



DOMINGUEZ RANCHO  
ADOBE MUSEUM



# School Field Trips Logistics

*Hello,*

**WE ARE HERE TO HELP!**

*We are so glad you are considering bringing your students to the Dominguez Rancho Adobe Museum for a field trip.*

*This document will tell you everything you need to know.*

## The California State Standards we meet:

### 2ND GRADE

- 2.1 Students differentiate between things that happened long ago and things that happened yesterday.
- 2.2 Students demonstrate map skills by describing the absolute and relative locations of people, places, and environments.
- 2.3 Students explain governmental institutions and practices in the United States and other countries.
- 2.5 Students understand the importance of individual action and character and explain how heroes from long ago and the recent past have made a difference in others' lives.

### 3RD GRADE

- 3.2 Students describe the American Indian nations in their local region long ago and in the recent past.
- 3.3 Students draw from historical and community resources to organize the sequence of local historical events and describe how each period of settlement left its mark on the land.
- 3.4 Students understand the role of rules and laws in our daily lives and the basic structure of the U.S. government.

### 4TH GRADE

- 4.1 Students demonstrate an understanding of the physical and human geographic features that define places and regions in California.
- 4.2 Students describe the social, political, cultural, and economic life and interactions among people of California from the pre-Columbian societies to the Spanish mission and Mexican rancho periods.
- 4.3 Students explain the economic, social, and political life in California from the establishment of the Bear Flag Republic through the Mexican-American War, the Gold Rush, and the granting of statehood.
- 4.4 Students explain how California became an agricultural and industrial power, tracing the transformation of the California economy and its political and cultural development since the 1850s.
- 4.5 Students understand the structures, functions, and powers of the local, state, and federal governments as described in the U.S. Constitution.

### 5TH GRADE

- 5.2 Students trace the routes of early explorers and describe the early explorations of the Americas.
- 5.3 Students describe the cooperation and conflict that existed among the American Indians and between the Indian nations and the new settlers.
- 5.8 Students trace the colonization, immigration, and settlement patterns of the American people from 1789 to the mid-1800s, with emphasis on the role of economic incentives, effects of the physical and political geography, and transportation systems.

## QUESTIONS?



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## WHAT?

Our school tours are fun, engaging, one-of-a-kind experiences for second- through fifth-grade schoolchildren. Their unique environment invites students to fully experience the history of early California from map making and exploration to rancho life and government establishments. Museum tours are designed to meet the needs of classroom teachers by addressing local, state, and national history and social studies standards and frameworks. The students will learn about the Dominguez family and how they relate to the establishment of Southern California and the rise of agricultural and technical industries. When students arrive at the Rancho, they experience life from 1784, when Juan Jose Dominguez was given the first land grant in California and are transported from the "go-go" world of Los Angeles to the tranquil peace at our grounds.

Field trips last about two hours and include a tour of the 1826 historic adobe home (Historical Landmark No. 152) and two hands-on activities. These activities are picked by the teacher in advance and include making adobe bricks, panning for gold, drawing a Diseño (Map), making rope, weaving, or playing Victorian games.



## WHEN?

All of our school tours are conducted Tuesday through Friday from 9:30 AM to 11:30 AM. We host school tours all year long whether it be a small summer camp in July or an entire fourth grade class in December.

## HOW?

Tours are booked online on our website: [www.dominguezrancho.org/tours-programs/](http://www.dominguezrancho.org/tours-programs/)

At the bottom of the page, find the School Tour widget and pick the date you want to book your class trip.

Office staff can help walk you through booking on the website but cannot book over the phone.

**A visit to the Dominguez Rancho Adobe Museum includes the following:**

- 50-minute tour of the museum led by a Docent
- Two 25-minute hands-on activities that include early California themes.
  - Field trip aides, who are museum volunteers, manage these activities

**Groups larger than 30 will be separated into two smaller groups. The maximum number of students the museum can accept is 60 students. ANY BOOKED FIELD TRIP WITH MORE THAN 60 STUDENTS WITHOUT CONTACTING THE MUSEUM WILL BE CANCELED IMMEDIATELY.**

- The museum requires a MINIMUM of 1 chaperone per 15 students for every field trip. More than 1 chaperone per 15 is acceptable. Any special needs students with extra chaperones is also fine.

