Leaders:** Ralph Nussbaum and Pam Austin

**Tour Rating:** Intermediate/Advanced (Read Level of Difficulty below.)

Unfortunately, our planned Central California Tour cannot take place next spring due to a huge mudslide covering a large chunk of scenic California 1. So, we have substituted it with our Solvang Spring Break Week. This is an early season hub and spoke tour designed to get cyclists out on the road in sunny Southern California while it is still cold and wet back home. Solvang was settled by Danish farmers escaping from harsh Midwest winters who found the valley to be a delightful “sunny vale”, (in Danish-Sol Vang) when they settled here in 1911. Professional cyclists also have found Solvang’s weather and terrain to be a great spring training ground. We hope you will, too.

For most days there is a longer, harder route and a shorter, easier route with an intersection of the two for lunch. The routes will head to the coast or up into the hills (or both) where riders can enjoy the varying California scenery from farmland to coast vegetation and eucalyptus groves to fir forests and of course a lot of oak trees and vineyards. Included in the routes is the climb of Mt Figueroa – a must do for all “serious” cyclists. There will also be a sightseeing route and opportunities to sample the local wines and olive oils, do some shopping, and check out some of the local specialties. There are plenty of restaurants in walking distance of the hotel and all of the routes start from the hotel, so a car is not necessary. Nonetheless, having a car or sharing a car can increase the possibilities for fun in the Solvang area.

### WHAT TO EXPECT:

#### LEVEL OF DIFFICULTY:

This tour can be enjoyed by **advanced** riders who take every challenge option or by more **intermediate** riders who opt for easier routes. Some of the climbs are steep, but only Figueroa is long. There are very few routes without hills and even the shortest routes have enough scenery to be very interesting. Sometimes the day’s riding can be made even easier by driving out to start part way along the route. Generally, both routes will meet up for lunch each day.

#### WEATHER:

Solvang enjoys average highs of 75 degrees with cool mornings in April and more than 300 days of sunny weather every year, so the chances are good that the weather will be perfect for riding. However, when it does rain, it rains hard, so good rain gear is always a good idea.

#### LODGING/MEALS:

Our lodging is the very nice Holiday Inn Express, with easy access to restaurants by foot or by car. A daily hot breakfast is included. Snacks and lunch will be provided off the sag vehicles. The hotel has an outdoor pool and hot tub.

**DAY BY DAY ITINERARY:** (Mileages & Elevation gains are approximate Listed are the rides we plan to complete, but they may not be scheduled in this order depending on weather and other variables.)

#### Saturday, April 7: Meet in Solvang

We meet for an introductory meeting at 8:00PM. For those who arrive earlier in the day, there is a short introductory loop route that will be emailed to registrants in advance.

**Sunday, April 8: Surf Beach 67 miles/2,600' or Miguclito Canyon 64 miles/3,650'**

Both routes head west together, the easier route goes out to Surf Beach, the more difficult one goes up Migeulito Canyon for a total of 64 miles and 3650'. Both of these routes will provide us with our first view of the Pacific Ocean and will meet up again at the Purisima Mission for lunch and a chance to tour an extremely interesting historical site before a quick jaunt back to Solvang.

**Monday, April 9: Harris Grade & Drum Canyon - 71 miles/3800' or 46 miles/3000'**

The longer route goes up Harris Grade through Los Alamos, then up to Foxen Canyon, past several wineries and down into the very pretty little town of Los Olivos. The shorter route takes the lower and shorter route up Drum Canyon and joins the longer route in Los Alamos. From Los Olivos, it's an easy ride back to Solvang.

**Tuesday, April 10: Tepesquet Canyon - 82 miles/5,400' or 54 miles/3,300'**

The ride up Tepesquet Canyon is a gorgeous ride. The longer route goes over Drum and Cat Canyon to the start of Tepesquet Canyon. After a ride up and back in the Canyon, the route again returns to Solvang via Foxen Canyon and Los Olivos. The shorter route also goes up Cat Canyon to Tepesquet, but cuts out miles by starting in Los Alamos and returns to Los Alamos via Foxen and Alisos Canyons.

