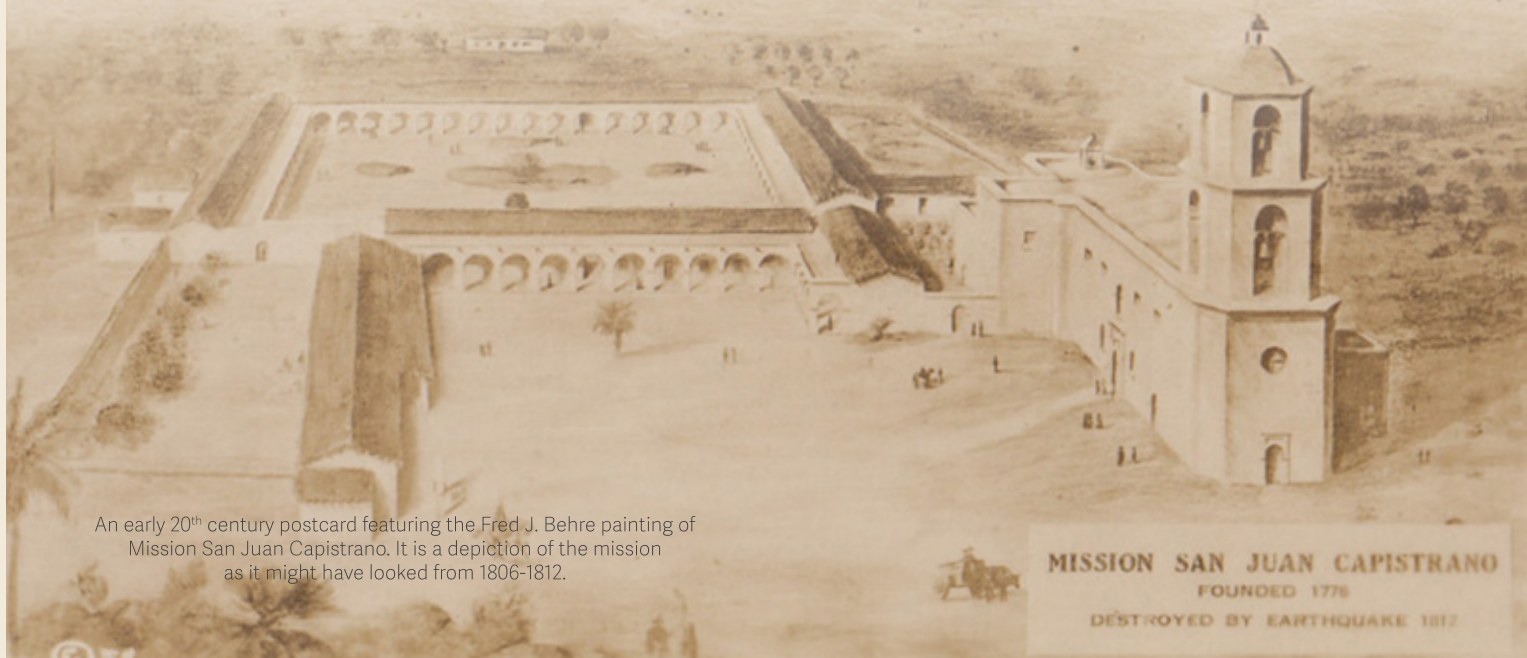




HISTORICAL WALK

Welcome to Historic Downtown San Juan Capistrano, home to unique historic assets, a notable Native American history, the Legend of the Swallows, a historic train depot, an equestrian heritage, a renowned library and many outstanding community curated adobes and historic buildings. We begin our story where the Orange County region began nearly 250 years ago, at Mission San Juan Capistrano.



An early 20th century postcard featuring the Fred J. Behre painting of Mission San Juan Capistrano. It is a depiction of the mission as it might have looked from 1806-1812.

2025 MAP AND GUIDE BROUGHT TO YOU BY

Founding Level

- Mission San Juan Capistrano
- Mission Store
- El Adobe de Capistrano Restaurant
- Mission Promenade
- Rancho Mission Viejo
- Rancho Capistrano Winery
- Taqueria El Campeon

Shop, Eat, Stay & Play

- 3:16 Bakery Shop
- Inn at the Mission San Juan Capistrano
- Ellie's Table, Egan House Nom
- San Juan Hills Golf Club
- Selma's Chicago Pizzeria & Tap Room
- Tavern at the Mission
- Trevor's at the Tracks

Calendar and Community Events

- Blas Aguilar Adobe Museum
- San Juan Capistrano Historical Society

Thank You To Our Sponsor

- The Cottage Gallery in Los Rios District

This map is produced by Mission San Juan Capistrano.

