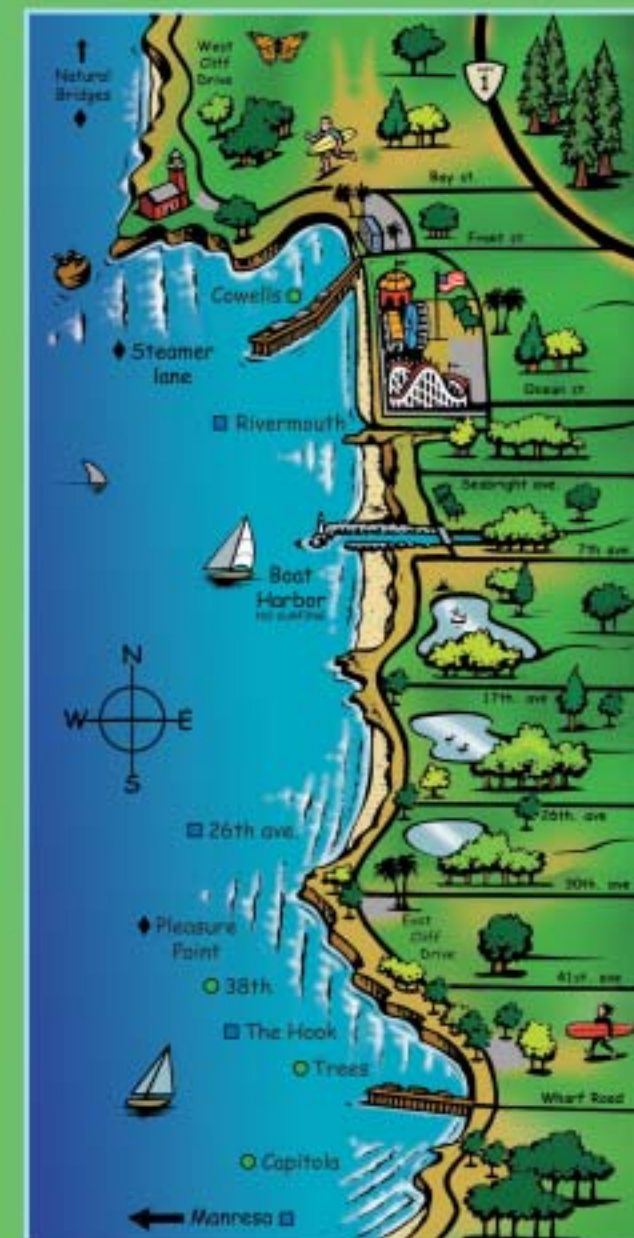


map & rated surfing areas

◆ advanced ■ intermediate ● beginner

Hazardous & changing conditions may exist.
Crowds & weather may change the ratings.



For people who embrace this exciting and wonderful activity, surfing is both a sport and a way of life. The population explosion and the rapid growth of surfing in California threaten to crush the essential beauty of surfing. In this brochure, provided by the City of Santa Cruz and surfers within our community, are guidelines for people to surf together without conflict. As the community grows, we need to emphasize the need for mutual consideration and respect to enhance every individual's safety and joy of the sea.

Illustrations by Jimbo Phillips; Cover and Intermediate photos by Elizabeth Pepin; Advanced and Beginner photos by Boots McGhee; Kayak photo by Grace Innotti.

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for water quality information check out
www.surfridersantacruz.org

The Surfing Way

a guide to the waves



Aloha Spirit

Be gracious and generous
in letting others have their
share of the waves

Give respect to get respect

Help your fellow surfers

Surf Check

- Take time to observe the surf conditions and line-up from shore prior to paddling out.
- Choose a surf vehicle with the line-up in mind. Soft Boards are recommended for beginners in the beginning areas.
- Locate your entry and exit points considering wave size, currents, weather, and tides.
- Determine your place in the line-up according to your ability and experience.
- If in doubt don't go out.

Surf Safety

- When paddling out, always attempt to paddle around the wave not through it.
- Surfers paddling out should not spoil the ride of the surfer on the wave.
- Don't turn your surf vehicle sideways to a breaking wave
- A surfer needs to be aware of the safest route through the crowd toward the beach
- Consider the safety of the people around you before you attempt a maneuver.
- Never turn your back on the ocean.

No surfer, no matter what vehicle, may endanger other surfers in the water.



Surfer closest to the breaking wave has possession. Yellow may not drop in.



Both surf vehicles may surf from one peak if they go in opposite directions and their paths don't cross. Be safe and call out your direction.



When paddling out, go around the break not through it. Stay clear of surfers on the waves. If caught inside, take the white water hit.



Neither surfer has the right of way in a collision situation.



Surfer has lost forward momentum or wipes out. Yellow board may take possession.



Hang on to your surf vehicle and don't endanger others.