

A Teacher's Guide to School Tours at



Petaluma Adobe State Historic Park



WELCOME TO PETALUMA ADOBE STATE HISTORIC PARK

This packet has been developed to help inform you on how Petaluma Adobe works so that your school group will have an enjoyable time at the park and also gain an understanding of how the *Rancho* developed and what life was like back during the time of the *Californio Ranchos*.

PLEASE READ ALL THE INFORMATION PROVIDED

IT IS IMPORTANT THAT YOU READ THROUGH THE ENTIRE
PACKET BEFORE COMING TO THE PARK.

www.petalumaadobe.com

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Important Information for Teachers and School Groups

The Resource:

The Petaluma Adobe, which once served as the headquarters of General Vallejo's vast 66,000-acre Petaluma Rancho, was the largest privately owned adobe building in California. Only half of the building remains standing in the forty one-acre park. That half has been restored and houses period artifacts and reproductions arranged much as they would have appeared in the 1830-40's. A small museum also contains information panels and pictures. The park also includes a large parking area, a picnic area, and restrooms. No fires are permitted. A paved path leads from the parking area to the building. There are no restrooms available at the building. There is no wheelchair access to the second floor. The park, located about 3 miles east of Petaluma, is open daily from 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM, except New Years Day, Thanksgiving Day, and Christmas Day.

Tour Logistics:

Length of guided tour: The average tour takes about 45 minutes

Group size: The maximum group size is 45 people (We require one adult per ten children, but we prefer one adult per five children.)

School group use is allowed on Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays and must be arranged at least two weeks in advance. Teachers can make school tour arrangements by calling Reserve America toll-free at 1-866-240-4655. They are open from 8am-5pm daily. School tours are offered at 10:30 AM, 11:45 AM, and 1:30 PM. We make every effort to provide tours to groups with reservations, but we cannot guarantee one due to staffing limitations. If staff is not available self-guided brochures will be provided on site.

Curriculum:

The school tour and/or self-guided tour relate to the History/Social Science Content Standards for Grades K-12 in the following ways:

1. 4.2.5 is met by discussing the daily lives of the people who occupied the Petaluma *Rancho*.
2. 4.2.8, 4.3.1, and 4.3.3 are met by discussing mission secularization, land grants, the *rancho* economy, the location of Mexican settlements, Fort Ross, Sutter's Fort, and the effect of the Gold Rush on settlements.

RULES

- ✓ Because this program is presenting a great deal of information to the students in a short period of time, it is essential that all participants, both students and adults, pay attention to the staff or docents and remain courteous and polite. **Any Student or Adult Chaperone that disrupts the program will be asked to return to the parking lot so that the rest of the group can benefit from the experience.**
- ✓ Groups that are more than 15 minutes late for scheduled tours will automatically forfeit their reservation.
- ✓ Students will be requested to raise their hands before asking or answering questions. Questions should be related to the material presented.
- ✓ No food, drink, or candy will be allowed in or near the building.
- ✓ No pencils, pens, notebooks, or backpacks are allowed within the building.
- ✓ No yelling or running is permitted in or around the building.
- ✓ Please be considerate of other visitors to the park.
- ✓ Students and Adult Chaperones are required to stay with the group at all times except for in an emergency. Individuals that continue to leave the group will be asked to return to the parking lot for the remainder of the program.
- ✓ Adult Chaperones are expected to control the students and be good role models for the students. **The Adult Chaperones should be aware that their own behavior effects how students behave.**
- ✓ PLEASE REMEMBER that Petaluma Adobe State Historic Park is a real place. Please help your students learn respect for historic sites by teaching them not to damage (kick or pick at) the building or artifacts and by throwing away all their garbage into the trash containers provided.

Map and Directions to Petaluma Adobe

From Marin, San Francisco Bay Area, and East Bay:

Take Highway 101 north to Petaluma. Take the "East 116, Sonoma-Napa" exit, stay to the left. Go left on Lakeville and follow 6/10 of a mile to Casa Grande Road. Turn left at Casa Grande and follow for 1 8/10 miles to Adobe road. Turn right on Adobe road at the stop sign, the park entrance will be about 1/10 of a mile on your left-hand side.

From all points north of Petaluma:

Take Highway 101 south to Petaluma. Take the "E. Washington Street" exit, stay to the left. Turn left on Washington Street and follow for 2 miles to Adobe road. Turn right on at the stop sign at Adobe Road and follow for 1 7/10 miles to the park entrance, which will be on the left. If you go too far, you will reach another stop sign at Frates Road-turn around.

From Vallejo, East Bay or Highway 80 (via Vallejo):

From Highway 37 go right on Lakeville Highway. Turn right on Frates Road. Turn left at stop sign at Adobe Road. The park entrance will be on your right-hand side about ½ mile after turning left.

