



## **BIKING: Cambria, SLO and Santa Ynez Valley – 4 Day Itinerary**

### **Day One – Ragged Point to Cambria – 22 miles, or more (elevation +937 / -1202 ft)**

After meeting in San Luis Obispo (SLO) in the morning, we'll shuttle you a little over one hour north to Ragged Point where you'll get geared up while ocean waves break far below. After descending from Ragged Point the coastal route in northern SLO County features relatively level terrain that encompasses expansive ocean views as you pass by historic Hearst Ranch and Hearst Castle. Just south of Piedras Blancas lighthouse, the largest elephant seal colony in North America is a must-see stop. Those up for more mileage can explore idyllic, lightly trafficked inland valleys as out and back options toward the end of the ride. Home for the evening is the charming seaside village of Cambria, featuring numerous art galleries and restaurants. It's also possible to extend the ride down the coast in the afternoon and stay in Cayucos overnight.

### **Day Two – SLO Wineries Loop Ride – 20-40 miles**

The Edna Valley just south of SLO features both superb cycling and many award winning small wineries. Cycling from SLO, you'll encounter vineyards almost immediately. You can keep the mileage short and focus on wine tasting at wineries like Baileyana, Kynsi and Saucelito Canyon. You can also explore more of the area on isolated country roads. Returning to SLO, the ride yields beautiful views of the Nine Sisters, a line of craggy volcanic hills stretching from SLO to Morro Bay.

### **Day Three – Santa Rosa Road – 20 miles, or more (elevation +1107 / -861)**

Santa Rosa Road is a gem of a ride in the Santa Ynez Valley wine country. After a shuttle from SLO (a little over 1 hour), we start riding along the Santa Ynez River Valley on a very lightly trafficked road through vineyards and nut orchards. Although there are some hills, the views of the valley are quite dramatic. Wineries such as Alma Rosa, LaFond and Sanford tempt us along the way. Home for the night could be the Danish themed town of Solvang or the smaller hamlets of Los Olivos, Ballard or Santa Ynez. Those up for more miles can tackle the secluded Alisal Road.

### **Day Four – Santa Ynez Valley – 20-40 miles**

There are many options for cycling today. The area is a training area for professional cyclists and includes many isolated country roads as well as more challenging climbs, all passing through idyllic vineyards and ranches with views of the dramatic San Rafael Mountains in the distance. Foxen Canyon is a classic ride and includes many well known wineries, including Fess Parker. Happy Valley gets out into horse ranch and olive oil growing areas. Those up for an epic climb can tackle Figueroa Mountain Road. Ballard Canyon offers a short steep climb followed by a rollicking downhill through vineyards and ranches sporting exotic cattle.