

Space TO EXPLORE



EXPLORE
LOMPOC

PRESS KIT

explorelom poc.com

Vibrant murals

Living history

Outdoor adventure

Vandenberg SFB

Exceptional wines

About LOMPOC

Did you know that Lompoc is the best vantage point for viewing rocket launches on the West Coast? With Lompoc's unbridled lush hillsides, rich historic murals, a fully restored mission, and unique wine experiences, exploring space has never been this down to earth.



Fast FACTS



THE NAME: Lompoc (pronounced LOM-poke) was officially incorporated in 1888. The name comes from the Chumash, who occupied the area for thousands of years. There are various translations for Lompoc including "lagoon" or "little lake."

LOCATION: Located in Santa Barbara County, on the California Central Coast, Lompoc is 55 miles north of Santa Barbara, 155 miles north of Los Angeles, and 60 miles south of San Luis Obispo. Nearby towns include Buellton, Los Alamos, Solvang and Los Olivos.

POPULATION: Approximately 44,200 residents in 2017.

CLIMATE: A ten minute drive from the Pacific Ocean, Lompoc enjoys a mild, year-round climate, with an average temperature of about 68°F. Daily temperatures can range from the high 70s or low 80s to the high 40s at night.

BEACHES: Jalama Beach County Park, Ocean Beach Park & Estuary, Surf Beach

HOTELS: Twelve hotels are located in the city of Lompoc, from full service establishments to budget-friendly options.

TRANSPORTATION: Nearby major regional airports include Santa Barbara Airport and San Luis Obispo Airport, with connecting flights to LAX and SFO. Amtrak's Pacific Surfliner stops daily at Surf Station near Lompoc.

MAJOR INDUSTRIES: Agriculture, wine production, space technology, tourism, recreation.



Discover an Emerging Destination on the California Central Coast

Located where Highway 1 meets Route 246 on the California Central Coast, Lompoc offers off-the-beaten-path adventures, premium wines, larger-than-life outdoor murals, an awe-inspiring mission, thrilling outdoor fun, and seasonal events that capture the essence of this friendly, relaxing town.

Step Back in Time at La Purisima Mission

Experience early Mission life and California history at La Purisima Mission, the most extensively restored Mission in all of California. During one of the Mission Life Day Events, scheduled from March through October, costumed docents offer special demonstrations and activities such as candle making, bread baking, spinning, tortilla making, weaving, blacksmithing and more.

Fuel Your Passion for Pinot with a Wine Tasting Getaway to Lompoc

Lompoc winemakers are producing some of California's best Pinots, Chardonnays, and other cool climate wines. Experts say it's the combination of coastal climate, east-west hill orientation, and calcium-rich soil that makes wine magic in Lompoc's Sta. Rita Hills wine appellation.

Discover Big Art and Vintage Charm in Old Town Lompoc

Charming Old Town, in the heart of Lompoc Valley, is where locally-owned businesses, cool architecture, historic treasures, and Lompoc's colorful murals come together to create a vintage vibe unique to the California Central Coast. Here visitors will find antique shops, a music store, an art gallery, a Friday farmers market, and that 'mom-and-pop store' feeling reminiscent of small town America.

MORE IDEAS



Lompoc Flower Fields

Visitors can often see spectacular patches of colors from **mid-April through September** as they drive through Lompoc Valley; Larkspur, Stock, Delphinium, Bells of Ireland and Queen Anne's Lace and other fresh cut flowers are the primary flowers grown here. Many of the Lompoc flower fields are located west of Old Town Lompoc, along Central Avenue and Union Sugar Avenue. Once the "flower seed capital of the world," Lompoc growers now focus only on fresh cut flowers, with an estimated 500 acres dedicated to flower production in the valley.



La Purisima Mission State Historic Park

This exceptional Mission – also a 2,000 acre State Park – is considered the most fully restored and furnished of the twenty-one Spanish Missions established in what later became California. Besides wonderful exhibits and buildings, La Purisima Mission State Historic Park offers **25 miles of hiking trails** to explore. Guided tours are offered at 1 pm, Wednesdays through Sundays; Living history events are scheduled on select Saturdays throughout the year. The Mission is open seven days a week except Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's Day.

Lompoc Wine Ghetto

A fun way to taste many of the premium, small production wines made in Lompoc is with a visit to the Wine Ghetto, a collection of about **25 tasting rooms**, all within walking distance of each other. But don't let the non-descript, industrial exterior fool you – each of the tasting rooms has its own distinct charm and ambience, from funky to sophisticated, traditional to modern. Most Wine Ghetto tasting rooms are open Friday through Sunday; some are open Thursday and Monday as well.