**Wednesday, April 11:**

A day off to relax. A self-guided sightseeing route will be available. This will be a chance to visit some of the local wineries, check out the Wednesday Farmer's Market, visit both a miniature donkey and miniature horse farm as well as a lavender farm and taste the local olive oils.

**Thursday, April 12: Figuero Mountain - 51 miles/5,780'**

The Figueroa Mountain Loop encompasses only 50 miles but 4500', but it is the "must do" route for visitors to Solvang. The climb often reaches 10% or more for several miles at a time. The views as you go up and descend make the whole climb worth the effort.

**Friday, April 13: Jalama Beach - 77 miles/5,800' or 75 miles/4,900')**

This day features a return to the beaches. The longer route will go out to the spectacular Jalama Beach and return to Solvang via Nojoqui Falls. The shorter route will go out to Jalama Beach and then back the same way. The climb over the ridge to Jalama Beach can be challenging, but the descent to the beach is stunning.

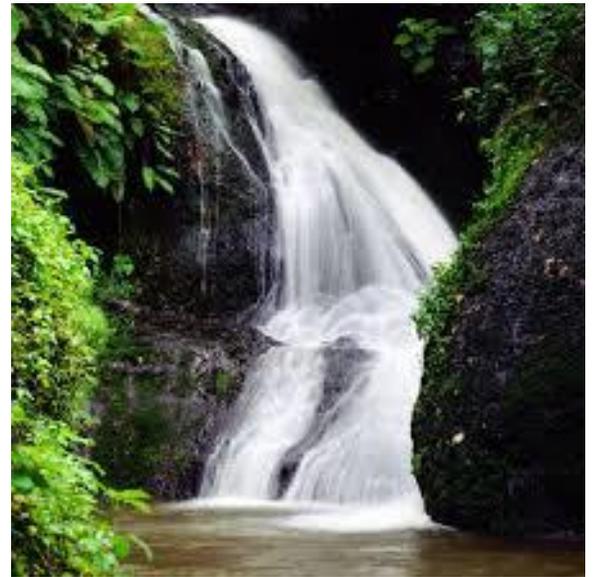
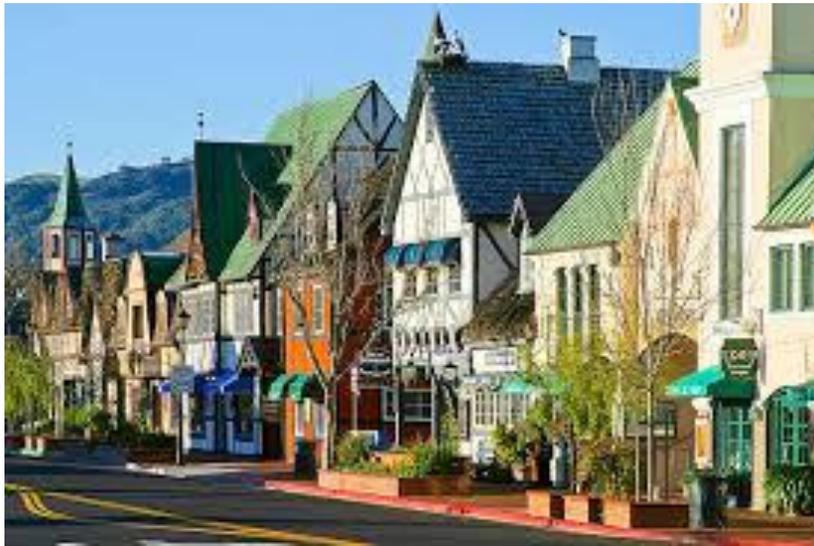
**Saturday, April 14:**

We will be checking out of our hotel today but for those who still haven't had enough of the beautiful Solvang area there are always more places to ride.

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# 2018 SPRING SOLVANG BREAK WEEK

