Welcome Aboard
3d Battalion
4th Marines

Acknowledgement
Materials have been drawn from a variety of sources in creating this guide, including Sister Services, Marine units, and website resources. Regardless of source, all the material was selected to help military members and their families prepare for what is sometimes the most challenging part of a military career.

A PCS Move is a unique time for everyone. While it may be a source of emotional strain for all family members, it can also be a time to work together to strengthen or rebuild relationships.

Disclaimer: Information is distributed in this email as information of common interest for military members and their families/contacts. Use of this information does not advertise nor imply endorsement of any commercial activity or product by the Department of Defense, U.S. Marine Corps, or this command.
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Enclosure (1) NAVMC 11977 Sponsorship Request
Enclosure (2) NAVMC 11791 Sponsorship Questionnaire
From: Battalion Commander, 3d Battalion, 4th Marines  
To: All Inbound Personnel  

Subj: WELCOME ABOARD TO DARKSIDE  

1. Congratulations on joining 3d Battalion, 4th Marines (3/4), also known by our historical monicker, “Thundering Third,” or our callsign, “Darkside.” As part of the “Thundering Third” family, you join an infantry battalion steeped in a history that spans from its service during World War II as the “Bastards of Bataan,” to the fighting for the “Rockpile” in the jungles of Vietnam, to rapidly dominating an Iraqi enemy by “shock and awe” that resulted in the iconic downing of Saddam Hussein’s statue at the hands of 3/4 Marines. The battalion truly possesses a unique lineage. 3/4 serves as part of the legendary 7th Marine Regiment that fought in every clime and place when the nation called, whether in Guadalcanal, Korea’s “Frozen Chosin” Reservoir, or the savage urban fighting in Fallujah, Iraq. Although the Marine Corps temporarily deactivated 3/4 in May 2014, we are honored that you will join our team to reactivate such a storied unit and not only shoulder its proud legacy, but also forge new history.

2. Despite the challenges of reactivating the “Thundering Third,” we never lose sight that our Marines, Sailors, and their families are our most precious resource. As a result, your safety and well-being during your transition to Twentynine Palms, California, remains our utmost concern. To reduce the friction associated with a permanent change of station (PCS) move, you can expect that a member of 3/4 will contact you and provide quality of life, housing, education, and community resources from the Battalion and the Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center (MCAGCC) that may assist with your move. This servicemember will serve as your sponsor and primary point of contact (POC) should you need assistance or advice during the relocation process. Our Family Readiness Officer (FRO), Ms. Gisela Lemon [(w) 760-830-6613, (c) 760-212-2528, or gisela.lemon@usmc.mil], and Acting FRO, Gunnery Sergeant Nathan McCallum, (w) 760-830-8562, or nathan.mccallum@usmc.mil, or the nearest Marine Corps Community Services (MCCS) center can also serve as valuable alternate resources.

3. We wish you a successful transition and look forward to serving with you as part of the “Darkside” family where we’ll write the next chapter of 3/4’s history together. I am confident that you will become a valuable contributor to our team and I am honored to have the opportunity to serve with you. If you require assistance prior to hearing from your sponsor, you can also contact our battalion’s administration section at 760-830-8531.

B. S. MIDDLETON
ENDURING COMMANDER’S INTENT

1. **DARKSIDE Goals:** To develop five outstanding companies that work well together supported by a staff that judges its worth by the success of those companies. Success for all of us is winning honorably in combat.

2. **DARKSIDE Basics:**

   - **#1 Proficiency:** Know and maintain your weapon system.
   - **#2 Performance:** Hit what you shoot at the first time.
   - **#3 Discipline:** Perhaps more than any other factor, discipline enables you to accomplish the mission and keep your Marines and Sailors alive. Have the discipline to do the right thing when no one is looking. Never lie, cheat, steal, or do drugs. Don’t tolerate anyone who does. Discipline is a mindset, essential during combat, but developed every day, in garrison and in the field. Building a disciplined organization requires attention to detail, consistency and enforcement by all hands.
   - **#4 Accountability:** Accountability goes hand in hand with discipline. Maintain constant accountability of your men, your equipment, and your decisions. Hold each other accountable.
   - **#5 Selflessness:** Be part of something bigger than yourself.
   - **#6 Honor:** Exhibit strong moral character and adherence to ethical principles. Always keep your honor clean.

3. **Leadership:** Every member of the DARKSIDE is a leader in some capacity. The Marine Corps’ 14 Leadership Traits and 11 Leadership Principles serves as baseline guide for all leaders in the Battalion. Additional focus areas for leaders:
   - Treat everyone with dignity and respect
   - Know your Marines and Sailors at least two levels down
   - Foster healthy competition, never at the cost of the larger team
   - Communicate with your men, make sure they understand “why”
   - Don’t waste time
   - Be a good teacher and a good student
   - Have the courage to change the things you can, accept the things you cannot change, and have the wisdom to know the difference

4. **Readiness:** If success for all of us is defined by winning honorably in combat, then we will maintain a constant focus on increasing the combat effectiveness of the Battalion. We strive, every day, to improve the readiness of our equipment, our people, and our families. Every day we are either getting better or getting worse. *Every day ask yourself if we are getting better!*

B. S. MIDDLETON
Welcome Aboard Message from the 7th Marines & 3d Battalion, 4th Marines Family Readiness Officers (FRO)

On behalf of the Commanding Officer of 3d Battalion, 4th Marines, we would like to take this opportunity to welcome you to the 7th Marines’ family. As the FRO, our purpose is to assist you and your family in all areas of morale and readiness while in CONUS and deployed. I currently serve as the 7th Marines FRO and Gunnery Sergeant Nathan McCallum serves as the acting FRO for 3rd Battalion, 4th Marines (also known by its call sign, “Darkside”).