To join the Heritage Tourism Association, please contact Mechelle Lawrence Adams at (949) 234-1311 or email mlawrence-adams@missionsjc.com.

For questions/comments, please contact Mariela Martínez at (949) 234-1312 or email mmartinez@missionsjc.com. REV 7-2025 20K

SAN JUAN CAPISTRANO HISTORIC DOWNTOWN 2025 Map and Guide

SHOP ♦ DINE ♦ STAY ♦ DISCOVER

Visit the BIRTHPLACE of ORANGE COUNTY



INCLUDES Historical Downtown Walk



Mission San Juan Capistrano circa 1900s

1 Mission San Juan Capistrano (circa 1776)
Mission San Juan Capistrano was founded in 1776 by Saint Serra. As the seventh of the 21 California missions, and the only Mission in Orange County, it hosts the State's most historically significant chapel, Serra Chapel (1782) and the ruins of the Great Stone Church (1806-1812). The mission welcomes people from all over the world as a place of inspiration and education. Mass is celebrated daily.

2 Mission Basilica San Juan Capistrano (circa 1980)
Construction of the new parish church of Mission Basilica San Juan Capistrano, was completed in 1986. The church is designed after the Great Stone Church which was destroyed by the great earthquake of 1812.

3 Blas Aguilar Adobe Museum (circa 1794)
May date back to 1794. It was part of two buildings known as Hacienda Aguilar. This adobe is associated with Don Blas Aguilar, the last Alcalde (Mayor) of the Mexican period.

4 Capistrano Depot (circa 1894)
Built in 1894, renovated in 1974-75 as a restaurant. The original Mission style, one of the first stations to use it, was retained. The interior is so small freight and passenger cars were added, and the exterior of the platform enclosed in glass to provide more seating space for the restaurant.



Historical Society Museum
Garcia/Pryor/ONEILL Museum (circa 1870)

5 Leck Farmhouse (circa 1918) Silvas Adobe (circa 1794)
Built in the 1880s, this Victorian house was one of the town's first wooden buildings. It was moved from its original location across the tracks and about a block south.

Los Rios Historic District, National Register of Historic Places

6 The first adobe home for Mission neophytes and soldiers were built here in 1794, some of which remain to this day, including the Rios Adobe, Montanez Adobe, and Silvas Adobe. Wood-frame structures began to be built in the late 1800s and into the early 1900s. The Los Rios Street Historic District is the oldest continually occupied residential street in California. Many historic families of San Juan were and are connected to the Los Rios area, including the Rios, Lobo, Ramos, Yorba, Labat, Olivares, and other families.



Michael Graves Designed Library (circa 1983)

7 Opened in 1983, designed by Michael Graves. It has been said that the building "speaks the traditional language of the place without using all the same words."



Downtown San Juan Capistrano circa 1910

Montanez Adobe Museum (circa 1794)

8 Constructed in 1794 as one of forty adobes built to house the Acjachemen. Named for Polonia Montanez, a nineteenth century resident. Owned by Mr. and Mrs. Forrest Dunivin. Preserved by San Juan Capistrano Historical Society. Restored in 1981 by City of San Juan Capistrano and County.

Miguel Yorba Adobe (circa 1840)

9 Built in 1840, was originally two separate structures. The norther building was a residence. The southern building, over the years, was a stage depot, courtroom and jail. The two were connected around 1911 and renovated to serve as two homes, but were made into a restaurant in 1948.

Egan House, National Register of Historic Places (circa 1883)

10 Neo-Victorian, built in 1883 by Richard Egan, surveyor, school trustee and justice of the peace. Rebuilt in 1898 after a fire. Known as "Harmony Hall", it served as Judge Egan's home, office and courtroom until his death in 1923.



Vaquero West Building (circa 1938)

11 This building façade was built in 1938 by Nick and Canuta Arbonies as a home and restaurant which replaced an earlier building that was the first train stationmaster's house and office.

Valenzuela Adobe (circa 1789)

12 Antonio Valenzuela, early pioneer of the town of San Juan Capistrano, built the adobe in the early 1840s, probably on the ruins of adobe dating to the 1790s. Later Valenzuela family members worked as local cowboys or vaqueros. The adobe was damaged by fire in 1879; rebuilt circa 1900, some portions endured until the 1960s.

Swallows Inn (circa 1950)

13 Since it opened in the late '20s as El Traguito (a Spanish play on words meaning both little swallow and little drink), the Swallow's has known a devoted clientele of local ranchers and townfolk. It was renamed in the mid 1950s.

