

**FOR:****ALISAL GUEST RANCH & RESORT**

1054 Alisal Road  
Solvang, CA 93463  
800.4.ALISAL  
[www.alisal.com](http://www.alisal.com)

**CONTACT:****WAGSTAFF WORLDWIDE**

Jessica Rodriguez/Dyan Dolfi  
323.871.1151  
jessica@wagstaffworldwide.com  
dyan@wagstaffworldwide.com

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**THE ALISAL GUEST RANCH AND RESORT SADDLES UP SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA STYLE**

**SOLVANG, CA** – Nestled in the scenic rolling hills of the lush Santa Ynez Valley lies the Alisal Guest Ranch and Resort, a destination that has distinguished itself for 55 years as a vacation tradition, attracting families, couples and executives from around the globe.

The full-service 10,000-acre resort combines the elegance and comfort of the western lifestyle with a working cattle ranch where 2,000 head of cattle and 100-quarter horses graze leisurely. Beautifully manicured lawns weave throughout the terrain connecting 73 California ranch-style cottage studios and suites to restaurants and recreational facilities.

Since 1843 when conquistador **Raimundo Carrillo** received a land grant and became the first cattle rancher of the Santa Ynez Valley, the Alisal (meaning "grove of sycamores" in Chumash, a Native American language) established itself as a working cattle ranch. In 1943, the property was purchased by **The Jackson Family** and evolved into a guest ranch. The exclusive hideaway opened its doors to summer vacationers with 30 initial guestrooms converted into bungalows.

Today, *Sunset Magazine* has dubbed this resort one of the "50 Best Dude Ranches in the West." The Alisal also received the "Family Resort of the Year Award" by *Family Circle Magazine*. Its rich heritage and idyllic setting make it a haven for rest and relaxation and one of American's most prestigious properties boasting a well preserved civilized past. Couples honeymoon here, families enjoy reunions and executives find a welcome respite from urban life.

**THE GREAT OUTDOORS**

Blessed with an abundance of wildlife, it is no wonder the Alisal is the preferred choice for leisure travel. Hiking trails meander around the resort's rich flora and fauna. Nature lovers can take a self-guided hike through **Deer Canyon** where some 64 different animals including deer, possums, bobcats, mountain lions, wild boar and black bears reside. One hundred species of birds, including the bald eagle and rare California condor, can be heard from a distance. Back at the ranch, children as well as adults can participate in the caring of the ponies, chickens, bunnies and pigs seven days a week at the **Alisal Barn**

**Yard.** Animal lovers can also participate in egg gathering, grooming and exercising the animals in the corral. Cart rides with miniature horses are a favorite of younger Alisal guests.

A recreation center unto itself, the 100-acre spring fed **Alisal Lake**, filled with bass; trout; and bluegill, offers “catch-and-release” fishing. This sportsman's paradise attracts bird watchers and guests with canoes, rowboats, peddle boats, kayaks or sail boats. Alisal offers an Orvis-endorsed fly-fishing guide for private lessons. Other activities include archery and air rifle target shooting classes for children and adults. Evening highlights for families include singing, storytelling around the campfire and summer barbecues.

Visitors rarely leave the Alisal during their stay and for good reason. Leaving at dawn, guests enjoy more than 50 miles of equestrian trails on horseback circling the magnificent hills and sycamore groves. Twice daily group rides, private rides and breakfast rides to the historic **Adobe Camp** round out a stay.

Aspiring equestrians can hone their riding skills at the corral with private lessons. Children delight in the **Alisal Rodeo** with stick horse and gunny sack races and boot relays in an authentic western arena. Wranglers show off with quick draw demonstrations, calf roping and barrel racing. Following the rodeo is an extravagant western barbecue with live entertainment and traditional line dancing.

For those seeking more civilized pursuits, two 18-hole championship golf courses – the par 72, 6,500-yard **Ranch Course** and the par 72, 6,800-yard **River Course** with four lakes - provide impeccably manicured fairways and greens with spectacular views of the Santa Ynez River and nearby Santa Ynez Mountains. A full range of facilities and services are offered at both courses including a clubhouse, driving range, putting green and pro shop. Private and group lessons by PGA professionals are also available.

A full-service **Tennis Center** with a well-equipped pro tennis shop is situated on a scenic area of the Ranch. Tennis buffs can choose from six hard courts. Tennis professionals offer both clinics and private lessons by appointment.