The Marine Corps defines family as any entity in which a Marine is born into, sworn into, or married into. Our Commandant states that a Marine makes an enduring commitment to the Corps, and the Corps in turn makes an enduring commitment to every Marine—and to his family. We take this commitment very seriously.

The 3d Battalion, 4th Marines Welcome Aboard Packet provides transition resources available within the unit, aboard MCAGCC, and in the local area as well as various important phone numbers to help ease your transition to the Twentynine Palms area. However the best tool to assist you during your relocation process is a member of Darkside that serves as your sponsor. Please complete the NAVMC 11799 Sponsorship Request form and send it to the Battalion Adjutant, 2ndLt Adam Bicknell (adam.bicknell@usmc.mil) within 5 days of receiving this notification to help us assign you a sponsor. This form is a savable document and will be retained by your assigned sponsor and the Battalion Adjutant. It is self-explanatory, but if you require assistance or have questions, please feel free to contact 2ndLt Bicknell or the Marines in the S-1 section at 760-830-8531. Upon arrival to the battalion, be prepared to provide feedback on your experience with the sponsorship program so that we may continually improve it.

In the addition, please complete the Unit, Personal, and Family Readiness Program Contact Authorization form, or NAVMC 11654, within 10 business days of checking into the Command. We request this information because it will assist the Commanding Officer in better supporting Marines, Sailors, and their families by providing them with information, referrals and official command communication in compliance with Marine Corps Order 1754.9. Please be assured that all personal information will be kept in the strictest compliance with all Personally Identifiable Information (PII) and the Privacy Act of 1974 policies.

Please take the time to examine the Welcome Aboard Packet that has been assembled for you as it boasts an abundance of valuable information...you will be surprised at what you can find in the desert! If there we can offer any further assistance, please don’t hesitate to contact either GySgt McCallum or me. We look forward to meeting you during your check-in process and serving alongside you and your family.

Ms. Gisela Lemon  
Family Readiness Officer  
7th Marine Regiment  
gisela.lemon@usmc.mil  
760-830-6613

GySgt Nathan McCallum, USMC  
Family Readiness Officer  
3d Battalion, 4th Marines  
nathan.mccallum@usmc.mil  
760-830-8552
Transportation to USMC Base - Twentynine Palms

The Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center (MCAGCC) is about fifty-five miles northeast of Palm Springs. The drive takes about 1.5 hours traveling through the towns of Morongo Valley, Yucca Valley and the town of Twentynine Palms. The entrance to the base is five miles from the town. There are a number of options for transportation to the base. Consider these options – ask a Volunteer.

Here are some options:

- **TAXI:** A taxi will cost from $130 - $150 for the fifty five mile, 1.5 hour ride. Be sure to negotiate the fare before you leave the airport. Contact the ‘taxi dispatcher’ at the taxi stand near the airport main entrance. Some drivers are more willing to negotiate than others as it is a three hour round-trip for the driver. If traveling on orders you should be reimbursed later. Always get a receipt. Do not use scab / unauthorized taxis - they can be a ripoff and cost more!

- **Share a taxi?** Ask around the USO if anyone else wants to share a taxi fare to the Base!

- **MBTA Bus Service** (public transportation): Route #15 direct bus service from airport to MCB. Departure: Fri 7 p.m.; Sat 12 noon, 6 p.m.; Sun. 6 p.m. Fare: Fr.Sa.Sun. $20, $25 round trip. Mon-Fri with connection in Yucca Valley, departs: 7:50 a.m., 10:10 a.m., 4:50 p.m. Fare $10.

No holiday bus service, correct change only. Ask Volunteer for location of bus pickup stop.

- **RENTAL CARS:** Enterprise Car Rental has a special one-way rate of $70 including all taxes and fees dropping car off on base. Fill gas tank before return. Some age restrictions and other qualifications have been relaxed. Driver must have a valid driver’s license and credit card, not a friends credit card. Check with the Volunteer or Enterprise Rental counter near the USO. Other car rental companies do not have one-way rentals and cars must be returned to the PSP.

- **S.O.S. - FREE RIDES:** A volunteer organization (not affiliated with the USO), Soldiers Organized Services, (‘S.O.S.’) provides free transportation from the airport to 29 Palms using volunteer drivers. For information telephone S.O.S. 760-799-5488, ask for Erica. If you receive a recording, leave a message and she will return your call. It may take an hour or two for her to locate a driver and be available to pick up at the airport. Consider all options.

- **MORE FREE RIDES:** Civilians or military personnel driving to Twentynine Palms frequently call or stop by the USO to see if anyone needs a ride. Ask the Volunteer on duty.

