

# THE MISSION STORY

Misión la Purisima Concepción de Maria Santísima (Mission of the Immaculate Conception of Most Holy Mary) was founded by Father Presidente Fermín de Lasuén on December 8, 1787. It was the 11th of 21 Franciscan Missions established in California.

During the Mission's early years, over 1,500 Chumash Indians were baptized into the Catholic Church at La Purisima making them new citizens of Spain. Large and small adobe buildings were built, a water system developed, crops and livestock raised, and La Purisima grew and prospered.

On December 21, 1812, a major earthquake destroyed many of the Mission buildings. Aftershocks and drenching rains damaged La Purisima beyond repair. In 1813, the Mission community was relocated four miles to the site that had a better water supply and climate, and safer access to El Camino Real, California's main travel route.

In a few years, La Purisima once again became a thriving community with approximately 800 Chumash Indian Neophytes (converts) living on Mission lands. At times over 20,000 cattle and sheep roamed the hills along with hundreds of horses, mules, burros and other livestock. The padres developed shops for weaving, pottery, leatherwork and other crafts in addition to organizing the religious activities of the Mission settlement.

1834 marked the end of the California mission era when the Mexican government took away control of the missions from the Catholic Church and gave it to civil authorities. It subsequently changed hands and uses a number of times prior to the close of the 19th century.

When the property was given to public ownership by Union Oil Company in 1933, the Mission was in ruins. Preservation and reconstruction of the complex began in 1934, and lasted seven years. Buildings and grounds were painstakingly restored and furnished to appear as they had in 1820.

Today, La Purisima Mission State Historic Park stands as the most extensively restored mission in all of California with ten of the original buildings, furnished rooms, mission gardens and livestock to represent life at the mission during the 1820's. In addition, the nearly 2,000 acre park is home to 25 miles of hiking trails, a modern Visitor Center and Exhibit Hall.

La Purisima Mission hosts over 200,000 visitors annually for recreation and a chance to explore California's heritage.



COME VISIT... AND STEP BACK IN TIME!

# EXPLORE THE MOST FULLY RESTORED MISSION IN CALIFORNIA!

## Open Year Round

La Purisima Mission State Historic Park is open daily from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM. Day Use fee is per vehicle \$6 general public, \$5 Senior (62+ years). Park closed: New Years Day, Thanksgiving Day, & Christmas Day.

Visitor Center open Tuesday thru Sunday 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM. Closed New Years Day, Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day.

## Guided Tours

Guided tours of the buildings and grounds are offered Wednesday – Saturday at 11:00 AM and Saturday and Sunday at 1:00 PM. Meet at the Visitor Center for the 1.5 hour, 1 mile walking tour. Groups of 10 or more are asked to book two weeks in advance by calling (805) 735-2174. Tours are not offered on special school event days so call ahead if you want more information.

## Hiking Trails

La Purisima is the only California mission with hiking trails, featuring more than 25 miles of trails to explore. Free trail maps are available at the Visitor Center and Gift Shop.



## LA PURISIMA MISSION STATE HISTORIC PARK

2295 Purisima Road, Lompoc, CA 93436

### General Information

(805) 735-2174 – Office

(805) 736-3605 – Gift Shop

[lapurisimamission.org](http://lapurisimamission.org)



For places to stay and other Lompoc attractions:

[ExploreLompoc.com](http://ExploreLompoc.com)

# LA PURISIMA MISSION STATE HISTORIC PARK

LET HISTORY SURROUND YOU  
Lompoc, California



# Mission Life Day

Spring & Summer

Mission Life Day is a way to explore the crafts of the Mission era like weaving, bread baking, pottery, blacksmithing just to name a few.

Visit [lapurisimamission.org](http://lapurisimamission.org) for dates

# School Programs

La Purisima offers a variety of programs and learning experiences for students and educators.

Email [lapurisimamission@gmail.com](mailto:lapurisimamission@gmail.com) for program details



# JUNIOR RANGERS

# Junior Rangers

Summer

La Purisima Mission State Park Jr. Rangers program is for children 7-10 years old. This is a free and fun way for kids to explore history and nature with ranger lead activities and explorations.

Email [lapurisimamission@gmail.com](mailto:lapurisimamission@gmail.com) for dates and times



# FOUNDING DAY

# Founding Day

December 8

Founding Day recognizes the day La Purisima Mission was founded on December 8, 1787 which is the Feast Day of the Immaculate Conception of Mary.

## Founding Day Mass

In the historic main church of La Purisima Mission.

## Founding Day Concert

Details of the event and advance ticketing are available at [lapurisimamission.org](http://lapurisimamission.org)



FOR EVENT DATES AND INFORMATION VISIT:

[www.lapurisimamission.org](http://www.lapurisimamission.org)  
(805) 735-2174 | [lapurisimamission@gmail.com](mailto:lapurisimamission@gmail.com)

# Free Guided Tours

Wednesday - Saturday, 11 AM  
Saturday - Sunday, 1 PM

Check in at the front desk of the visitor center upon arrival.

