

Fall Semester 2015 Mesa/Miramar Geology Field Excursion

*****PRINT OUT THIS PAGE AND BRING IT WITH YOU TO THE FIELD TRIP...THIS PAGE CONTAINS IMPORTANT LOGISTICAL DETAILS, INCLUDING DRIVING DIRECTIONS...**

Field Trip Dates: Saturday, November 7, 2015

Meeting Time: 9 am **SHARP** at the Descanso Park and Ride (directions below). After a short lecture on the regional geology, we'll drive east as a group, stopping at several spots. Note: if you arrive after 9:30 am, we may be gone! If you arrive late and miss the group, continue east I-8 for 37.2 miles to the In-Ko-Pah exit and the Desert Tower.

Who can come: This trip is limited to those currently enrolled in geosciences courses at Mesa or Miramar. No family members/friends are allowed due to liability reasons.

Carpool: Miramar Geology 100 and 104 students can check the field trip discussion board on their respective Blackboard sites. We'll be driving a lot this weekend, so if you're a driver, please arrive Sat with a full tank of gas.

Driving Directions to Descanso Park N Ride

- Proceed east on I-8 for approximately 30-35 miles. Drive past Viejas Casino. Once you've passed the casino, start watching for signs to Julian.
- Several miles past the casino, watch for the I-79 turnoff (Japatul Valley Road)...exit I-8 onto I-79 (Japatul Valley Road).
- At the bottom of the exit, turn left onto Japatul Valley Road. In approx. 1/4 mile, turn left into the large Park N Ride parking lot. This is where we'll meet!
- **Please arrive with a full tank of gas!** Having to stop for gas really slows down the group!
- If you arrive early and need to get gas, there's a gas station within 2 miles of the Park N Ride. Follow Japatul Valley Road approx. 1 mile north, to where you'll see a few shops. Just past the shops on your left, turn left onto Riverside Drive. Follow Riverside Drive about 1 mile, to the gas station and Mini Mart on your left.
- If unable to use the facilities at the gas station, continue on Riverside Drive around a big curve in the road, for another 1/4 mile, and make a right on Viejas Road, to find public restrooms at the horse trailhead just across from the hay and feed store.

Trip Summary & Logistics: Meet at the Descanso Park N Ride at 9 am. The Park N Ride is located approx. 30 miles east of San Diego, near the intersection of I-8 and I-79 (driving directions above). From here, we'll proceed east approximately 40 miles on I-8, to The Desert Tower. Here, we get a panoramic overview of Southern California's geologic history, featuring the Peninsular Ranges Batholith and the Salton Trough. Our next stop is Fossil Canyon, outside of Ocotillo. Here we'll explore the Elsinore Fault and investigate both modern-day alluvial fans and the fossil-rich Imperial Formation. Afterwards we'll return to San Diego by approximately 4 pm to 5pm.

Field Trip Supplies: Pencil/pen, clipboard to write on, sunscreen and sunglasses, 2 sack lunches, 2 liters water, walking shoes, hat, camera (for photojournal).

Fashion Statement: Please dress in layers! Although it'll probably be warm during the day, nights can be chilly! Bring a sunhat and warm-weather clothing for the day.

Food: Please bring enough food for snacks and a lunch. Please keep your meal simple!

What NOT to bring: The San Diego Community College District prohibits alcohol and recreational drug use on field trips.