- **BASE VAN PICK-UP:** If attending communications school, TDY or PCS, in some cases the receiving organization will send a driver and van to pick personnel to take to 29 Palms. Large groups arriving may have a prearranged van or bus to provide service. Check with the volunteer on duty for phone contact with new organization. This service is generally not available when returning from leave. If there is a van or bus at the airport picking up other authorized military, sometimes space is available. Check with Volunteer on duty or van driver.
1. Check-in during normal working hours (0730-1630) will be done at the Battalion’s CP, bldg 1448, (3/4) on the right side, as depicted by the arrow. The Battalion’s S-1 phone number is 760-830-8531.
2. During non-working hours, check in with the RDO at 7th Marine Regiment, bldg 1538. 7th Marine Regiment’s Duty phone number is 760-830-6503.
3. The uniform for checking-in is Service Alphas.
SMP
Single Marine Program

The Zone
Bldg. 1531
760.830.8454/4767
Sunday - Saturday: 10am - 10pm

The MCCS Twentynine Palms Single Marine Program resides inside the 5th Street Zone in Bldg 1531. This facility is open to active duty military. Single service and geographical bachelors can enjoy a variety of recreational activities including: pool, darts, foosball, ping pong and a variety of arcade games. Within The Zone you will also find:

• Free Movies
  Did you know the Single Marine Program has a theater room available. SMP receives newer movies not yet released to DVD from Navy Motion Picture Service. SMP currently has over 750 movies in their library.

• The Gaming Area
  The Single Marine Program has five televisions devoted to console gaming. The Zone has Xbox 360, Playstation 3 and Xbox Kinect setup for gaming.

• Free Shuttle Bus Program
  On Friday through Sunday, a shuttle is available to transport Marines to and from various popular locations. SMP drives Marines and Sailors to the Commissary, Exchange, eateries, and to their barracks.

Gyms

East Gym
Building 1588
760.830.6440
Monday - Friday: 4:30am - 10pm
Saturday & Sunday: 7am - 8pm
Open all Holidays
Play basketball or racquetball, relax in the co-ed spa or sauna, and work out with the latest in cardiovascular equipment and free weights in a bright "health club" atmosphere.

West Gym
Building 1518 & 1519
760.830.6451/3009
Monday - Friday: 4:30am - 10pm
Saturday & Sunday: 7am - 8pm
Holidays: Closed
The West Gym offers great amenities for anyone's workout including, certified aerobic instructors, sauna, steam room, basketball court and cardio equipment with individual LCD screens. Enjoy basketball, volleyball, fitness assessments, aerobic classes, personal trainers (ask about our rates), cross-training machines, functional fitness classes and complete upper and lower body circuit equipment consisting of 24 pieces!

HITT Program

Bldg. 1407
760.830.6451
The MCAGCC Fitness Centers and the High Intensity Tactical Training (HITT) Program offers world class training opportunities for Marines and Units. The equipment housed in our MCAGCC fitness facilities, along with the workouts presented in the HITT Program allows the most valuable athletes in the world, the men and women of the USMC, to train like elite and professional level athletes.
ITT
Information, Tickets, & Tours
Bldg. 1502
760.830.4067/4122
Monday - Friday: 10am - 6pm
Saturday, Sunday & National Holidays: Closed
Information, Tickets and Tours is your one-stop shop for all your destinations. Our ITT office has discount tickets to many Southern California tourist attractions. Purchase tickets to area theme parks, dinner shows, whale watching tours, museums, aquariums and more.

Outdoor Adventures
Bldg. 1262
760.830.7235
Monday: 8:30am - 4:30pm
Tuesday: 8:30am - 12:30pm
Wednesday - Friday: 8:30am - 4:30pm
Saturday: 8:30am - 12:30pm
Sunday: Closed
OA provides recreational rentals, including equipment for winter and summer sports, camping, gardening and party gear. Children’s games, tables, chairs, canopies and Jupiter Jump inflatables are also available.

Paintball
Bldg. 1262
1.866.985.4932
Open Friday - Sunday
The paintball park aboard base is open Friday through Sunday for individuals and private groups. Private groups can also rent this great facility Monday through Thursday. Bring your own equipment or rent it on site. It’s a day of fun for the whole family!

Joshua Tree National Park
Two distinct desert ecosystems, the Mojave and the Colorado, come together in Joshua Tree National Park. A fascinating variety of plants and animals make their homes in a land sculpted by strong winds and occasional torrents of rain. Dark night skies, a rich cultural history, and surreal geologic features add to the wonder of this vast wilderness in southern California. Come explore for yourself.

Interagency Annual Pass: $80 FREE TO ACTIVE DUTY MILITARY PERSONNEL AND DEPENDANTS WITH PROPER ID
This pass is available to the general public and provides access to federally-managed recreation sites that charge an Entrance or Standard Amenity Fee for a full year from month of purchase. The Annual Pass can be obtained in person at the park enterances, by calling 1-888-ASK USGS, or online.
Twentynine Palms
Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center
Connections

When you arrive in Twentynine Palms, be sure to stop by the Village Center, Bldg 1551, to visit the Relocation Assistance Office. We can give you maps and brochures about the local area and attractions. If you are still awaiting the arrival of your household goods, we can also provide you with a Loan Locker. The Loan Locker consists of basic household items such as pots and pans, plates and utensils, and even a coffee maker! You will be able to utilize the Loan Locker for 30 days or until you’re household goods reach the high desert. You will also want to sign up for the next Welcome Aboard Brief. The Welcome Aboard Brief will let you know everything there is to do on and off base while you're stationed at MCAGCC.