Rodman House (circa 1910s)

14 The original house was built by Thomas Ramos, a Mission San Juan Capistrano parishioner and an Acjachemen descendant. It was a single wall, board-and-batten structure with a front room on the left, dining room and bedrooms to the right, and the kitchen down a long hallway. The bathroom was an outhouse.

Ferris Kelly Building (circa 1920s)

15 Built around 1910 among the City's oldest commercial structures. A group of three buildings, they have been used for an auto dealership, pharmacy, fire station, and the original City Hall. Restored in 1996.

Esslinger Building (circa 1939)

16 Constructed in 1939 by Dr. Paul Esslinger after he was inspired by a 1937 trip to Buenos Aires, Argentina and is one of the best examples of streamline modern architecture in Orange County.

EVENTS

2025-2026 Community Calendar Highlights

SEPTEMBER

Mission San Juan Capistrano's Patriots Day Historic Bell Ringing
Thursday, September 11 • 10:00 a.m.
26801 Old Mission Road
missionsjc.com/events

Mission San Juan Capistrano's Romance of the Mission Benefit Gala
Friday, September 12 • 6:00 p.m.
Grounds Closed to Public
26801 Old Mission Road
missionsjc.com/gala

Mission San Juan Capistrano's Constitution Day Historic Bell Ringing
Wednesday, September 17 • 1:00 p.m.
26801 Old Mission Road
missionsjc.com/events

OCTOBER

Mission San Juan Capistrano's Dia de los Muertos Altar
October 1 - November 2
26801 Old Mission Road
missionsjc.com/events

Mission San Juan Capistrano's Indigenous People's Day Historic Bell Ringing
Tuesday, October 14 • 10:00 a.m.
26801 Old Mission Road
missionsjc.com/events

San Juan Capistrano Historical Society's Ghost & Legends Tour
October 24 - October 25
sjcghosttour.com

NOVEMBER

Mission San Juan Capistrano's Founders Day Historic Bell Ringing
Saturday, November 1 • 10:00 a.m.
26801 Old Mission Road
missionsjc.com/events

Veteran's Day at the Mission
Thursday, November 11 • 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
26801 Old Mission Road
missionsjc.com/events

DECEMBER

City of San Juan Capistrano's Annual Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony
Saturday, December 6 • 5:45 p.m.
31852 El Camino Real
sanjuancapistrano.org

Mission San Juan Capistrano's Capistrano Lights Opening Night
Friday, December 19 • 10:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.
26801 Old Mission Road
CapistranoLights.com

Mission San Juan Capistrano's Capistrano Lights Saturday, December 20 • 10:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.
26801 Old Mission Road
CapistranoLights.com

Mission San Juan Capistrano's Capistrano Lights Sunday, December 21 • 10:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.
26801 Old Mission Road
CapistranoLights.com

Mission San Juan Capistrano's Capistrano Lights Monday, December 22 • 10:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.
26801 Old Mission Road
CapistranoLights.com

Mission San Juan Capistrano's Capistrano Lights Tuesday, December 23 • 10:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.
26801 Old Mission Road
CapistranoLights.com

Mission San Juan Capistrano's Capistrano Lights Friday, December 26 • 10:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.
26801 Old Mission Road
CapistranoLights.com

Mission San Juan Capistrano's Capistrano Lights Saturday, December 27 • 10:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.
26801 Old Mission Road
CapistranoLights.com

Mission San Juan Capistrano's Capistrano Lights Sunday, December 28 • 10:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.
26801 Old Mission Road
CapistranoLights.com

Mission San Juan Capistrano's Capistrano Lights Monday, December 29 • 10:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.
26801 Old Mission Road
CapistranoLights.com

Mission San Juan Capistrano's Capistrano Lights Tuesday, December 30 • 10:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.
26801 Old Mission Road
CapistranoLights.com

DECEMBER (continued)

New Year's Eve at the Mission
Wednesday, December 31 • 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
26801 Old Mission Road
missionsjc.com/events

JANUARY

New Year's Day at the Mission
Thursday, January 1 • 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
26801 Old Mission Road
missionsjc.com/events

Martin Luther King Jr. Day at the Mission
Monday, January 19 • 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
26801 Old Mission Road
missionsjc.com/events

FEBRUARY

Presidents' Day at the Mission
Monday, February 16 • 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
26801 Old Mission Road
missionsjc.com/events

MARCH

Ash Wednesday at the Mission
Wednesday, March 4 • 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
26801 Old Mission Road
missionsjc.com/events