From Sonoma:

Go down Broadway/Highway 12 for 1.8 miles; turn right on Watmaugh Road. Left on Arnold Road at the stoplight, right on Highway 116/Stage Gulch Road at stoplight. Turn right on Adobe Road at stop sign. The park entrance will be on your right-hand side about ½ of a mile after turning right.

Pre-trip Activities and Questions

We think that students enjoy their visits more when they understand what Petaluma Adobe represents and the events that were occurring in the area in the 1830's and 1840's. As an introduction for the students to the site, we have included some activity sheets and projects in this packet. We hope that you will find them helpful in preparing for your trip to Petaluma Adobe.

Pre-trip activities:

1. Have the students make a sketch of what they think the Adobe will look like.
2. Your class may make a piñata and plan a real fiesta
3. Have your students make and color copies of the seven flags that flew over this area.
4. Have your class prepare a timeline showing General Vallejo's life and all the events in California's history he witnessed.
5. Food and nutrition units could include a study of authentic period Mexican and Indian dishes.
6. The value of hides could be demonstrated by planning a "money" unit in mathematics using paper hides as currency.

Questions to think about before visiting:

1. What would some of the jobs be at a cattle ranch in the 1840's? Would men and women have different jobs? (Remember that this is a time without electricity, cars, airplanes, etc.)
2. What Native American tribes do you think lived in the area before the coming of the Spanish?
3. Why do you think General Vallejo chose to have his ranch built on a hilltop?
4. How many acres of land does your school have? Your city? Your county?

Word Search

A T A H O N A M Y E B O O N R O H E
L S B A E G A T I M R E H O P L I T
O R R A Z V I X U E A N S U H I K J
O R E U Q A V L E X N N I O I V L L
M O V I T O O K A I D M F H G E Q T
A L O R E X E P D C I Q E C S S A N
M U L I W V D L I O W N A N E T O A
S I T J E M O O D A R T T A A O L R
I D S E U T R S M O M E L R K C U G
R E E S A M N O T P A U A U P K V D
A S E L I T N H C D F F L E B T N N
E U L X I O G E B O D A O A O Q R A
M O U C S O N P C R E D A R T O Z L
W M A J O R D O M O S D T U V E L F
Y T I L A T I P S O H C U B O P P I
E V O A A M U A P A A T A E R I G E
I Y Y Z M E T Q B F G H K A E J G S
B X A O R O J E L L A V V R H Q N T
Z L M V B U A I N T O O L F C O A A
P E C N E D N E P E D N I L N U T N
W A L E W B A R R A C K S A A P S O
A P E L G N A R D A U Q O G R E U O
O S E L D N A C M S L U D M V A M O

1. adobe
2. barracks
3. bear flag
4. bota
5. brand
6. candles
7. fiesta
8. hermitage
9. horno
10. hospitality
11. independence

12. land grant
13. livestock
14. loom
15. majordomo
16. Mexico
17. mission
18. museum
19. mustang
20. Petaluma
21. plaza
22. quadrangle

23. rancho
24. rancho
25. reata
26. revolt
27. rodeo
28. Sonoma
29. tahona
30. tallow
31. trader
32. Vallejo
33. vaquero

History Treasure Hunt

The following is a list of questions that you can ask your class when they are at the Petaluma Adobe. If you do have a guided tour, please do not ask your students these questions until the end. (We discourage photocopying and distributing these, it distracts the students from listening to their tour guide.)

1. What Native American tribes lived in this area?
2. Name one of the four countries that wanted California
3. How many presidios, mission, and pueblos were there in California?
4. When was the Petaluma *Rancho* started?
5. What is the name of the Russian Outpost?
6. What is a *vaquero*?
7. Draw the Petaluma *Rancho* Brand.
8. Name 3 things a person had to do to get a land grant.
9. Name 3 things a person had to do in order to keep a land grant.
10. How many people worked at the Petaluma *Rancho*?
11. What were the three main things traded from here?
12. What were sheep used for?
13. What were the horns of the cattle made into?
14. What crafts were necessary to run a *rancho*?
15. What was the busiest time of year at the *rancho*? Why?
16. Where was all the food cooked?
17. What is an *horno*?
18. What is a gristmill?
19. How were adobe bricks made? Were they sun baked or oven baked?
20. What is tallow? What was it used for?
21. Besides cattle and sheep, what other animals were at the Adobe?
22. Who was the *Mayordomo* at the Adobe?
23. Why is the veranda around the building slanted?
24. What items do you see in the pantry that we still use today?
25. What are three main differences on the walls on the inside of the Vallejo Quarters versus the Married Servants' Quarters?
26. Why are there bars on the windows if this wasn't a fort or a jail?
27. What was the job of the *Mayordomo*?
28. What jail was General Vallejo put in during the Bear Flag Revolt?
29. What town was General Vallejo's house in?
30. Why did General Vallejo sell the Petaluma *Rancho*?

