First Timer's Guide To SB and More

Guide to the American Riviera

You're not just choosing a university—you're choosing a new home and an adventure. At UCSB, you'll experience the best of California: world-class academics, a tight-knit community, and the breathtaking beauty of the American Riviera. Whether you're hiking, catching waves, or exploring the charm of downtown Santa Barbara, life here is anything but ordinary. This guide will show you why UCSB isn't just a college—it's a lifestyle.



Goleta: Fun & Relaxation Nearby

A mix of entertainment, shopping, and local culture just minutes from UCSB.

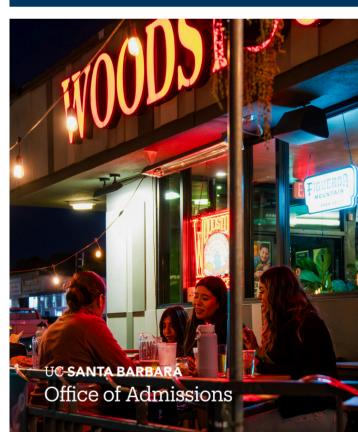
- Bowlero Bowling Alley: Bowling, arcade, & nightlife
- Camino Real Marketplace: Shopping, dining, & weekly farmer's market
- Dave's Dogs: Locally-owned, award-winning, hot dog grill
- Goleta Beach Park: Great for a beach day near campus
- Ice in Paradise: Ice skating & hockey games
- Noodle City: Vietnamese Cuisine

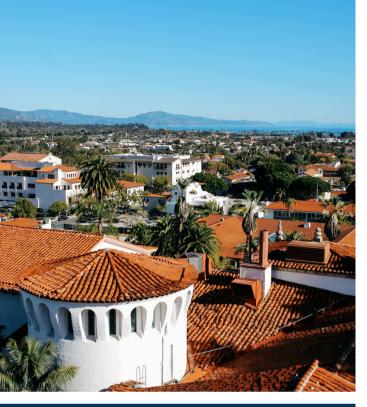


Isla Vista: UCSB's Student Hub

Laid-back, beachside community filled with student life.

- Devereux Beach: Great for surfing
- Sands Beach: Quiet & scenic
- Campus Point: UCSB's "backyard" beach
- IV Eats: Freebirds, Woodstock's Pizza, Deja Vu Cafe
- Little Acorn Park: Weekly thrift pop-up shops
- IV Theater: Isla Vista Magic Lantern theater screens critically acclaimed films & cult classics.
 *free for UCSB students





Nature & Outdoor Adventures

Laid-back, beachside community filled with student life.

- SB Botanic Garden: Native California plants & scenic trails
- Lotusland: Stunning, world-class botanical garden.
- Montecito Hot Springs: Natural hot spring pools in the mountains
- Lizard's Mouth: Rock formations with incredible views
- Rattlesnake Canyon Hike: A scenic trail for all levels



Santa Barbara: Culture & Entertainment

Historic charm meets modern fun in the heart of SB.

- SB Arts District: Historical theaters on State St. hosts events, including the SB Film Festival and SB Symphony.
- SB Mission: Glimpse into SB history
- SB Zoo: Home to 146+ species
- East Beach Batting Cages: Fun baseball activity by the beach
- SB Bowl: Iconic outdoor concert venue
- The Funk Zone: Trendy arts district with dining + boutique stores.



Got Questions? Contact Us

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UC SANTA BARBARA
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