Murals of Lompoc

Local history and heritage comes to life through the 40 plus colorful murals on street corners, alley ways and prominent buildings in Old Town and other locations throughout the city. This **outdoor art gallery** depicts scenes of Lompoc's agricultural industry, historic sights, ethnic diversity, scenic beauty and more. Some have been commissioned murals, and others created as "mural in a day" projects involving community residents and artists.

Old Town Heritage Walk

An easy one-mile stroll through Old Town, the Heritage Walk features 18 historic sights, dating back to the 1870s. Top attractions include the **Lompoc Museum** (a once iconic Carnegie Library dating back to 1925); the **Fabing-McKay-Spanne House** (an 1875 Victorian); the charming **Artesia School House** (1876); the **Italian Stone Pines** (planted circa 1940); and Cypress Gallery where the works of prominent local artists are featured.

MORE ATTRACTIONS

Most of Lompoc restaurants are locally-owned, with a casual, inviting atmosphere. Visitors rave about the famous Mac n Cheese at Old Town Kitchen and Bar, lounge vibe at Hangar 7, exceptional craft beers at Hoptions, hearty Italian fare at La Botte, and inventive cuisine at Valle Eatery + Bar.

Here are five visitor favorites:

La Botte Italian Restaurant

Family owned and operated since the 1980s, La Botte offers homemade, traditional Italian fare accompanied by a full list of local and Italian wines. Signature dishes include Pesto Chicken, Lasagna, Manicotti, Baked Ziti and Fettuccine Alfredo. And, save room for dessert – the tiramisu is not to be missed!

Old Town Kitchen and Bar

Known for great steaks and their famous Mac n Cheese, the Old town Kitchen & Bar features a diverse menu that is a hit with both locals and visitors to Lompoc. With popular mango beer flights, Vegetarian portobello mushroom sandwich with garlic fries, build your own Mac n Cheese bar, cheesecake and chocolate mousse desserts - there is something for everyone on their menu!

Hangar 7

Open evenings (check availability), Hangar 7 is a spot to enjoy small plates and shareable bites, beer, wine and local vibes. It's also a great spot to enjoy live music.

Hoptions Taproom & Eatery

The Solvang Brewing Company's Lompoc location features a state-of-the-art brewing facility, an on-site taproom with an impressive selection of craft beers and ales, tasty pub fare and outdoor seating.

Valle Eatery + Bar

Located inside the Hilton Garden Inn, Valle features a California cuisine inspired menu, handcrafted cocktails, wood-fired pizzas on the patio, and signature appetizers and entrees showcasing locally sourced ingredients.



MORE LOCAL EATS

Exceptional weather year-round and plenty to see and do in the region, make Lompoc Valley a destination for active travelers and thrill seekers.

Back Road Cycling

Cycling is not only great exercise but also a fantastic way to explore Lompoc Valley and the surrounding Sta. Rita Hills wine appellation. There are several scenic back roads to ride, including **Jalama Road**, a curvy road that meanders past oak trees, ranches and grassy hills, leading straight to Jalama Beach Park. **Santa Rosa Road** is another great ride through gently rolling hills of vineyards, fertile agricultural fields, walnut orchards, and organic farms. Cyclists can stop for wine tasting at Sanford Winery along the way. For an easier ride, start in town along **Ocean Avenue** and the side streets of Old Town Lompoc, then head west past the agricultural heartland of Lompoc, to Ocean Beach Park at the end of the road.

Golf Courses

There are two courses in Lompoc for golf enthusiasts: **La Purisima Golf Course** is a superior 18-hole Championship designed by world-renowned architect Robert Muir Graves. With its challenging and naturally undulating landscape, La Purisima requires both skill and patience. This course has attracted pro tournaments from the PGA, LPGA and Senior PGA circuits. **The Mission Club**, designed by Ted Robinson, takes full advantage of its spectacular natural setting, with stately oaks and mature pine trees framing the fairways leading to undulating and terraced greens. This 150 acres golf course hosts a driving range, practice area, and fully stocked pro shop.