Mission San Juan Capistrano's St. Joseph's Day & Return of the Swallows Celebration
Thursday, March 19 • 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
26801 Old Mission Road
missionsjc.com/swallows

Annual Swallows Day Parade Presented by the Fiesta Association
Saturday, March 21
swallowsparade.com

APRIL

Good Friday at the Mission
Friday, April 3 • 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
26801 Old Mission Road
missionsjc.com/events

Easter Sunday at the Mission
Sunday, April 5 • 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
26801 Old Mission Road
missionsjc.com/events

MAY

Mother's Day at the Mission
Sunday, May 10 • 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
26801 Old Mission Road
missionsjc.com/events

Homefront America's Field of Honor at the Mission
May 19 - May 25
26801 Old Mission Road
missionsjc.com/events

Memorial Day at the Mission
Monday, May 25 • 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
26801 Old Mission Road
missionsjc.com/events

JUNE

Father's Day at the Mission
Sunday, June 21 • 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
26801 Old Mission Road
missionsjc.com/events

Mission San Juan Capistrano's Music Under the Stars Summer Concert Fundraising Series (Separate Ticket)
Saturday, June 27 • 5:15 - 9:30 p.m.
26801 Old Mission Road
missionsjc.com/music

JULY

Mission San Juan Capistrano's Feast of Saint Junipero Serra Historic Bell Ringing
Wednesday, July 1 • 10:00 a.m.
26801 Old Mission Road
missionsjc.com/events

Independence Day at the Mission
Saturday, July 4 • 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
26801 Old Mission Road
missionsjc.com/events

Mission San Juan Capistrano's Music Under the Stars Summer Concert Fundraising Series (Separate Ticket)
Saturday, July 11 • 5:15 - 9:30 p.m.
26801 Old Mission Road
missionsjc.com/music

Mission San Juan Capistrano's Music Under the Stars Summer Concert Fundraising Series (Separate Ticket)
Saturday, July 25 • 5:15 - 9:30 p.m.
26801 Old Mission Road
missionsjc.com/music

Celebrate Mission San Juan Capistrano's 250th Anniversary!

We invite you to visit the following websites to learn more about upcoming events in the coming year supporting the 250th celebration!

NOVEMBER 1, 2026

Mission San Juan Capistrano Celebrates 250 Years Debuting The Story of Mission San Juan Capistrano: A Legacy of Earth, Faith and Time
A lighted story telling experience to be projected onto the historic Ruins!



TOURS

of San Juan Capistrano

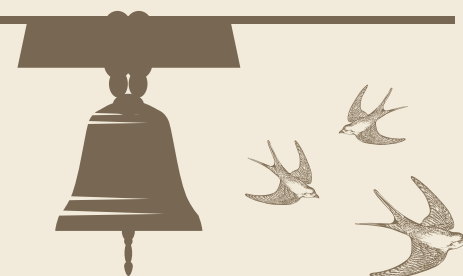
SAN JUAN CAPISTRANO HISTORICAL SOCIETY TOUR LOS RIOS SATURDAYS AT 1 P.M.
The Walking Tour visits Los Rios Street, including the four buildings on the Historical Society's grounds.

Duration: 45 minutes
Location: Train Depot on Verdugo Street
Reservations: No reservations required. Private tours are available by appointment for groups of 5 or more. For more information or to make an appointment, please email info@sjchistory.org or call (949) 493-8444.

Donations gratefully appreciated. Proceeds go towards preservation and the Montanez Adobe Museum.

SAN JUAN CAPISTRANO HISTORICAL SOCIETY GHOST & LEGENDS TOUR OCTOBER 24 & 25, 2025
For more information, please visit sjcghosttour.com

At The Historic Mission



MULTI-LANGUAGE HISTORY AUDIO TOUR
(Available in English, Spanish, French, German and Italian)
Tuesday - Sunday from 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Free with paid admission. Free for Mission Members. No reservations required.

MULTI-LANGUAGE GARDEN AUDIO TOUR "FINDING INSPIRATION"
(Available in English, Spanish, French, German and Italian)
Tuesday - Sunday from 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Free with paid admission. Free for Mission Members. No reservations required.

MULTI-LANGUAGE STUDENT AUDIO TOUR "IF THESE WALLS COULD TALK"
(Available in English and Spanish)
Tuesday - Sunday from 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Free with paid admission. Free for Mission Members. No reservations required.

VIP GUIDED TOUR
Saturday and Sunday at 10:00 a.m.
Duration: 1 hour and 30 minutes
Cost: \$35 per adult; \$30 per child
By reservation only at (949) 234-1306.

