

# El Presidio de Santa Barbara

Before your visit...

Grade 2

## OUR GOAL

is to provide useful pre and post-visit material to ensure that both teacher and student receive a meaningful and informative experience when they visit the Santa Barbara Presidio. Through this material we hope to help you, the teacher, to interpret, present, and encourage the enjoyment of the unique historical and cultural resources found at El Presidio de Santa Barbara in your classroom, while simultaneously meeting the 2nd Grade History-Social Science Content Standards.

*Reserve your  
tour today!*

call  
(805) 965-0093  
weekdays between  
9am & 2pm

## The History of the Santa Barbara Presidio



Founded April 21, 1782, the Santa Barbara Royal Presidio was the last in a chain of four military fortresses built by the Spanish along the coast of Alta California, then a wilderness frontier (others had been established at San Diego, San Francisco and Monterey). Padre Junipero Serra, well known for his efforts in founding the California missions, blessed the site of the Santa Barbara Presidio four years prior to the establishment of the Mission of Santa Barbara in 1786. El Presidio de Santa Barbara State Historic Park encompasses the original Presidio site and is located in modern downtown Santa Barbara at the intersection of Santa Barbara and Canon

## Importance

The presidios played a vital role in the occupation of California (New Spain). They protected the missions and settlers against attack by Indians, provided a location for the establishment of government, and guarded the country against foreign invasion. The Santa Barbara Presidio was both military headquarters and the governmental center of the entire region, extending from present day San Luis Obispo County to and including the Pueblo of Los Angeles.

## El Presidio de Santa Barbara State Historic Park

123 East Canon Perdido Street, Santa Barbara, CA 93102-0388  
Hours: 10:30am- 4:30pm daily

## Relevance to your class

### CA Standard 2.1

“Students differentiate between things that happened long ago and things that happened yesterday.”

### CA Standard 2.1.2

“Compare and contrast their current daily lives with those of their parents, grandparents, and/or guardians.”

### CA Standard 2.4.1

“Describe food production and consumption long ago and today.”

### CA Standard 2.4.3

“Understand how limits on resources affect production and consumption (what to produce and what to consume).”

### Note:

Our trained Docents can address specific points of interest according to your needs or lesson plans!

During your visit...

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Presidio Tour Summary

An engaging tour of the Presidio presents the story of Santa Barbara’s founding and of life in its early days, to aid children in developing a sense of history. Comparisons are drawn with children’s lives today and those who lived in the Presidio community.

### Primary Theme:

The Presidio was a place where Spanish cultural traditions were passed from one generation to the next.

Although El Presidio de Santa Barbara was the last of the presidios to be established, it quickly became a busy center where officials, soldiers, rancheros, and merchants created a uniquely Californian community. From architecture and crafts to ceremony and food production, the Presidio soon became an extension of Spanish culture and a place where traditional ways of living could be taught to younger generations.

### Duration

Tours are approximately 1 hour in length.

### Supervision

One adult per ten students is required supervision. Each group is limited to 45 students. Teachers and chaperones **MUST** remain with the group at all times and are responsible for good group behavior. Visits without a docent (unguided tours) are arranged by reservation only if space allows. The Trust reserves the right to turn away any group with inadequate supervision.

## After your visit...

### Suggested Reading

For teachers:

*Early Days of Santa Barbara* by Walter A. Hawley

*El Presidio de Santa Barbara: A Reader's Theater* prepared by Kathy Chalfant

*A Brief Story of Santa Barbara* by Edward S. Spaulding

For students:

*The Tortilla Factory* by Gary Paulsen

*Day of the Dead* by Tony Johnston & Jeanette Winter

*Frida Maria: A Story of the Old Southwest* by Deborah Nourse Lattimore

*The Piñata Maker* by George Ancona

Books are available for purchase in the Presidio Gift Shop  
Teachers receive 10% discount

### Other Relevant Activities & Materials

#### Extensions

- ◇ Students can compare their family life with that of a child who might have lived in the Presidio in the early 1800's (worksheet #1).
- ◇ Vocabulary associated with early California history can be explored and used in this context (worksheets #2 & #3).
- ◇ In class, students can share old, meaningful family objects.
- ◇ In class, students can create a bulletin board collage relating to life at the Presidio.

*The enclosed worksheets may be downloaded from our website at [www.sbthp.org](http://www.sbthp.org)*

### Casa de la Guerra Tour

Students can visit an early California colonial home and learn about Spanish and Mexican Santa Barbara and the "Rancho Era." The tour concentrates on the history of this particular structure, once the economic, political and social center of the *pueblo* of Santa Barbara and home of the influential De la Guerra family. Children learn about daily life in early Santa Barbara...from work, food and architecture, to games and fiestas.

#### Casa de la Guerra

15 East de la Guerra St.  
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Tours can be scheduled  
between 10am and 3pm  
Monday – Friday

### Presidio Pastimes

Our Presidio Pastimes events are FREE living history days designed for families. They include hands-on activities, demonstrations by *Los Soldados*, and other displays of what life was like in early California.

*For information about our next scheduled Presidio Pastimes,*

# School Tour Guidelines

## How to Reserve

All programs **MUST** be booked in advance. Please allow a minimum of two weeks notice. Make reservations by calling (805) 965-0093, weekdays between 9am and 2pm

## Confirmation

Once a tour is scheduled, a confirmation letter will be sent. Groups larger than 45 students should inquire about alternating with another site (Mission, Courthouse, Historical Museum etc.).

## Parking

At the Presidio: Students can be dropped off in front of the Visitor's Center on Canon Perdido Street.

At Casa de la Guerra: Students can be dropped off in front of the Casa on De la Guerra Street.

There is free 75 minute parking on Canon Perdido, Santa Barbara, and Anacapa Streets, as well as pay parking behind the Lobero Theater.

## Lunch Facilities

Bag lunches may be eaten in the Presidio Courtyard behind the Visi-

If you are interested in additional materials that relate to the Santa Barbara Presidio, Casa de la Guerra, or other pertinent Social Studies materials, you may contact the Education Department at (805) 730-1466 or (805) 962-9504

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