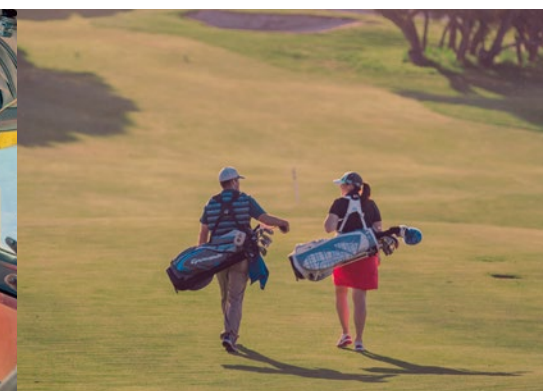
River Bend Bike Park

For BMX enthusiasts, the **River Bend Bike Park** is a family-friendly, off-road bike riding facility with trails and jumps for all levels. On-site parking, picnic tables, and restrooms make this a great destination for bikers to spend a few hours, watching riders and testing the tracks.

Sky Diving

Boasting the highest tandem jump on the west coast, **SkyDive Santa Barbara** at the Lompoc Airport offers an exhilarating experience for thrill seekers, and a checkmark for those with sky diving on their bucket list. Take flight on a two-plus hour tandem skydiving journey that provides unforgettable views of the ocean, the hillsides, and the vineyards that fill this magnificent valley.

MORE ADVENTURES



Annual FESTIVALS & EVENTS



FEBRUARY

Lompoc Restaurant Week
Foodies and wine enthusiasts won't want to miss this seven-day celebration of culinary creativity showcasing local restaurants, chefs and wines.



MAY

Lompoc Valley Spring Flower Festival
A three-day celebration featuring live musical entertainment, a variety of exhibitors, food booths, carnival rides and games.



JULY

West Coast Fly-In
Celebrated across the nation as one of the top fly-ins for historic aircraft, the annual West Coast Cub Fly-In takes place at the Lompoc Airport.



JULY & AUGUST

Lompoc Old Town Market
This street fair and farmers market is held in July and August on Friday evenings in Old Town Lompoc. Enjoy live entertainment, food booths, vendors and activities for the entire family.



AUGUST

Sta. Rita Hills Wine & Fire Weekend
Showcasing Lompoc's Sta. Rita Hills wineries, the annual Wine & Fire Weekend includes a Barn Party, wine seminar, Grand Tasting at La Purisima Mission, and other special events at select wineries.



MORE EVENTS



Explore Lompoc PHOTO GALLERY



The images below are just a small sampling of the hundreds of high-resolution images available to media outlets and travel writers for stories and articles promoting Lompoc as a travel destination.

To view our online press gallery, go to: <https://explorelompoc.com/press-center/>
Photo credit required: ExploreLompoc.com along with name of photographer.

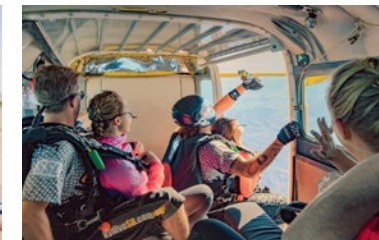
For additional photos and more information, please contact Susan Bejeckian at sbejeckian@gmail.com



Lompoc White Wine Pour
photo by Bottle Branding



Friends at Surf Beach
photo by Dustin Waller



Skydiving in Lompoc
photo by Bottle Branding



La Purisima Golf Course
photo by Bottle Branding



Docents with Children
La Purisima Mission
photo by Dustin Waller



Lompoc Flower Fields
photo by Helena Vazquez



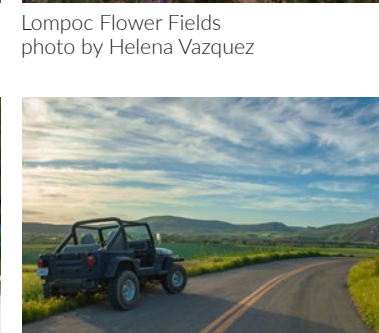
Jalama Beach Spring
photo by Bottle Branding



Old Town Lompoc - Exploring
photo by Dustin Waller



"Feeding Time" Mural with Friends
photo by Dustin Waller



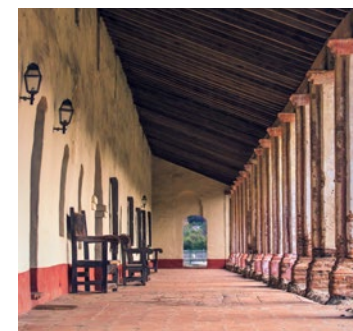
Jeep on Scenic Spring Road
photo by Jason Reynolds



La Purisima Mission
photo by Bottle Branding



Lompoc Old Town Market
photo by Bottle Branding



La Purisima Mission
photo by Bottle Branding



River Bend Bike Park
photo by Jason Reynolds



VSFB Launch SpaceX Falcon9
photo by Jason Reynolds

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