INFORMATION ABOUT MARINE CORPS AIR GROUND COMBAT CENTER AND THE COMMUNITY OF 29 PALMS:
The Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center is the largest Marine Corps base in the world: covering over 900 square miles it is larger than some countries. The premier training facility sits nestled in the quiet desert paradise of Twentynine Palms, and together, makes up one of the most unique living environments in the western United States. From rock climbing to perusing the local art galleries, Twentynine Palms has something for everyone.

BASE INFORMATION:
http://www.marines.mil/unit/29palms/ - MCAGCC home page
http://www.marines.mil/unit/29palms/g5/ - Observation Post online base newspaper
http://www.mccs29palms.com/ - 29 Palms Marine Corps Community Services
http://www.lincolnmilitary.com/29palms/ - Lincoln Military Housing

COMMUNITY INFORMATION:
http://www.ci.twentynine-palms.ca.us/Home.2.0.html - City of 29 Palms
http://www.virtual29.com/ - Community Information
http://visiit29.org/ - 29 Palms Tourism
http://www.oasisofmurals.com/ - The murals of 29 Palms
http://www.desertfun.com/ - Local Radio Stations
http://www.desertrail.com/ - Community newspaper

SURROUNDING COMMUNITIES:
http://www.ca.gov/ - California state website
http://www.visitcalifornia.com/ - California tourism
http://www.joshuatreevillage.com/ - Joshua Tree Village
http://www.joshuatreetraveler.com/ - Joshua Tree Traveler
http://www.nps.gov/jotr/ - Joshua Tree National Park
http://www.yucca-valley.org/ - Yucca Valley
http://www.bigbearinfo.com/ - Big Bear Lake
http://www.desert-hot-springs.us/ - Desert Hot Springs
http://www.ci.palm-springs.ca.us/ - City of Palm Springs
http://www.palm-springs.org/ - Palm Springs tourism
## Twentynine Palms MCAGCC Cont.

### Chamber of Commerce
- **Joshua Tree Chamber of Commerce**
  760-366-3723  [www.joshuatreechamber.org](http://www.joshuatreechamber.org)
- **Twentynine Palms Chamber of Commerce**
  760-367-3442  [www.29chamber.org](http://www.29chamber.org)
- **Yucca Valley Chamber of Commerce**
  760-365-6323  [www.yuccavalley.org](http://www.yuccavalley.org)

### Government Offices
- **Twentynine Palms**
  760-367-6799  [www.ci.twentynine-palms.ca.us](http://www.ci.twentynine-palms.ca.us)
- **Yucca Valley**
  760-369-7207  [www.yucca-valley.org](http://www.yucca-valley.org)

### Libraries
- **Joshua Tree**  760-366-8615  [www.joshuatreefol.org](http://www.joshuatreefol.org)
- **Yucca Valley**  760-228-5455  [www.yuccavalleyfol.org](http://www.yuccavalleyfol.org)

### Licensing Services
- Driver’s License  800-777-0133
- Marriage License  760-366-5770
- Pet Registration—Twentynine Palms  760-367-0157
- Pet Registration—Yucca Valley  760-369-7207

### Transportation Airports
- **Palm Springs International Airport**  760-318-3800  [www.ci.palm-springs.ca.us](http://www.ci.palm-springs.ca.us)
- **Los Angeles International Airport**  310-646-5252  [www.lawa.org/lax](http://www.lawa.org/lax)
- **Ontario International Airport**  909-937-2811  [www.lawa.org/welcomeONT.aspx](http://www.lawa.org/welcomeONT.aspx)

### Ground Transportation
- **Morongo Basin Transit Authority MBTA**  760-367-7433  [www.mbtabus.com](http://www.mbtabus.com)
- **Amtrak**  800-872-7245  [www.amtrak.com](http://www.amtrak.com)

### Utilities
- **Electricity**
  Southern California Edison Company  800-872-4555

- **Gas**
  Southern California Gas Company  800-427-2200
  If your house has a propane tank, call the company listed on the tank.

- **Telephone**
  Verizon  800-483-1000

- **Cable Companies**
  Time Warner Cable  760-365-0200
  Direct TV  760-228-0561

- **Waste**
  Burrtec  760-367-9168

- **Water**
  Hi-Desert Water District  760-365-8333
  Joshua Basin Water District  760-363-6615
  Twentynine Palms Water District  760-367-7546
Hotels in the MCAGCC area

On Base:

Sleepy Tortoise Lodge/TLF
Twilight Dunes RV Park
Bldg 690
Twentynine Palms, CA 92278
760-830-6583

Off Base:

Best Western Garden Inn and Suites
71487 29 Palms Highway,
Twentynine Palms, CA 92277
760-367-9141

Motel 6
72562 29 Palms Highway,
Twentynine Palms, CA 92277
760-367-2833

Circle C Lodge
6340 El Rey Avenue,
Twentynine Palms, CA 92277
760-367-7615

Country Inn
71829 Twentynine Palms Hwy,
Twentynine Palms, CA 92277
760-367-0070

Harmony Motel
71161 Twentynine Palms Highway,
Twentynine Palms, CA 92277
760-367-3351

Holiday Inn Express Hotel and Suites
71809 29 Palms Highway,
Twentynine Palms, CA 92277
800-465-4329

Sunnyvale Garden Suites Hotel
73843 Sunnyvale Drive,
Twentynine Palms, CA 92277
760-361-3939

Fairfield Inn and Suites
6333 Encelia Avenue,
Twentynine Palms, CA 92277
760-361-5000

