

# Good Times Travel Apple Parm Inn & Hearst Castle Holiday

Featuring an *Apple Farm Inn* Stay, Hearst Castle *Holiday Twilight Tour*, Point San Luis Lighthouse, Santa Ynez Valley December 12-14, 2024 – 3 Day Tour

# **Tour Highlights**

- Enjoy a two-night stay at the charming, *Apple Farm Inn*, the country inn that's decked out in its holiday finest and features elegant and cozy rooms with a fireplace and seating nook, and a nightly wine reception
- Experience what Christmas was like during Hearst Castle's heyday while on a docentguided *Holiday Twilight Tour* showcasing the grounds, the Casa del Sol guest house and the grand social rooms of Casa Grande – all beautifully decorated for the holidays
- Enjoy a guided tour and lunch at the historic Point San Luis Lighthouse, the "Jewel of the Central Coast," that is decorated for Christmas
- Explore California's early heritage while visiting La Purísima Mission, the most extensively restored of California's 21 missions
- Travel the backroads through the picturesque Santa Ynez Valley and enjoy an included lunch and wine tasting at a Santa Ynez Winery and time at leisure in Solvang, known as one of the most "Christmassy Small Towns in America."

## **Tour Inclusions**

- 2 Nights deluxe hotel accommodations
- 5 Meals 1 dinner, 2 lunches, 2 breakfasts
- Services of a professional GTT tour director
- Comprehensive sightseeing
- Admissions per itinerary
- Transportation aboard a deluxe motorcoach
- Luggage handling throughout the tour

## **Tour Prices**

Double Occupancy: \$899 per person Single Occupancy (no roommate): Add \$300









#### Reservations



(714) 848-1255

17132 Magnolia St., Fountain Valley, CA 92708 California Seller of Travel License #: 2018390-40

## Accommodations

 Nights 1-2 Apple Farm Inn San Luis Obispo, CA

#### **Departure Information**

Join this tour from one of our convenient departure points available in these cities:

 Fountain Valley
Laguna Hills
Long Beach Approximate Departure Time: 7-9 a.m. Approximate Return Time: 6-8 p.m.

#### **Payment Information**

- Full payment due at time of booking
- Payment may be made by mailing a check to the above address or making a credit card payment at www.goodtimestravel.com

#### **Cancellation/Travel Protection**

A travel protection policy (which includes cancellation protection and other benefits) is highly recommended and available through a third-party. A travel protection brochure will be provided with your payment receipt and invoice. Regardless of the reason, cancellations, credits and transfers of paid bookings require us to retain an administrative fee (ranging from \$50-\$500 depending on the date of cancellation) in addition to all non-recoverable fees paid to our tour suppliers on your behalf. Those guests who have purchased travel protection and must cancel for a covered reason, will be reimbursed by the travel protection company the balance of any non-refunded or credited monies (minus the premium itself). Visit www.goodtimestravel.com or see our tour catalog for our full cancellation policy and other terms and conditions.

#### Adjustments to the Itinerary

While we make every effort to operate our tours as advertised, should we be forced to adjust the itinerary prior to departure or while on tour, these changes will be communicated to you and only done when absolutely necessary.

#### **Tour Pace & Activity Level**



Visit our website for further explanation of what each of these designations means to assist you in determining which tour is right for you based on your physical abilities and the pacing you prefer.

#### Itinerary

On this three-day holiday getaway, we'll explore the backroads of California's Central Coast at the most magical time of year. We'll enjoy lunch inside one of California's iconic lighthouses, wine tasting at a Santa Ynez Winery, a "Holiday Twilight Tour" of Hearst Castle and visit California's most extensively restored mission. All the while, we'll enjoy a two-night stay at the Apple Farm Inn, a charming Victorian-style inn decked out in its holiday finest.

