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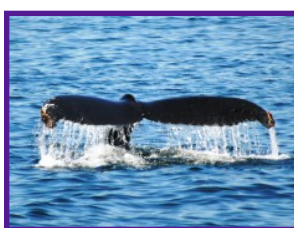
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**Ventura County**  
**Events:**

***The Great Train Expo****February 1st & 2nd**10am to 4pm**Ventura County Fairgrounds****27th Annual Presidents Day Celebration****February 17, 2020**10am - 4pm**Reagan Presidential Library****Ventura Arts & Crafts Show****February 23rd**9am - 3pm**Ventura County Fairgrounds****VCCA Chinese New Year Celebration****February 29th**11am - 4pm**Camarillo Public Library****So. Cals. Whale Migration***

The winter months are ideal for whale sightings as these massive mammals make their 7,000 mile journey from Alaska to Baja, California by way of our Pacific waters. The warm waters to the South are ideal for mating, birthing, and growing in preparation for the long journey back to cooler Alaskan waters.

We're right in the midst of their migration and large numbers of gray, fin,

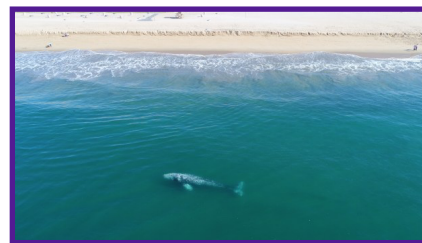
and minke whales have been spotted right off our coast.

There's plenty of ways to see the whales pass by as they make the longest migration of any mammal on Earth, some with their newborn calves in tow. So if you've never seen one of these mammoth mammals, now would be the time to grab the binoculars and cameras to check them out. Here are some ways to catch a glimpse of these amazing creatures:

**1. On a boat:** Getting out on the ocean, with a captain experienced at searching for whales, is the best way to get up close to the creatures. But with so many charters from Los Angeles to Oceanside, which is right for your excursion? They all offer naturalists or captains on board who know much about gray whales and their migration habits, with keen eyes that can spot whale spouts in the distance to point out to passengers.

**2. Join the Gray Whale Census project on the Palos Verdes**

**Peninsula:** Dedicated volunteers post up on the Palos Verdes Peninsula cliffs, spending the day scanning the ocean, looking for whales to pass. The shore-based study dates back to the late 1970s. It runs from December through late May during daylight hours, seven days a week. Participants use binoculars and record such information as weather data, sea conditions and, of course, daily whale tallies. On a recent day, census volunteers counted 47 northbound gray whales, including a calf. They also document the behavior of the whales, such as spy-hopping or breaching, helping researchers find trends and migration patterns.



## **For Lease**

### **Simi Valley**

4691 Fannin Dr  
3 Bedroom, 2 Bath  
1427 sq. ft.  
\$2850  
**Available 2/8/20**

### **Ventura**

9668 Chamberlain St  
5 Bedroom, 4 Bath  
3288 sq. ft.  
\$3500  
**Available - Leased!**

### **Somis**

4506 North St Unit A  
2 Bedroom, 1 Bath  
780 sq. ft.  
\$1850  
**Available- Leased!**

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## **Whale Migration (cont.)**

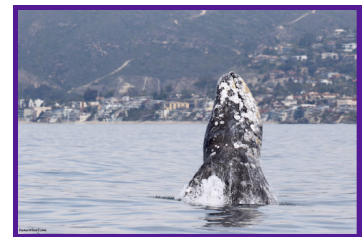
**3. From the beach or pier:** If you get seasick and want to stick to dry land, you could have some luck seeing whales on their northbound migration hugging the shoreline. They tend to like to come close to the shallow sand as they swim north, possibly finding areas where they can scratch barnacles or parasites off their exterior.

They seem to like cove areas in Laguna Beach and Crystal Cove, as well as the area between the Newport Harbor entrance and the Balboa Pier. Manhattan Beach Pier could also be a good vantage point.

**4. Dana Point Headlands:** If you want to look for whales while enjoying a hike, check out the three-mile path in the Dana Point Headlands Conservation Area above the Dana Point harbor, which has pedestrian trails, coastal access, overlooks and a Nature Interpretive Center. Whales can be visible from the nature center patio and from overlooks 2 and 3. Watch for anything that breaks the surface of the water. Look for boats that are stopped — they could be whale watching. Search for spouts, or “blows,” plumes of water that form when a whale exhales at the surface. Gray whales have a double blow-hole and their spouts can look heart-shaped, according to the center. And if you see a whale tail, the whale is likely going down for a long dive and it could be minutes before it is seen again.

**5. Watch them snack in the Los Angeles Harbor:** Harbor Breeze, which departs from Long Beach, has reported whales feeding inside of the Los Angeles Harbor for about two months. At times, there have been as many as five inside the harbor feeding on small crustaceans living in the nutrient-rich bottom of the 190-acre Cabrillo Shallow Water Habitat. The whales have been stopping in for a snack on their way north, and their short detour has been giving a thrill to whale enthusiasts who get to see them up close.

**6. Drones:** If you know how to safely operate a drone, this is a good way to scour the sea for the whales from above. Many of the boat charters use drones to document the whales and to show passengers on a screen as they swim nearby. Just make sure you know the Federal Aviation Administration rules and other regulations. Laguna Beach, for example, prohibits the use of drones in the city.



## **February Quote:**

*It's the one thing you can control. You are responsible for how people remember you—or don't. So don't take it lightly.*

*.... Kobe Bryant*

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