29 Palms Inn
73950 Inn Avenue,
Twentynine Palms, CA 92277
(760) 367-3505

High Desert Motel
61310 29 Palms Hwy
Joshua Tree, CA 92252
(760) 366-1978

Best Western Yucca Valley Hotel & Suites
56525 29 Palms Hwy,
Yucca Valley, CA 92284
(760) 365-3555

California Castle
53910 RIDGE RD,
Yucca Valley, CA 92284
(760) 333-8368

Desert View Motel
57471 Primrose Dr.,
Yucca Valley, CA 92284
(760) 365-9706

Yucca Inn & Suites
7500 Camino del Cielo Trl,
Yucca Valley, CA 92284
(760) 365-3311

Oasis of Eden Inn and Suites
72562 29 Palms Hwy,
Yucca Valley, CA 92284
760-365-6321

Super 8
57096 29 Palms Highway,
Yucca Valley, CA 92284
760-228-1773
The Village Center
Bldg 155

760-830-6344/7479
Toll Free: 1-877-727-5300

Mon - Fri:
0730-1630
Sat, Sun & Holidays:
Closed

Bringing People and Services Together"
Planning Your Move

When you receive Permanent Change of Station (PCS) orders, you're bound to have mixed feelings. You're likely to be excited about the upcoming change and the chance to meet new people and see new places. But you're also likely to feel stressed about the logistics of the move and about helping family members -- especially children and teenagers -- with the transition. Fortunately, there are steps you can take and resources available to help you make plans, stay organized, help your children -- and keep a step ahead while you move.

Best Practices

Gaining a sense of control over your move can help ease the stress. Whether this is your first move or your fifteenth, it's a good idea to:

Create a "command center" for your move. This is a central location for the details -- including "to-do" lists -- that relate to your move. This is also the place to keep all of your important documents (orders, medical records, Powers of Attorney, wills, birth certificates, passports, last statements for accounts if they aren't electronic). A large accordion-pleated binder works well for this. Even if you're keeping lists and other documents on your computer, be sure to make hard copies for your command center.

Prioritize. Rather than trying to do it all at once, make an "A" list, a "B" list, and a "C" list, depending on what needs to be done first. This can help you focus on the "deal-breakers" -- what's most important to get done.

Once you have orders in hand, contact your installation's Transportation Office to find out what is needed to set up the move. If the service member is deployed, the spouse will need a Power of Attorney to take care of the details. Be sure to access the "It's Your Move" pamphlet and other helpful official information about moving at www.defenselink.mil/specials/itsyourmove.

Visit your current installation's relocation office for information to help you with the move.

Contact the Automated Housing Referral Network at www.ahrn.com. This site, sponsored by the Department of Defense (DoD), is designed to accelerate the process of securing housing for relocating service members and their families. You can find out about the Basic Allowance for Housing (BAH) at the DoD site at https://secureapp2.hqda.pentagon.mil/perdiem.

Connect with friends who have lived on your new installation or are living there now. They'll be able to answer many of your questions from a first-hand perspective. Ask friends at your current installation for names of people they know at your new location.

Find out about the new community. Check with your current installation's relocation office to find out if your new installation can send you a "welcome aboard" package. If you aren't near an installation now, contact your new Family Readiness Officer. You can also:

Find out about motor-vehicle related requirements in your new state at Get It Together, a service provided at licenseinfo.org/find-flash.asp.

Access the Web site for the Chamber of Commerce that serves your new town or area.

See if your new town has a Web site by using the town and state as search terms.

Go to the Citysearch site at www.citysearch.com for more information about your new community, including locations of the nearest ballparks and recreation areas.

Resources

Check out these helpful links!

MilitaryHOMEFRONT
www.militaryhomefront.dod.mil

This site includes two helpful tools for planning a move. Search Military Installations for information about programs and services for over 250 military installations and communities. Create a customized plan and calendar using Plan My Move. This tool also includes checklists, contact lists, and other resources to help with a smooth transition.

MilitaryOneSource.com
www.militaryonesource.com

This free 24-hour service, provided by the Department of Defense, is available to all active duty, Guard, and Reserve members and their families. Consultants provide information and make referrals on a wide range of issues, including relocation. You can reach the program by telephone at 1-800-342-9647 or through the Web site.

Military Youth on the Move
http://apps.mhf.dod.mil/myom

Military Youth on the Move is an easy-to-use DoD Web site that reaches out to kids and teens with creative ways to cope with moving. Military Youth on the Move gives kids a safe place to go for information and advice on issues such as adjusting to a new school, saying goodbye to friends, and getting involved in a new community.
Helping your children and teenagers

No matter what age your children are, there are steps you can take to help them with the transition. Keep in mind that from the very beginning -- when you first get PCS orders -- it's important to:

- **Acknowledge your children's feelings.** Make sure they know that it's OK to feel anxious about the move. Even though you'll be busy, it's important to make time to sit and talk about what the move will mean for everyone.
- **Be a role model with a positive attitude.** Try to convey to your child that, even though moving can be hard, it's also an adventure. Although it's important to acknowledge the stresses of moving, it's also important to focus on the good things about relocating: expanding your community of friends and learning about new places.