### Day 1 – Solvang, San Luis Obispo

We set out from our departure points this morning for the tranquility of California's Central Coast. We'll travel by deluxe motorcoach to the quaint Danish town of Solvang, known as one of the most "Christmassy Small Towns in America." Enjoy time at leisure with lunch on your own in this very walkable village that is in the midst of their month-long, Julefest celebration extraordinare! Delight in the old-world architecture, windmills and gaslights, all beautifully decorated for Christmas. Explore more than 100 one-of-a-kind shops including high-end boutiques, European imports, art galleries and bakeries selling fresh-made Danish Aebleskivers, shortbread cookies and kringles! We'll continue north to San Luis Obispo and arrive at the charming Apple Farm Inn to begin a two-night stay. Nestled by San Luis Obispo Creek and surrounded by rolling hills, this Victorian-style "wine country inn" is situated amongst a lush, quiet garden setting. The inn blends rustic country charm of yesteryear with modern elegance and features large cozy rooms with a fireplace and seating nook, a heated pool and a restaurant on-site. This time of year, the entire property is decked out in its holiday finest including Christmas trees, lights, gifts, and charming decorations. After enjoying the inn's complimentary wine reception, enjoy dinner on your own at one of the nearby restaurants or take advantage of motorcoach transportation to downtown San Luis Obispo's Farmers' Market and street faire (weather permitting). Enjoy time at leisure strolling amongst four blocks filled with just-picked produce for sale, local restaurants selling barbecued specialties and entertaining local performers. This one-night-a-week event is undoubtedly one of the most treasured events on the Central Coast and has a long history of bringing locals and visitors together to eat, shop, listen to music and connect amongst this historic community.

## Day 2 – Cambria, Hearst Castle

This morning we'll travel south to Avila Beach and enjoy the breathtaking ocean views as we travel along Lighthouse Road to Point San Luis Lighthouse. Known as the "Jewel of the Central Coast," this historic light station built in 1890 boasts dramatic views stretching from Avila Beach south to Vandenberg Space Force Base. Learn what life was like for the Lighthouse Keeper and his family as we tour the grounds, the beautifully restored lighthouse, the horn house, and see the lustrous original Fresnel lens. We'll then enjoy an included lunch at this restored sentinel of the sea that is adorned with Christmas decorations. Late this afternoon we'll travel north along picturesque Highway 1 to Hearst Castle, the National Historic Landmark that sits above the clouds on top of "The Enchanted Hill." Discover why the holiday season was an exceptionally festive time for William Randolph Hearst and his guests while on a docent-guided, Holiday Twilight Tour, the seasonal evening holiday tour that showcases the Castle in a different light. Your knowledgeable guide will share stories of holiday festivities during the estate's heyday while touring the grounds, the Casa del Sol guest house and the grand social rooms of Casa Grande - beautifully decorated for the holidays. Note this 75-minute walking tour includes a total of 190 stairs (both up and down) along a 2/3-mile route. While Hearst Castle has confirmed they will offer 'Twilight' tours this holiday season, a schedule has not been released. Should 'Twilight' tours be unavailable, we will enjoy an afternoon tour of Hearst Castle instead. Later this evening, we'll enjoy an included dinner with choice of entrée at Linn's Restaurant, the Cambria icon and locals' favorite known for their contemporary comfort food classics like meatloaf and chicken pot pie. But be sure to save room for what they're most famous for - warm olallieberry pie with a scoop of vanilla ice cream on top! (Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

#### Day 3 – Santa Ynez Valley, Journey Home

This morning we'll travel south to the **Santa Ynez Valley** – the heart of Santa Barbara "Wine Country." Blanketed with fertile vineyards and fruitful farms due in part to the region's temperate weather, the Santa Ynez Valley is about as picturesque as it gets – small, historic towns surrounded by rolling hills with vineyards and horse ranches. We'll travel the backroads to Lompoc and visit **La Purísima Mission State Park**. Founded in 1787 as the 11<sup>th</sup> of 21 Franciscan Missions, the La Purísima Mission is the most completely restored California mission, with ten of the original buildings fully restored and furnished. Experience California's early heritage and get a glimpse of what life was like here in the 1820s when the residents engaged in weaving, pottery making, candle making, blacksmithing, livestock production, and leather work. This afternoon we'll enjoy an included lunch and **wine tasting** at an award-winning **Santa Ynez winery** that features an idyllic setting. We'll continue south to Southern California and return to our drop-off points this evening with many fond memories of our holiday getaway to the Central Coast and the *Apple Farm Inn*. (Breakfast, Lunch)