

Monday July 24, 2000

Last night after the sun set, the ocean breeze again swept up the canyon and cooled a 95-degree day to a pleasant slumber temperature. The nights here at Rancho Oso are so quiet, one seems to be existent in another world.

Today warranted a trip to Santa Barbara. After living in California for fifty some years, we have come to realize that we have never been to this city. Only through it, on our way to somewhere else.

We arrived in time to catch the first scenic Trolley tour of the day, and also contract for the old town tour. These narrated tours are wonderful and take you to parts of the area you wouldn't ever visit on your own.

We found out that Santa Barbara is a non-growth town, by the residents. The population has been 90,000 for years past and will remain the same for years to come. The result is that existing dwellings have such a premium on them, that the median small house is now \$570,000! We were told an impressive list of famous personalities that live here. There are 500 fine restaurants here to whet your taste buds. The shopping in fine stores never ends and that tourism is the primary business here. There are 25,000 tourists a day here in the season. The season being most of the year, due to the excellent climate here.

The day was tiring and the sights were beautiful, but the day must come to an end sometime. Back to the unit we drove and enjoyed the evening breezes. We hate to leave here, but we have other people and places to visit.

Santa Barbara has a beautiful Mission as seen here.

