

# Santa Cruz, Calif.

## NEED TO KNOW

### Summer of savings

**M**embers always enjoy AAA savings and special perks on Hertz car rentals. And this summer you'll save an **extra 20 percent** on weekly rentals of select car classes at airport locations when you pick up through July 31. To see terms and book, visit [AAA.com/hertz](http://AAA.com/hertz) and enter promotion code 196700.



### Cover your business

Business owners, consultants, and other professionals can take advantage of competitively priced **small-business insurance** now available through AAA. Stop in to a branch near you for a quote.

### A winner sets sail

Special congratulations to Nick Evans from Oroville, Calif., who won the grand prize—a **Royal Caribbean DreamWorks cruise** for four—in the Zoom In to Win Sweepstakes. His entry was chosen from more than 4,500 submitted at AAA branches across the United States.

### Good news from AAA

AAA Northern California, Nevada & Utah enjoyed strong financial performance last year while continuing to provide members with exceptional service. Find complete details in the club's **2013 annual report**, available at [AAA.com/annualreport](http://AAA.com/annualreport).



At the boardwalk, riders on the Sea Swings sail out over the beach.

**N**orthern California's classic beach destination pairs a carefree oceanside scene with a bustling downtown brimming with tasteful restaurants and shops. For discounted boardwalk attraction tickets, visit a AAA branch or go to [AAA.com/themeparktickets](http://AAA.com/themeparktickets). Area code is 831.

- Riders squeal as their cars spin 360s and take drops at 40 miles per hour on Undertow, the **Santa Cruz Beach Boardwalk's** newest roller coaster. There's also an arcade and a pirate-packed, two-story miniature golf course. 423-5590, [beachboardwalk.com](http://beachboardwalk.com).
- At neighboring **Main and Cowell Beaches**, sea lions bark under the wharf and surfers slice the waves. On Friday evenings beginning June 13, a free concert series brings sax-slinging Eddie Money, alt-rockers Smash Mouth, and others to the sand. 420-5270, [cityofsantacruz.com/index.aspx?page=926](http://cityofsantacruz.com/index.aspx?page=926).
- Peace fills the vine-covered patio at **Laili Restaurant**, serving Afghan and Mediterranean food. Try the apricot-chicken flatbread, topped with Parmesan, dates, and pomegranate seeds. 423-4545, [lailirestaurant.com](http://lailirestaurant.com).
- When the Spanish arrived in the late 1700s, this area was home to some 50 American Indian groups. On a bluff overlooking downtown, **Santa Cruz Mission State Historic Park** preserves a long adobe structure that housed the

subjugated Indians. It now displays a wood-and-sheepskin cradle and other artifacts. 425-5849, [www.parks.ca.gov](http://www.parks.ca.gov).

- A 250-gram brick of *pu-erb* at **Hidden Peak Teahouse** can run \$100, but it could last a year. The shop offers classes and free samples. 423-4200, [hiddenpeakteahouse.com](http://hiddenpeakteahouse.com).

- At the homey **Penny Ice Creamery**, brown-butter spiced pecan, black licorice pear, and other inventive flavors keep folks lined up out the door. 204-2523, [thepennyicecreamery.com](http://thepennyicecreamery.com).

- The mix of handmade artworks and crafts at **Artisans Gallery** includes cheery jewelry boxes papered with dogwood blossoms, owls, and other motifs. 423-8183, [artisansantacruz.com](http://artisansantacruz.com).

- Some taste spicy, some buttery; others come infused with porcini or herbes de Provence. At the **True Olive Connection**, shoppers can sample some two dozen olive oils on tap and balsamic vinegars laced with everything from espresso to mango. 458-6457, [trueoliveconnection.com](http://trueoliveconnection.com).

— ERIC SMILLIE