ADULT GUIDED GROUP TOURS
Monday through Friday (times may vary)
Duration: 1 hour
Size: 15 person minimum
Cost: \$22 per adult
By reservation only at (949) 234-1306.



San Juan Capistrano Historic Downtown – 2025 Map and Guide

DISCOVER

- 1 **Mission San Juan Capistrano**
(Founded 1776)
- 5 **Historical Society Museum**
Garcia/Pryor/O'Neill Museum (circa 1870)
Leck Farmhouse (circa 1918)
Silvas Adobe (circa 1794)
- San Juan Hills Golf Club**
(About 1 mile southeast of downtown)

HISTORICAL BUILDINGS & POINTS OF INTEREST

- 1 **Audio and Guided Tours**
(At Mission San Juan Capistrano)
- 2 **Mission Basilica San Juan Capistrano**
(circa 1980)
- 3 **Blas Aguilar Adobe Museum**
(circa 1794)
- 4 **Capistrano Depot**
(circa 1894)
- 5 **Historical Society Museum**
Garcia/Pryor/O'Neill Museum (circa 1870)
Leck Farmhouse (circa 1918) Silvas Adobe (circa 1794)
- 6 **Los Rios Historic District, National Register of Historic Places**
- 7 **Michael Graves' Designed Library**
(circa 1983)
- 8 **Montanez Adobe Museum**
(circa 1794)
- 9 **Miguel Yorba Adobe**
(circa 1797)
- 10 **Egan House, National Register of Historic Places**
(circa 1883)
- 11 **Vaquero West Building**
(circa 1938)
- 12 **Valenzuela Adobe**
(circa 1789)
- 13 **Swallows Inn**
(circa 1950)
- 14 **Rodman House**
(circa 1910s)
- 15 **Ferris Kelly Building**
(circa 1920s)
- 16 **Esslinger Building, National Register of Historic Places**
(circa 1939)
- 25 **Veterans Park**



SHOP

- Shop Downtown**
- 1 **Mission Store**
 - 15 **Mission Promenade** (Ferris Kelly Building, circa 1920s)
Mission Promenade
Atmosphere Atelier
Buckley & Co Jewelry ~ Coming Soon!
Brush Salon
Chicos
Lidia House
Mission Fine Art Gallery

DINE AND WINE

- Dine Downtown**
- 17 **3:16 Bakery Shop**
 - 15 **Bloom Restaurant + Bar**
 - 18 **Café At The Mission**
 - 9 **El Adobe de Capistrano Restaurant**
(Miguel Yorba Adobe, circa 1797)
 - 10 **Ellie's Table, Egan House**
(Egan House, circa 1883)
 - 15 **FKN Bread**
 - 11 **Rancho Capistrano Winery**
(Vaquero West Building, circa 1938)
 - 19 **Selma's Chicago Pizzeria & Tap Room**
 - 20 **Taqueria El Campeon**
 - 21 **Tavern at the Mission**
 - 4 **Trevor's at the Tracks**
(Capistrano Depot, circa 1894)
 - 15 **TSpoons**
(Ferris Kelly Building, circa 1920s)
 - 22 **Ysidora Restaurant and Lounge**
- Dine at River Street Marketplace**
- 23 **Nom**

Restaurants that support preservation of the Mission through Membership include:

- 17 3:16 Bakery Shop
- 15 Bloom Restaurant + Bar
- 9 El Adobe de Capistrano Restaurant
- El Zarandeado Restaurant
- Fermentation Farm
- Hennessey's Tavern
- Kebab Craft
- L'Hirondelle Restaurant
- McConnell's Fine Ice Creams
- Mollies San Juan
- 23 Nom
- Pastalia Pasta Fresca
- 11 Rancho Capistrano Winery
- 19 Selma's Chicago Pizzeria & Tap Room
- Subway #6188
- 20 Taqueria El Campeon
- 21 Tavern at the Mission
- The Tea House on Los Rios
- 4 Trevor's at the Tracks
- 15 Tspoons
- 22 Ysidora Restaurant and Lounge

Scan the QR code for their location and operating hours



STAY

- 24 **Inn at the Mission**
Autograph Collection
www.marriott.com/snaak



Mission San Juan Capistrano offers:

BIRTHDAY DISCOUNT
Receive Free admission to the Mission on your birthday. Proof of I.D. required.

MILITARY DISCOUNTS
Military with ID receive free admission to the Mission Presidents Day Weekend, Memorial Day Weekend, Labor Day Weekend and Veterans Day Weekend. Daily admission for Military is \$5.