TIME	GROUP A	GROUP B
9:30 AM - 10:00AM	Tour of Museum	Activity 1
10:00 AM - 10:30 AM	Tour of Museum	Activity 2
10:30 AM - 11:00 AM	Activity 1	Tour of Museum
11:00 AM - 11:30 AM	Activity 2	Tour of Museum

**Bus Parking**

Please note there is special parking for buses on the lower grounds of the property. **DO NOT** drive the bus up the hill. Please park on the lower grounds at the cement parking area on the left-hand side. Walk up the driveway to meet the docents at the Carriage House, at the top of the hill.

**Gift Shop**

We have a museum shop! Please indicate if you would like to have the gift shop open for your class when you are booking your tour. Cash only and most items are priced around \$5.00.

**Teacher Responsibility**

Every group must have a teacher or a parent aid. Please instruct your students about good museum behavior before your attendance. Failure to do this can lead to not being invited back to the museum. **Before leaving the site check the restrooms to make sure the faucets are off and the floors are free of trash and toilets are cleared.** No students should be without a chaperone on property including in the restroom. Trash must be collected and thrown in the large green dumpster on the north side of the museum.

**After the Tour**

Schools are invited to stay to eat lunch on our lower grounds property where we have picnic benches and public restrooms. Lunches can be kept on the bus or brought and put in our carriage house. You are further encouraged to stay and have a short recess with the students allowing them to run and play on the grass field. Bring balls or other games if you'd like. You will be asked to ensure your students' trash is thrown away in the PROVIDED bags and disposed of in our dumpsters on the upper grounds.

ALL schools must be off of the property by 1:00 PM at the latest.

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

## **Are you wheelchair accessible?**

Yes! We are wheelchair accessible.

## **Can I have more than 1 chaperone per 15 students?**

Yes, you can have more than the 1:15 ratio as long as the chaperones all are coming with you on the bus.

## **What are the activities exactly?**

Adobe Bricks - Students will get their hands dirty learning how adobe homes were made by building their own adobe brick.

Gold Panning - Learn how to pan for gold just like the gold miners in the 1849 Gold Rush.

Diseño Making - Diseños are the maps that showed the boundaries of ranchos. Students will draw their own maps in small groups.

Weaving - Students will learn the basics of making clothes by weaving small patches from yarn themselves!

Rope Making - Students create their own ropes by learning how to wrap twine together in small groups or pairs.

Victorian games - Students will play an 1800s-styled game called Game of Graces.

## **What happens if it is raining?**

If it rains (or is anticipated to) on the day of your tour, we can still conduct the tour inside the museum. We will automatically switch to our indoor activities - Diseño making, weaving, or rope making. Our lunch table area is outdoors. We have a small building that can accommodate approx. 30 students, or students can eat outdoors on the back veranda. Rain or shine, we can welcome your school.

## **What happens if we're late?**

Your tour will begin when you arrive and be shortened to conclude at the scheduled time of 11:30am.

## **On your website, it says there are no times in the entire month. Is that a glitch?**

No. Our Spring school tours are in high demand. We often fill up spaces very quickly. We advise you to book a Spring tour in November to ensure a good date. In the Fall, we have far more availability. We would love to see you in the Fall if you can attend. If you have a question about our availability, you can call the office.

## **How much per student is the field trip?**

Nothing. Our school tours are always free for students and chaperones. You are only responsible for the bus fees to get to the property.

## **We cannot make it to the museum; do you have any resources for teachers?**

Yes! We have our traveling trunk program! Our traveling trunk is a wonderful program that allows teachers to pick up a trunk filled with items that represent the rancho period, similar to what you would see at the museum. Included is a digital lesson plan. We ask that you return the trunk within two weeks.

## **Do you offer any assistance for Title 1 schools?**

If you are a Title I school, we have a Bus Fare Assistance program that will help you pay for the school bus with up to a \$250 credit. Schools are eligible to receive a reimbursement once per school year. Please see our Bus Fare Assistance program documents to learn more and see if you qualify.

## **Will you call us to confirm our tour?**

You will receive a confirmation email at the time of booking, and reminder emails the week of the tour. Our staff will also call the week before to confirm. If you are unable to attend your tour, please notify us at least 36 hours before your scheduled day so we can notify the docents of your cancelation.