References and Additional Information

1. 1500 California Place Names by William Bright
2. A Time of Little Choice-The Disintegration of Tribal Culture in the San Francisco Bay Area 1769-1810 by Randall Milliken
3. A World Transformed-Firsthand Accounts of California Before the Gold Rush by Joshua Paddison
4. An Introduction to the Natural History of the SF Bay Region by Arthur C. Smith
5. An Island Called California by Elna Bakker
6. Bancroft's Works; California Pastoral by Hubert Howe Bancroft
7. California Missions Coloring Book by David Rickman
8. California Patterns-A Geographical and Historical Atlas by David Hornbeck
9. California: An Interpretive History by James Rawls and Walton Bean
10. Californios-The Saga of the Hard-Riding Vaqueros by Jo Mora
11. Cascada de Flores-CD by Cascada de Flores
12. De Colores-and Other Latin American Folk Songs for Children by Jose-Luis Orozco
13. Frida Maria-A Story of the Old Southwest by Deborah Nourse Lattimore
14. General M.G. Vallejo by Alan Rosenus
15. Gold Rush History-The Indian Survivors of California's Holocaust by Northwest Indigenous
16. Handbook of the Indians of California by A.L. Kroeber
17. History of Petaluma by Adair Heig
18. Indian Life at the Old Missions by Edith Buckland Webb
19. Indians of California-The Changing Image by James J. Rawls
20. Lands of Promise and Despair-Chronicles of Early California, 1535-1846 by Rose Marie Beebe and Robert M. Senkewicz
21. Love Stories of Old California-Two Dozen Tales of California Romance by Cora Miranda Baggerly Older
22. Native California Guide-Weaving the Past and Present by Dolan H. Eargle, Jr.
23. Oaks of California by Bruce Pavlik
24. Ramona by Helen Hunt Jackson
25. Seventy-five Years in California by William Heath Davis
26. Sutter's Fort State Historic Park Costume Manual-A Guide to Clothing Worn in California and the Far West, CA 1845 by David W. Rickman
27. The Coast Miwok People by Ruth Leschoier

28. The Decline of the Californios-A Social History of the Spanish-Speaking Californians by Leonard Pitt
29. The Elusive Eden-A New History of California by Rice, Bullough, Orsi
30. The History of Alta California-A Memoir of Mexican California by Rose Marie Beebe and Robert M. Senkewicz
31. The Literature of California-Writings from the Golden State-Native American beg to 1945-
32. The Natural World of the California Indians by Robert F. Heizer & Albert Elsasser
33. The Ohlone Way-Indian life in the San Francisco-Monterey Bay Area by Malcolm Margolin
34. The People of the Pueblo by Celeste G. Murphy
35. The Spanish Frontier in North America by David J. Weber
36. The Spanish West by Time Life Books
37. The World of Fort Ross-A Picture Book by David W. Rickman
38. The World Rushed In: The California Gold Rush Experience by J.S. Holliday
39. They Came Singing-Songs from California's History by Karen W. Arlen, Margaret Batt, Mary Ann Benson, Nancie N. Kester
40. They Left Their Mark-Famous passages through the wine country by Joan Parry Dutton
41. Thrown Among Strangers-The Making of Mexican Culture in Frontier California by Douglas Monroy
42. Two Years Before the Mast by Richard Henry Dana
43. Vallejo-A California Legend by Alex Hunter
44. Wildlife Folklore by Laura C. Martin

The following are books written for the fourth grade level and would be great to use as class reading books.

1. Katya of Fort Ross-by Clara Stites
2. Rosalba of Santa Juanita-by Clara Stites
3. Vallejo and the Four Flags-by Esther J. Comstock
4. Valley of the Moon-The Diary of Maria Rosalia de Milagros- by Sherry Garland (Dear America Series)
5. Vaqueros- by James Rice
6. Welcome to Josefina's World 1824-by The American Girls Collection

National, State, and Local (Petaluma) Organizations and Associations for related information (a membership may be required to obtain information, but if you're interested it's worth it.)

1. Sonoma Petaluma State Historic Parks Association
P.O. Box 1702
Sonoma, CA 95476
<http://www.sonomaparks.org/about.html>
Non profit cooperating association which functions to provide support for programs at Sonoma State Historic Parks (Barracks, Mission, and Vallejo Home) and Petaluma Adobe State Historic Park. Membership \$10.00 per year and includes 10% discount in the gift shops.
2. California State Parks Foundation
P.O. Box 548
Kentfield, CA 94914
www.calparks.org
Membership includes a newsletter, free passes, and more. A great way to keep informed about State Parks. (fee varies)
3. California Historical Society
678 Mission Street
San Francisco, CA 94105-4014
www.calhist.org
Membership includes free use of the North Baker Research Library, one year subscription to *California History* scholarly journal and to *California Chronicle* a newsletter featuring articles and calendar of statewide events, and 15% discount in bookstore. (fee varies)
4. American Association for State and Local History
1717 Church Street
Nashville, TN 37203-2991
www.aaslh.org
Membership includes many publications and information. (fee varies)