

Amigos de Bolsa Chica Tour Scheduling Form



If you would like to bring your class or group on an Amigos de Bolsa Chica Wetland Tour, please fill out the following application below. Send the completed form (saved as pdf, scanned, or photographed) to info@amigosdebolsachica.org, or mail it to Amigos de Bolsa Chica, P.O. Box 1563, Huntington Beach, CA 92647.

1. Teacher's name: _____

2. Email address: _____

3. Cell phone (for communication on the day of the Wetland Tour): _____

4. School Name: _____

5. Street Address, City, Zip: _____

6. Number of students you plan to bring: _____

7. Grade: _____

8. Subject(s) of focus (if relevant): _____

9. Does anyone on your tour have special needs? If so, please explain.

10. What is your preference for field trip date and time of day?

First choice: _____

Second choice: _____

Third choice: _____

Fourth choice: _____

11. Type of Tour (check one):

Footbridge to 1st Overlook (1 ½ hours)

Footbridge to Mesa (2+ hours)

12. Will you require financial assistance for a bus for this Wetland Tour? YES NO

Please note that funding is only for Title I schools and we can reimburse up to \$400 for one bus.

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12a. If you answered YES to 12, please attach a letter on school letterhead with information about Title 1 status and ethnic diversity of class (African-American ____%; American Indian/Alaskan Native ____%; Asian/Pacific Islander ____%; Caucasian ____%; Latino/Hispanic ____%; Other ____%). This information is optional, but it helps when applying for grants.

12b. If you answered YES to 12, please provide the contact information requested below. To ensure that we can provide reimbursement for the school bus and do so in a timely manner, we would like the name and contact information for the best person to work with to get an invoice so that we can process the reimbursement request as soon as possible. Because our funds for buses is limited, *if no invoice has been received by May 30 we cannot guarantee that we will be able to process the bus reimbursement.*

Name of contact for bus reimbursement: _____

Title: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

12c. I understand that if this field trip is approved for a funded bus:

- We will reserve and book our own bus for the Wetland Tour.
- In order to get reimbursed for the bus cost (up to \$400), the contact provided above will provide a receipt or invoice to Amigos de Bolsa Chica, P.O. Box 1563, Huntington Beach, CA 92647 OR info@amigosdebolsachica.org no later than May 30.

Signature of teacher or contract administrator: _____

An Amigos de Bolsa Chica Docent-led Wetland Tour is free, however, a donation of \$1.00 per person or \$25 minimum is much appreciated and needed to continue providing quality environmental education programs. Donations by check can be mailed to: Amigos de Bolsa Chica, P.O. Box 1563, Huntington Beach, CA 92647, or made online at <http://amigosdebolsachica.org/shop/#special-events-and-tours>

If you have any questions about your Amigos de Bolsa Chica Wetland Tour or this application, please call 714-840-1575 or email info@amigosdebolsachica.org

Amigos de Bolsa Chica

Important Tour Information



Bolsa Chica Wetlands Tour Location: The tour starts in the South Parking Lot of the Bolsa Chica Ecological Reserve across the street from the entrance to the Bolsa Chica State Beach on Pacific Coast Highway between Warner Ave and Seapoint Dr. Bus parking is available. **See map on last page of this packet.**

Types of tours:

The Footbridge to 1st Overlook Tour starts on the footbridge where visitors observe underwater life, then continues on to the first overlook and the fill tidal basin. Visitors will see marsh plants and a wide variety of birds. Tours are approximately 1 ½ hours in length.

The Inner Bolsa Bay to Mesa Tour starts on the footbridge, stops at the first overlook and continues on to the Bolsa Chica Mesa. The greater distance allows for more exposure to the ecology and history of the Bolsa Chica Ecological Reserve. This tour is 2+ hours covering 1.6 miles round-trip.

Tour Procedures: Approximately 1 week before the tour, you will be given the name and phone number of your lead docent, and your contact info will be given to the lead docent.

Please Arrive On Time. If there are any issues with arrival time or changes in plans, **you must contact the lead docent.** We understand delays, however, unless forewarned, docents are volunteers and **will only wait 30 minutes beyond the scheduled tour time.** It will be up to the lead docent if the tour will proceed or will need to be rescheduled. The Amigos tries to provide one docent for every 15-20 students.

Amigos de Bolsa Chica docents will greet your group near the bus parking area. Your group will then proceed on a short walk across the walk bridge and, depending on the type of tour you've requested, along the loop trail to the Inner Bay Overlook. Unless you have requested specific topics related to your class's studies, docents will assist in identifying common plants, animals and birds; point out adaptations of the wildlife to the coastal wetland habitat; encourage direct observations; describe endangered species and Bolsa Chica's importance for them; and explain the history from prehistoric times to the present, including the restoration project and conservation plans.

Tour Group Size: Limit of 60. **Adult Accompaniment for Children's Tours:** One adult to every ten children is requested.

Suggested Clothing/What to Bring: We recommend comfortable walking shoes, jackets (the Bolsa Chica Wetlands can be **windy and cold** throughout the year) and in summer months wear sunscreen and/or a hat. Binoculars are especially useful.

Facilities: The only facilities on site are two portable toilets in the parking lot.

No food is allowed in the Ecological Reserve.

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Important Tour Information



Rules to Protect Our Wildlife and Your Children

Please review these two rules with your students **BEFORE** your visit to Bolsa Chica. Teachers, aides and parents are all responsible for ensuring that **children obey the rules at all times** so the entire class or group will have a wonderful experience with nature! Thank you!

Rule #1: Respect the wildlife in their home

- Use a quiet voice at all times
- Stay on the trails
- Do not pick any plants
- Do not harm any insects

Rule #2: Listen to and obey your tour leader

- Only 1 person talks at a time
- When your tour leader is talking, you listen
- Raise your hand to speak
- Stay behind the tour leader on the trails
- Follow instructions

How to act at the Bolsa Chica Ecological Reserve:

Instead of this:	Do this:	Why:
shouting	use a quiet voice	We are visitors in the animals' homes. We will see more if we are quiet.
everyone talking	raise your hand to speak	We can share more information with you if only one person talks at a time.
throwing rocks or picking plants	use your eyes to find and watch an animal or plant	We want to protect wildlife.
running	walk gently	We don't want you to get hurt falling.
walking off the trail	stay on the trail	We don't want you to trample or hurt the plants or hidden wildlife.
running away from the group	stay behind the tour leader	We know the trail better than you and don't want you to get hurt or scare away the wildlife.