**Helping younger children**

- **Give your child pictures of the new installation and surrounding area.** Young children benefit from having a concrete idea of where they will be. Try to find photographs of your new community -- the installation, library, school, and recreation areas -- print them out, and give your child a folder to keep them in.
- **Try to keep routines intact.** Even though you'll be extremely busy organizing the details of the move, it's important to keep in mind that children are comforted by the routines of daily life. By continuing to have your usual Friday-night popcorn, bedtime reading, Saturday walk to the library -- or whatever rituals you enjoy together -- you will reassure your child that many of the important things in life stay the same, even when you're getting ready to move.
- **Help a younger child make an address book with pictures, addresses, phone numbers, and e-mail addresses.** An older child or teenager will appreciate an address book, too. Knowing that they will be able to stay in touch with old friends easily can help make the move feel less stressful.
- **Visit online resources with your child** that are specifically written for military children. MilitaryStudent.org at www.militarystudent.dod.mil offers a "Kid's Guide to Moving" for 6- to 12-year-olds.

**Helping teenagers**

Relocating can be especially stressful for teenagers, whose emotional states are often in some sort of turmoil even without the knowledge of a coming move. It's important to make sure your teenager is included in the decisions she can be included in from the start. It's also important to make sure your teenager understands the details of the move. "Helping Your Teenager Cope with Relocation," available on the Military OneSource Web site, offers strategies for parents relocating with teenagers.

- **Encourage your teenager to attend relocation briefings.** Some installations may have relocation workshops for children and teens. Check your installation's relocation office or family support center to see what's available.
- **Tell your teenager about the move as soon as possible.** You may be tempted to delay breaking the news, but it's best to tell your teenager right away. Knowing about the move well ahead will give your teenager time to prepare emotionally and to start planning.
- **Suggest that your teenager visit online resources for teenagers in military families,** including Military Teens on the Move, a Department of Defense site at www.defenselink.mil/mtom, and Military Student.org, at www.militarystudent.dod.mil (click on "teens").

**If your child has special needs**

If your child has special needs, you will have some extra steps to take as you get ready to move. Be sure to:

- **Contact the coordinator or advisor for your service branch.** This is your Exceptional Family Member Program (EFMP) coordinator (for the Navy and Marine Corps), your Special Needs Advisor (Army), or for the Air Force, the Special Needs Coordinator (SNC) and Family Member Relocation Clearance Coordinator (FMRCC).
- **Connect to the Department of Defense's MilitaryHOMEFRONT Special Needs/EFMP module.** Go to www.militaryhomefront.dod.mil and click on "Troops & Families," then on "Special Needs/EFMP."
- **Talk with a Military OneSource consultant** at 1-800-342-9647 about special-needs concerns. The program can help you with a wide range of issues, including finding respite care and advocates within the school system at your new location, state contact information. It can also help you find medical professionals, and give you contact information for national networks and coalitions that provide support and information for families with special-needs children.
Twentynine Palms
Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center
School Liaison

While military children don’t go to war, their experiences can be traumatic. From moving across the country, to making new friends, to dealing with a parent’s deployment, these ordeals can add stress to their young lives. We are here to lessen that burden on parents and children alike.

The School Liaison Program is here to serve as a communication link between the local school district and the installation. We will also strive to provide the most current and relevant information to assist you in your transition to Twentynine Palms and throughout your stay aboard MCAGCC.

New To Twentynine Palms?
If you are new to California, some requirements may be different than your previous state. The following websites will provide an extensive amount of information.

California Required Immunizations:
http://www.cdph.ca.gov/programs/immunize/Pages/default.aspx

Course Standards:
http://www.cdph.ca.gov/programs/immunize/Pages/default.aspx

High School Graduation Requirements:
http://www.cde.ca.gov/ci/gs/hs/hsggrgen.asp

California High School Exit Exam:
http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/hs/

To learn more about the schools in your area and their track record, visit these websites:

Blue Ribbon Schools:
http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/sr/br/

Performance Statistics:
http://www.cde.ca.gov/ds/

Contacting the School Liaison Office
Phone: 760-830-1574
Website

Local Elementary, Junior High and High Schools

**Twentynine Palms**
- 29 Palms Elementary  74350 Playa Vista Twentynine Palms, CA.
- Condor Elementary  2551 Condor Road, Twentynine Palms, CA.
- Oasis Elementary  73175 El Paseo Drive, Twentynine Palms, CA.
- Palm Vista Elementary  74350 Baseline Road Twentynine Palms, CA.
- 29 Palms Junior High  5798 Utah Trail, Twentynine Palms, CA.
- Monument High School  72770 Hatch Road, Twentynine Palms, CA.
- Twentynine Palms High School  72750 Wildcat Way Twentynine Palms, CA.

**Joshua Tree**
- Friendly Hills Elementary  7252 Sunny Vista Rd., Joshua Tree, Ca.
- Joshua Tree Elementary  6051 Sunburst Dr. Joshua Tree Ca

**Landers**
- Landers Elementary  56450 Reche Rd., Landers, Ca.

**Yucca Valley**
- Joshua Springs Christian School (Elementary/Junior High/High School)  57373 Joshua Lane Yucca Valley, Ca.
- Onaga Elementary  58001 Onaga Trail Yucca Valley CA
- Yucca Mesa Elementary  3380 Avalon Ave. Yucca Valley, CA.
- La Contenta Middle School  7050 La Contenta Road Yucca Valley, CA.
- Sky Continuation High School  59273 Sunnyslope Dr. Twentynine Palms Ca
- Yucca Valley High School  7600 Sage Avenue, Yucca Valley, Ca.

