

## **SAN PEDRO TO AVALON, CATALINA**

(Updated as of 4/9/2007)

Any questions not answered in this article, should be directed to the Cruise Captain.

### **TO SAN PEDRO:**

...**Directions to Cabrillo Launch Ramp in San Pedro:** Take I-5 to I-405 to south on Harbor Fwy (Hwy 110) where it becomes Gaffey Street. Stay on Gaffey till you turn left at 17<sup>th</sup> Street (or any cross street up to 23<sup>rd</sup> Street), go 2 blocks and turn right on Pacific Ave. and continue up the hill till you turn left on Stephen M. White Street at a stop light...follow signs to the Cabrillo Beach Park (@ 3720 Stephan M. White)...the launch ramp is to the far end of the Park. There is a public restroom there. We set our boats up immediately upon arrival. If you belong to AAA, ask them for a map of Los Angeles & Long Beach Harbors. It is an excellent map of the San Pedro.

...**Parking and overnight at Cabrillo Beach Park Launch Ramp: A BRAND NEW PARKING/FEE SYSTEM TOOK EFFECT JUST RECENTLY.** Beginning **June 1<sup>st</sup>**, the gate at Cabrillo will be open from 5:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. Those are also the hours when an attendant will be at the guardhouse to accept fees. So, unlike the past, you cannot enter the Cabrillo Park AT ANY TIME without paying. There is NO senior discount. The fee for a vehicle with trailer is \$2.00 per hour, not to exceed **\$15.00 which is the fee per all day and overnight**. They will accept **CASH** only...no credit cards or checks. If you wish to get more clarification, please call the Cabrillo Beach Office for Parking at 310-548-7568. The Guardhouse phone number is: 310-548-2645. Other phone numbers are: Cabrillo Bathhouse: 310-548-7554; Los Angeles Recreation & Parks: 213-485-5054.

Prior to 2006, we had set up our boats upon arrival, launched them, and motored a short distance to the bay area just beyond the launch ramp. We even have launched our boats, tied up to the launch dock & stayed in them overnight. No sleeping is permitted in our boats in the parking lot and we can only tie up and stay overnight in our boats at the dock if the weather is bad. Last year (2006) permits were needed to anchor out in the bay near the launch. **PERMITS ARE STILL NEEDED FOR ANCHORING**. I called the Los Angeles Port Police (310-732-3500) and talked with the Watch Commander. He said permits continue to be needed for anchoring, however, there is **no** fee...they are free. They do not keep a record of past permits, so each time we anchor out in that area, a NEW permit is needed for EACH boat. What is needed:

- 1) Current boat registration
- 2) Picture ID of owner matching the registration
- 3) Current evidence of boat insurance

The Port Police are manned 24 hours a day. They are not keen on coming out in the water to issue the permits IN THE DARK especially. They can come to the parking area to issue the permits before we launch; however, it would be good if all boats

participating would be there when they come to write up the permits (& the gate is still open). We would call the Port Police phone # above. Any of us that plan to anchor, would want to get set up and out in the bay before dark (so, since the gate is open till 10:00 pm, there should be no problem with them coming to the parking lot).

The Commander said there is not a problem with rafting up. But issuing permits from a raft-up setup would NOT be preferred by them (he said it is hard enough to keep the police boat steady when only one boat is being issued a permit).

If any of you would like more clarification, feel free to call the Port Police at 310-732-3500 and ask for the Watch Commander. Also, we can email that department at:

[Lwashington@portla.org](mailto:Lwashington@portla.org)

...**Purchasing gasoline before launching:** There is a Thrifty Gas Station at the corner of Gaffey and 17th Street. It is the one we always go to before driving to the launch. We enter the gas station off of Gaffey, get our gas, then exit from the gas station onto 17th going East (right turn out of station onto 17th). 17th will then take you to Pacific Avenue where you will turn right and proceed south to Stephen White Street.

...**What is strongly suggested to take:**

-A **dinghy**...there is a shore boat service, but they will charge you \$5.00 to the dock and another \$5.00 to go back to your boat. They can be reached on VHF channel 9 if needed. VYC members with dinghies can't always be available to take you back & forth nor is there a good plan to contact them when you need a ride to or from.

-Enough **gasoline** to motor the 26 miles over and 26 miles back (you can buy gasoline—at the dock near the casino/museum) there, but it will really cost you!. Also, remember gasoline for your dinghy.

-**Cash money**...don't rely on using your credit card for some things. You will need cash or a personal check for the mooring fee...they do not accept credit cards (\$22.00/night in 2006). You will pay in advance for the nights you will be staying.