Executives and families can enjoy team building at the state-of-the-art **Challenge Course** designed into the terrain flanking Alisal Creek near the historic Old Adobe Camp. Located in one of the most beautiful and remote parts of the Ranch, the Course is available for a half-day or full-day program with lunch and refreshment breaks.

After a lengthy day of horseback riding, the Alisal's outdoor heated swimming **pool** and adjacent eight-seat **spa** are the perfect way to unwind.

## **FRONTIER FARE**

The Alisal's talented kitchen staff assures guests a delectable dining experience. **The Ranch Room**, the resort's discriminating restaurant, serves American and western style favorites. Guests enjoy a choice of a hearty a la carte American breakfast menu items that include Linguisa Scrambled Eggs over a Grilled

Portobello Mushroom, savory Huevos Rancheros and the Alisal's own Buttermilk Pancakes. A lavish Ranch Room breakfast buffet of Eggs Benedict and Corn Beef Hash is also served with freshly squeezed orange juice and homemade baked muffins, pastries and breads.

Dinner is formal and frontier-size portions of juicy barbecued steaks, tender prime rib of beef and the fresh catch of the day including swordfish, John Dory and Seabass are guest favorites. Specialty dishes such as Osso Bucco, Hickory Smoked Briskett and slow roasted Farm Raised Wild Boar are prepared with the freshest ingredients for the guests' dining pleasure. The Alisal features a Modified American Plan. Menus are rotated seven days a week, year round.

Other sumptuous American favorites are offered at two golf course restaurants: **The Ranch Grill** which serves breakfast and lunch and **The River Grill** which serves breakfast, lunch and dinner.

At the historic **Adobe Camp**, the resort treats guests to a full ranch breakfast including buttermilk flapjacks, scramble eggs, bacon, sausage, ham and more complete with storytelling about the history of the **Alisal**.

For those guests who enjoy dining outdoors, a picnic lunch can be prepared by Alisal Executive Chef, Pascal Godé. During the summer months, the Ranch hosts a Cal-Mex barbecue at the rodeo arena, a seafood barbecue at Alisal Lake and a romantic evening under the stars with live entertainment at the poolside barbecue where an array of smoked meats are served.

#### **A SOUGHT AFTER EXECUTIVE RETREAT**

With 6,000 sq. ft. of diverse meeting space, the Alisal is a relaxing and productive experience for group meetings and corporate retreats. For smaller conferences, the intimate **Library** features a large stone hearth with wood mantle.

The Western-themed **Cottonwood Room** is appointed with hardwood floors, Navajo-style painted living-room style seating, a wood-burning fireplace and private bar. Ideal for larger meetings, the handsome 2,800 sq. ft. **Sycamore Room**, seating 150, is fashioned with high-beamed ceilings, expansive windows and ceiling and allows for plenty of natural light, making it a popular choice for mid-sized meetings. The 750 sq. ft. **Adobe Room** is another meeting option and is ideal for smaller meetings with its paneled walls, high-beamed ceilings and plush carpeting. The resort's creekside patio, historic Old Adobe and Alisal Lake deck are ideal locations for breakout sessions.

#### **CELEBRITY SIGHTINGS**

The Alisal's languid landscape and secluded location have made it a hideaway for Hollywood's "A" list for more than 50 years. In 1949, **Clark Gable** ponied up to marry **Sylvia Hawkes** in the resort's Library. The guest register also bears the signature of other luminaries including **Christina Applegate**, **Jeff and Beau Bridges**, **James Brolin and Barbara Streisand**, **Kevin Costner**, **Doris Day**, **Nanette Fabray**, **Goldie Hawn**, **Don Knotts**, **Kurt Russell**, **John Travolta** and **Paul Williams**.

**The Alisal** offers 73 telephone-and-television-free guest cottages and suites, two 18-hole championship golf courses, seven tennis courts and a 100-acre spring-fed lake with water sports, including fly-fishing, canoeing and kayaking.

The Alisal Guest Ranch and Resort has long been considered the premier full-service guest ranch for couples, families and conferences. This secluded hideaway is one of the few places where time seems reluctant to move forward.

For travel accommodations or information about the Alisal Guest Ranch and Resort, call 800-4-ALISAL, contact the Ranch via email at [reservations@alisal.com](mailto:reservations@alisal.com) or visit their website at [www.alisal.com](http://www.alisal.com).

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**FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT WAGSTAFF WORLDWIDE, 323. 871.1151**