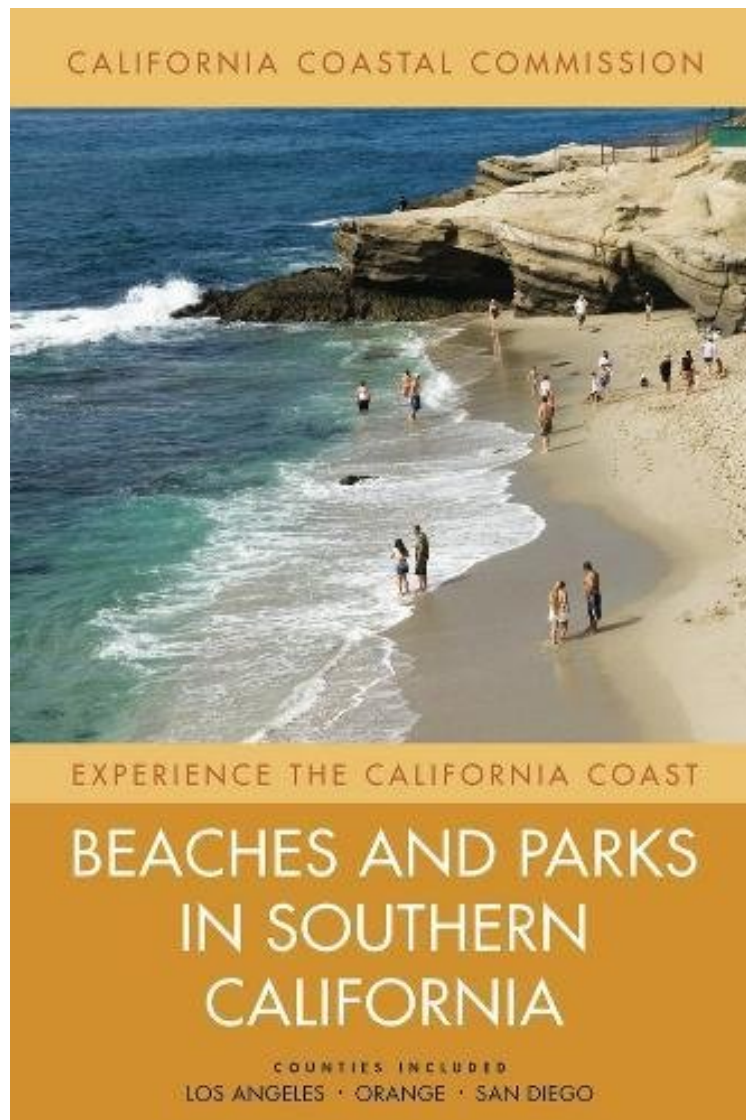


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## Beaches and Parks in Southern California: Counties Included: Los Angeles, Orange, San Diego (Experience the California Coast)

*California Coastal Commis*

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**California Coastal Commis : Beaches and Parks in Southern California: Counties Included: Los Angeles, Orange, San Diego (Experience the California Coast)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Beaches and Parks in Southern California: Counties Included: Los Angeles, Orange, San Diego (Experience the California Coast):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. California Coastal Commission books are reliable sources  
By CustomerAuthoritative0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. ok  
By PJWThis one is ok. We did not use it as much as some others  
2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Thorough, but not great for trip planning  
By Lightning JeffI bought this book in advance of a trip to San Diego, hoping to get a sense of the beaches my family and I would enjoy. With that purpose in mind, I'm disappointed.  
This book is highly detailed, in the sense that it is a thorough, but very flat, survey of what looks to be all publicly-accessible beaches along the coast. It includes listings of facilities for each entry, including in some cases detailed information about the locations of access points, stairways to beaches, etc. The maps are also quite nicely done.  
However, the narrative descriptions of the beaches are exceedingly bland. There is very little effort put into differentiating one beach from another, other than describing in a very neutral way whether it's sandy or rocky, or providing a bland list of what it's often used for (e.g., "fishing, swimming"). While I don't necessarily need a book like this to rank or even rate the beaches (though that can help), it would at least be nice to have some subjective discussion geared towards helping the reader choose the beaches best suited to their interests. There really is none of that, here. I honestly don't get the sense that the authors have much enthusiasm for any of the beaches - which can't really be the case. After reading through many dozens of entries, I have no better sense of which beaches my family and I should visit.

Stretching from Malibu to the Mexican border, Southern California's coast is justifiably famous, yet, as this essential guide reveals, it offers more to see and do than even its greatest fans may realize. Easy-to-use, up-to-date, and comprehensive, *Beaches and Parks in Southern California* is the perfect companion for all visitors—sightseers, hikers, swimmers, surfers, campers, birders, boaters, and anglers—who want to explore this magnificent shoreline. In addition to well-known beaches of soft, golden sand, it describes rocky shores and tide pools, hidden pocket beaches, historic lighthouses, the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area, and much more. \* More than 450 site listings include beaches, public access ways, parks, campgrounds, nature preserves, world-class aquariums, and museums\* 304 color photographs and 52 color maps show recreational sites, hiking and biking trails, topography, and other features of the region and state\* Easy-to-use charts list key facilities and features, open hours, food and beverage services, wheelchair accessibility, rules about dogs, and other practical information

This is the volume to toss in the back of your Volkswagen bus with the folding chair, the Mexican blanket, the Frisbee and your lucky old abalone shell. . . . It will answer all your questions about fat innkeeper worms, the romantic impulses of Richard Henry Dana Jr., and why you can run faster than you swim.