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Ventura County Area Outdoor Fun

Ventura Botanical Gardens 567 South Poli St. Ventura venturabotanicalgardens.com

Leo Carrillo State Park Water sports, hiking, tide pools, and caves Malibu Beach

Santa Barbara Arts & Crafts Walk Sundays 10am to 6pm Cabrillo Blvd at Stearn's Wharf

Wildwood Regional Park

Hiking, biking, horseback riding and picnic area Avenida de los Arboles Thousand Oaks



Southern California happens to be home to one of the most extreme local wind events in the United States—our Santa Ana Winds. So where do the winds come from and why do they always blow in Southern California?

According to the Farmer's Almanac, the Santa Ana winds are warm, dry winds that blow during the cool season months (October to March). They form when high pressure builds over the Great Basin—the geographic area bound by the Rocky Mountains to the east and the Sierra Nevada to the west—and when low pressure sits over the California coast.

When The Winds Blow!

As is true of any wind, it's this neighboring difference in pressure that makes the Santa Ana winds blow.

As air moves from the Great Basin westward toward California, where pressure is lower (air flows from high to low pressure), it gains speed as it whips through mountain valleys and passes. The resulting airflow can reach speeds upwards of 30 mph, and gusts of more than twice this speed. The windstorms can last for several days on end.

Not only are Santa Ana winds swift, but they're often hot and dry. As the



air descends downslope from the Great Basin's high elevation terrain to the low-lying coast, it compresses, which causes it to warm by tens of degrees Fahrenheit per mile it travels.

This compression also causes the air's humidity to plummet. It isn't uncommon for air associated with the Santa Ana's to have humidity values in the single digits (anything under 10% is considered bone dry).

Similar weather events occur in the U.S. Rockies, where they're called chinooks, and in Norway, where they're known as Foehn winds.

<u>Welcome to</u> <u>Ventura Management!</u>

Ridge & Lori Conlan

The Pollock Family

Jerry Kukin

- Need to buy or sell your home? Ask how we can save you thousands!
- Know someone who needs help with property management. We can help!

Chris Marsh has been in the real estate business and serving the Ventura County area for over 25 years. He is well versed in all types of real estate matters



Chris Marsh 805 630-4925



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When The Winds Blow! (Cont.)

One of the strongest Santa Ana events in weather history occurred in December 2011. During this event, locations in the San Gabriel Valley, including Pasadena, CA, were pummeled by 97 mph wind speeds and gusts of up to 167 mph!

Why "Santa Ana"?

No one knows for sure why the winds take the nickname "Santa Ana." Some stories say the name originates from *Satanas*—an archaic Spanish word for "devil" which was given to the winds because of their devilish weather conditions.

A few safety tips to remember when the wind blows:

Secure any temporary structures in your backyard or business, including backyard furniture and tents, as well as patio equipment and covers used in commercial settings.

If you see a downed power line, do not touch it or anything in contact with it. Call 911 immediately.

Never try to remove a broken tree limb or branch that has come in contact with a power line.

Power outages in the area may impact traffic signals, so motorists should use extreme caution and treat all intersections as four-way stops during an outage.

Use flashlights instead of candles to avoid fire hazards in your home or business.

If you use a generator, place it outdoors and plug individual appliances directly into it, using a heavy-duty extension cord. Connecting generators directly to household circuits creates a "backfeed," which is dangerous to repair crews. Please consult the manufacturer's manual for operating the generator.

Do not use any equipment inside that is designed for outdoor heating or cooking. Such equipment can emit carbon monoxide and other toxic gases.

February Quote

"Courage is what it takes to stand up and speak; courage is also what it takes to sit down and listen"

.... Richard Branson

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