A FEW OF OUR FAVORITE LOCAL SURFING BEACHES

Here are a couple of good spots that we recommend for first-time and beginner surfers. Remember to always surf in a spot which matches your ability! Do not surf an experts only beach if you are a beginner. You will not make friends, and will most likely causing a dangerous situation at best. You can (and should) read more about the rules of the water and surfing etiquette at Surfline.com. Note: CIT Surf Club members get a $20 discount off annual Surfline.com membership (membership necessary for live webcams and some other features). Contact the officers at surfer@its for details.

BEGINNER SURF SPOTS

Mondo's
Mondo's break is just north of the town of Ventura, in Ventura County, CA. From Pasadena take 210 west to 134 west to 101 north. Drive for ~70 miles until you get to Ventura. Stay on 101 through Ventura and exit at State Beaches/Solimar-Faria/West PCH exit which is the next exit from 101 after you pass Ventura. The exit ramp bears to the left and goes through a tunnel under the freeway. Zero out the odometer as you exit the tunnel. Drive north on PCH for 3 miles. At the 3.1 mile mark there will be houses on your left (ocean side). At the 3.4 mile mark you will come to a clearing between two groups of front-row beach homes. That's Mondo's and there is no sign that says so. You will see a lot of surfers in the bay. Park in the dirt parking lot on the right and watch for a steep curb drop-off if your car has low clearance. Also watch for traffic while crossing the PCH to get to the beach. The parking lot is adjacent to the railroad tracks, trains come thundering quite close. NOTE: There are no public toilets on this beach. You can use a port-a-potty the side of the road by Emma Wood State Beach as you come out of the tunnel, or use the ones to the north of Mondo's. You can check the conditions at PacificWaverider.com.

Bolsa Chica State Park
Bolsa Chica is located just north of the town of Huntington Beach, in Orange County. From Pasadena take the 210 east. Then take the 605 south. Continue on the 605 until it merges with the 405 freeway. Continue on the 405 south towards San Diego. Stay on the 40. Do NOT take the 22 (Garden Grove). Exit at Warner Ave and take this going west. Take Warner until it reaches the ocean, then take a left (south) on the PCH. Go about 1 mile and take the first right into the park entrance. The fee is $10 per day, or you can buy an annual pass (~$120 I think). There are many places to surf, although I usually go north (to the right after you pay) and park in the first or second parking lot after the large building which is the lifeguard headquarters. There are bathrooms and showers at the beach. You can check the conditions (and watch a live webcam) at Surfline.com.
INTERMEDIATE/ADVANCED SURF SPOTS

**Huntington Beach**
*Huntington Beach is located in the town of Huntington Beach in Orange County, CA.*
Follow the instructions above to go to Bolsa Chica State Park. Stay on the 405 (do NOT take the 22). Exit at Goldenwest St. and go south. Follow this until you reach the beach. Turn left (south) on PCH and go until you find a nice break. Many people surf near the HB pier, on both the north and south sides. There are bathrooms and showers at the beach and places to eat and shop nearby.
You can check the conditions (and watch a live webcam) at Surfline.com (north of pier) or Surfline.com (south of pier) and also at PacificWaverider.com.

**El Porto**
*El Porto is located just north of Manhattan Beach and just south of LAX, in LA County.*
El Porto is probably the closest decent break to Pasadena, which makes it convenient.
Getting there is easy too. Take the 110 freeway south. Take the 105 west. When the 105 freeway ends (at the airport), continue straight ahead and the road will turn into a surface street (Imperial Highway) for a couple of miles. When you reach the ocean, turn left (south) on the PCH. Take this until you reach 42th St. and turn right (there will be a gas station on your right hand side). Go down the steep hill and park along the beach. The parking is metered (and only accepts quarters), but not until 9AM, so if you get there early, you don't have to pay. There are bathrooms and showers at the beach.
You can check the conditions (and watch the webcam) at Surfline.com and PacificWaverider.com.

**Leo Carrillo State Beach**
*Leo Carrillo is located on the PCH just east of Malibu (near Pt. Dume) in LA County.*
Take the 210 freeway west to the 134 to the 101. Exit Kanan Rd and turn left (south) at the light. Go straight through town and through the Santa Monica mountains until you reach the PCH. Turn right on the PCH (west), and continue for about 5 miles. You will see signs for Leo Carrillo on the right. If you want, you can pay and park inside the state beach, or if you don't have an annual state park pass, just park your car on the side of of the 101 (on the beach side only). The break is a point break by the large rock, and the take off can be frustratingly competitive if there is a crowd... and there often is. Best shot... go on a weekday or very early!
You check the conditions (and webcam) at Surfline.com and at PacificWaverider.com.