

For Immediate Release

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Island Packer Cruises is Open during Government Shut Down

Ventura, CA – Island Packer Cruises, transportation concessioner to Channel Islands National Park, will continue to operate regularly scheduled trips during the current government shutdown. Although the shutdown may limit some visitor experiences, Island Packers will offer transportation for both day visitation and camping, to all scheduled locations. These excursions currently include regular service to Anacapa Island, Scorpion Anchorage and Prisoner's Harbor on Santa Cruz Islands, three-hour Island Wildlife Cruises, Winter Whale Watches, and specially arranged day trips with The Nature Conservancy to their island property. All these trips can be found on our online calendar at www.islandpackers.com

- Rates for daily trips landing on Anacapa as well as Scorpion Anchorage and Prisoner's Harbor on Santa Cruz Island, are: \$ 59 for adults; \$ 54 for seniors; and \$ 41 for children. These trips include a naturalist-led hike.
- Guided Hikes from Prisoners Harbor to Pelican Bay are 2 to 5 miles. Visitors can hike this rugged trail while taking in beautiful ocean views and discovering unique native plants and animals.
- Island Wildlife Cruises (non-island landing) are \$38 for adults; \$34 for seniors and \$28 for children. This excursion departs various days for a three-hour narrated cruise along the shores of Anacapa or Santa Cruz Island within the Marine Sanctuary. Highlights include sight-seeing along the rugged coast of the island, sea lions, harbor seals, and marine birdlife. The cruise also provides opportunities to view whales and dolphins during the channel crossing.
- Winter Whale Watching schedules will commence on December 26 and run regularly through mid-April are \$38 for adults; \$34 for seniors and \$ 28 for children.

Island Packers is the authorized boat transportation concessioner to all the Islands comprising Channel Islands National Park and Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary. Our fleet consists of three catamarans capable of carrying 145 passengers, and one mono hull vessel with a capacity of 80 passengers. All our trips provide narrated crossings of the Santa Barbara Channel and stop to look at wildlife we encounter.

Regularly scheduled trips are provided to the Channel Islands for hiking, camping, kayaking or whale watching from both Ventura and Oxnard Harbors. Half day and all-day trips are offered year-round to Anacapa and Santa Cruz Island. Trips to the outer islands of Santa Barbara, Santa Rosa and San Miguel Island are offered from mid-April thru the Fall.

Island Packers also provides harbor cruises, dinner cruises, bird watching excursions. Gift certificates are available by calling Island Packers at 805-642-1393, or can be purchased at Island Packers, open daily from 9:00 a.m. 5:00 p.m.

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