**Morongo Valley**
- Morongo Valley Elementary  10951 Hess Blvd. Morongo Valley Ca
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Age Range</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Baby Playtime</td>
<td>6mos-2 yrs</td>
<td>YMCA (bldg 696) 830-7481</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bowling</td>
<td>All ages</td>
<td>Sandy Hills Lanes (bldg 1584) 830-6422</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boy Scouts #78 (base den)</td>
<td>Grades 6-12</td>
<td>Clint 660-3091; Wendy 830-6255 / 367-3106</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cub Scouts #78 (base den)</td>
<td>Grades 1-5</td>
<td>Karen W 368-3164; Wendy 830-6255 / 367-3106</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fitness &amp; Fun</td>
<td>Ages 1-5</td>
<td>YMCA (bldg 696) 830-7481</td>
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<tr>
<td>Girl Scouts (local contact)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Kevin &amp; Teresa 361-9426</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brownies</td>
<td>Grades 1-3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Junior Girl Scouts</td>
<td>Grades 3-6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cadet Girl Scouts</td>
<td>Grades 7-9</td>
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<tr>
<td>Susan Wade – Girl Scouts of San Gorgonio</td>
<td>367-4695</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Kinder Time</td>
<td>Ages 3-4</td>
<td>830-7481</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kinder Ready</td>
<td>Ages 4-5</td>
<td>830-7481</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lap Time</td>
<td>Ages 0-2</td>
<td>Library (bldg 1528) 830-6875</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Wednesdays from 10:30-11:00 am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Library Programs &amp; Services</td>
<td>All ages</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Library (bldg 1528)</td>
<td>830-6875</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summer Reading Program</td>
<td></td>
<td>(for those in grades 1-6 in school for 2007-8)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pre-register 29 May - 9 June</td>
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<tr>
<td>The library offers monthly programs of all kinds. Call for program specifics.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Movies</td>
<td>All ages</td>
<td>Sunset Cinema (bldg 1510) 830-7269</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pools</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Family Pool</td>
<td></td>
<td>bldg 697 830-6212</td>
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<tr>
<td>Officer’s Pool</td>
<td></td>
<td>bldg 1573</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Training Tank</td>
<td></td>
<td>bldg 1508</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Story Hour**

**Ages 3-5**

Summer Reading Program + Kindergarten
Library (bldg 1528) 830-6875
Tuesdays from 10:30 - 11:30 am

Tiny Tots
Ages 2-3
YMCA (bldg 696) 830-7481

Toys for Tots
TBA

YMCA Programs (bldg 696) 830-7481
Baby Playtime (6 mos -2yrs)
Fitness & Fun (formerly Mommy& Me) (1-5 yrs)
Kinder Time (3-4 yrs)
Kinder Ready (4-5 yrs)
Tiny Tots (2-3 yrs)

Youth Activity Center (bldg 692) 830-3227 ext 269

Youth Sports
Community Center (bldg 1004) 830-3910 / 3380

Youth Sports has sports activities throughout the year. Contact them for current information.

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This information is provided for you by Information & Referral at the Village Center, 830-6344

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This information is subject to change. To verify or update program information please call the appropriate activity.

Updated 27 January 2009
Taking care of yourself

In order to navigate the adventure (and the boxes) ahead, you need to take all the steps you can to take care of yourself. Be sure to:

Ask for help. There are many resources available to help you, including other families on your installation. People will be happy to give you a hand by watching your children as you pack or even helping with some of the nitty-gritty details. Every military family knows the challenges of making a move and the importance of support from friends.

Make a point of spending time with friends and co-workers before you leave. Although you may feel as though you can't squeeze one more thing into your schedule, it's important to connect in person before you go.

Make time every day for some exercise. This can simply be a twenty-minute walk. Exercise, even for this amount of time, can be a great mind-clearer and stress-reducer.

Be sure to drink lots of water. It can be easy to become dehydrated when you're preoccupied with the details of a move. Try to keep water bottles at several locations in your home as you plan and pack.

Eat well. You may be so busy that you forget to eat meals -- which can lead to tiredness and lack of energy. Think about making a supply of sandwiches a day ahead and keeping them in the fridge along with some chopped up fruit and vegetables. Energy bars can come in handy, too -- you can keep one in your pocket or bag for emergencies.

Watch your back! You and other family members are likely to be lifting boxes on both ends of your move. It's important to understand the basics about keeping your back healthy in spite of lifting. The American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons public information site at orthoinfo.aaos.org provides detailed information about safe lifting. Click on "spine" in "By Body Part," then click on "how to prevent back pain," then on "preventing back pain at work and home."

Are You a Service Member in Transition?
Are you concerned about your mental health treatment?

Have you received new orders? Are you looking at an upcoming change in status, relocation or return to civilian life? If so, and if you are currently receiving mental health care, transferring to a new provider can be easy.

inTransition is a voluntary program to support you as you move between health care systems or providers.

inTransition Coaching & Support Program
When you contact inTransition, you will be assigned your own coach who will:
• Coach you one-on-one as you go through your transition
• Connect you with your new provider
• Empower you with tools to continue making healthy life choices

All inTransition coaches are skilled counselors. They understand today's military culture and issues. They understand and respect the importance of your privacy. They are with you every step of the way.

Ask Your Provider or Call Today
Ask your provider for more details or to get you started with the inTransition coaching and assistance program.