### **WAY POINTS:**

**Avalon..... Latitude 33.20.83/Longitude 118.19.42**

**San Pedro breakwater (lighthouse)...33°42'30"N, 118°15'05"W.**

### **AT AVALON:**

...**Mooring Fee:** As stated above, \$22...and, again, they do **NOT** take credit cards, only **CASH or Personal CHECKS**, so bring enough cash (or your checkbook) to cover all the nights you will be there. No mooring work is done over VHF...remain at the harbor entrance and wait for the patrol boat to come along side of your boat...they will collect your money and assign you a mooring. They will also explain procedure for picking up a mooring if you ask (& will even assist you by escorting you to your mooring if you request their help).

Upon arrival at your mooring (a large ball with your number on it), you will see what appears to be an antenna sticking out of the water. Pick it up and pull in the line until a large loop appears. Attach this loop to the bow cleat on your vessel. Continue to pull up the smaller (spreader) line as you walk toward the stern of the boat. This spreader line should be pulled up until there is a fair amount of tension or until a loop on the stern hawser is reached. Attach the spreader line or the loop to the stern cleat of the vessel. Your vessel will be secure if attached to the spreader line; it is not necessary to reach the loop. The proper stern line tension is essential. Recheck bow and stern lines to be sure they are secured to each cleat. Drop spreader line into the water. Place the antenna on the bow to keep it from banging against your boat.

On the day of departure, moorings must be vacated by **9:00 a.m.** Be aware that moorings are assigned, but not guaranteed for the duration of your stay. Boaters may have to relocate—even daily! Those required to relocate will be contacted by a patrol boat between 7:30 and 9:00 a.m. the day of the required move.

...**Best Moorings** – Ask for moorings near the dinghy dock **by the yacht club**. State that you would like to be away from the beach and away from the entry channel if possible.

...**Showers**: Located at the top of the ramp leading down to the dinghy dock (the one near the yacht club). In 2006, price was \$2.00 for 5 minutes...you pay cash & they give you a token...some stalls have soap dispensers, but don't count on them: bring your own soap, shampoo, towel, etc. (so, don't forget to pack a suitable tote to transport such stuff & big enough to include a change of clothing). In the restroom part of the facility, there are plugs for hair dryer, shaver, etc. (restroom section is free).

...**Vons (Ice)**: There is a small Vons located not far from the mooring area for any groceries you may need (much more expensive than on the main land). They have ice...**bring a heavy-duty bag or small cooler/cart** to transport the ice back to your dinghy, then to the boat. Look at the Lake Powell Cruise list in the VYC website on making ice blocks at home & grates for your cooler. I believe there are other locations on shore that sell ice also, and it is available at the fuel dock by the casino.

...**Restaurants** – There are many restaurants on shore & many Club members cook some meals on board. Those in VYC who want to, usually meet one of the evenings at Mr. Ning's Chinese Garden restaurant at 127 Summer Street (very friendly, good food, reasonable prices and separate checks). We have been known to enjoy ice cream at Big Olaf's every day (sometimes even twice a day)!

...**Available for Rent**: Golf Carts – Bicycles – Scuba & Snorkeling equipment – Kayaks – Horseback riding – glass bottom boat tours - parasailing (You will find an abundance of leaflets/literature on shore detailing these activities and others for your entertainment.) Also, many in the Club go to the only movie showing at the time at the Casino!

...**Bus** is available for transportation across the island: costly.

...**Trails & Tours** are available. Also, there is a **miniature golf course** on the island (in the past there has been a VYC golf tournament that has been fun).

...**Dinghy Docks** – There are two dinghy docks & they tend to be very crowded. Some folks have outfitted their dinghies with fenders on the sides and especially on the bow of the dinghy for protection from other tied-up dinghies that are not of inflatable material. Be sure you have a lock on your dinghy motor. Also, an appropriate length of bow line is needed...some literature recommends dinghy locks for securing bow line to dock.

...**Water for boat tank & Gasoline for boat & Ice:** Water is available at the Marine fuel dock (310-510-0046) near the Casino Museum/Movie Theatre. Gasoline, also, can be purchased at that location...be aware that they have limited hours. You can purchase ice there, as well.

...**Public Restrooms** – There are public restrooms on shore close to both the dinghy docks, and elsewhere as well.

...**Trash removal** – The city of Avalon provides for free trash pickup via a boat that moves around the moorings twice a day...you will need to watch for them, for their schedule is not consistent. The service is free and plastic trash bags may be obtained from them. Also, there is a dumpster at the top of the dinghy dock by the yacht club.

**Avalon Harbor Department** - 310-510-0535 – VHF Channel 16

**U.S. Coast Guard** (VHF Channel 16) - 562-980-4444 – VHF Channel 16