Or simply call the toll free numbers:
1-800-424-7877 Inside the United States;
1-800-424-4685 Outside the United States toll-free;
1-314-387-4700 Outside the United States collect.

www.health.mil/inTransition
Twentynine Palms MCAGCC Cont.

HOUSING:
The Family Housing Office works with Lincoln Military Housing to get you situated in base housing aboard MCAGCC. You can find the DD 1746, Application for Assignment to Housing, by clicking on the link to the Family Housing Office website. When the site opens, click on the Moving to MCAGCC link to find the DD 1746. Family Housing can be reached by phone at 760-830-6611. Lincoln Military Housing is available at 760-368-4500.
http://www.marines.mil/unit/29palms/g4/- Family Housing Office
http://www.lincolnmilitary.com/29palms/- - Lincoln Military Housing

HOME RENTALS/SALES:
Contact the Housing Office and speak to the Housing Referral Specialist regarding available apartments/houses for rent or sale in the Twentynine Palms area. The Housing Referral Specialist can customize a search according to your family size, BAH, and any other special needs you may have. Call 760-830-1706 for more information.
Looking for off-base housing? You can find out about the Basic Allowance for Housing (BAH) at the DoD site at http://www.defensetravel.dod.mil/site/bah.cfm. The zip code for 29 Palms is 92277
http://www.ahrn.com You can still use the website, however the DoD and DHS have ended their sponsorship of AHRN.
http://www.ci.twentynine-palms.ca.us/Twentynine_Palms_Realtors.110.0.html - Realtors in 29 Palms
http://www.homegain.com/local_real_estate/CA/twentynine_palms.html - 29 Palms real estate information
http://www.militarybyowner.com/
http://www.ptsamerica.net/
http://www.apartmentfinder.com/
http://www.realtor.com/

TEMPORARY LODGING:
If housing isn't immediately available to you, you can stay at The Sleepy Tortoise Lodge aboard MCAGCC. Call 760-830-6583 for more information and reservations. If temporary lodging isn't available, you can call the Family Housing Office at 760-830-6611 for a list of hotels in the local area.
http://www.mccs29palms.com/pages/foodHospitality/lodging.html - Sleepy Tortoise Lodge
http://www.stay29.com - Innkeepers Association of Twentynine Palms

EMPLOYMENT:
Finding a job in the high desert can be a little tricky. The Family Member Employment Assistance Program can make the job hunt easier for family members of active duty personnel. Call 760-830-7225 for more information.
http://www.mccs29palms.com/pages/mFamServices/croLibrary.html#cro - Career Resources Office
http://www.mccs29palms.com/pages/mccsEmployees/naf.html - MCCS 29 Palms job openings
https://chart.donhr.navy.mil/ - Department of the Navy Civilian Human Resources
http://www.usajobs.com/ - All DoD job openings
http://www.edd.ca.gov/eddgen.htm - California Employment Development Department

DISTRIBUTION MANAGEMENT OFFICE:
DMO (formally TMO) can assist you with personal property, travel claims and other information regarding the shipment and receipt of your household goods. http://www.marines.mil/unit/29palms/g4/tmo

IMPORTANT PET INFORMATION:

*Base Veterinarian*

The base veterinary clinic offers both sick call and vaccination appointments for military pets. Call 760-830-6896 for more information.
http://www.mccs29palms.com/pages/retailServices/services.html#animal

*Importing Pets to the United States*

When you are PCS-ing from an overseas military installation to Twentynine Palms, your pet will need to meet certain importation requirements when entering the United States. The following websites will outline specific importation regulations and requirements for the United States and the state of California.
http://www.cdc.gov/animalimportation/index.html - Center for Disease Control
http://www.aphis.usda.gov/import_export/- State pet importation regulations
http://www.eda.ca.gov/ahfsa/ah/permits.htm - California Animal Health Branch
http://www.virtual29.com/a-z/dog&catK.html - Pet Kennels
30 Things To Do

1. Go bowling at the Bowladium. 367-9502
2. Check out the Hi-Desert Nature Museum at the Community Center in Yucca Valley. www.hidesertnaturemuseum.org
3. Join in story hour at the Twentynine Palms San Bernardino Branch Library. 367-9519
4. Set aside a night for spectacular star gazing in your own backyard.
5. Ride the AerialTram to the top of Mt. San Jacinto in Palm Springs. www.pstramway.com
7. In August, check out Yucca Valley’s outdoor concert series. 369-7211
8. Grab an ice cream at Foster’s Freeze in downtown 29 Palms, Two Mile & Adobe Rds.
9. Grab your swimsuit and head to the pool at Luckie Park. 367-7562
10. Visit the Joshua Tree National Park Visitor’s Center in 29 Palms and learn all about the park. www.nps.gov/jotr
11. See a movie at the Smith’s Ranch Drive-In Theatre; pay per person for 2 movies. 367-7713
12. Check out the Wild West shootout reenactment by the Pioneertown Posse. www.pioneertown-posse.org
14. Look for petroglyphs along the Barker Dam trail in Joshua Tree National Park. www.nps.gov/jotr/
15. Skateboard at the 29 Palms Concrete Skate Park in Luckie Park. 367-7562
17. See a play or concert at Blak Box Theatre/Hi-Desert Cultural Center. www.hidesertplayhouse.com
18. Take a rock climbing class at the Joshua Tree Rock Climbing School. 1-800-890-4745
19. Geochaching is the new craze, there are local sites and it’s free! www.geocaching.com
21. Check out the meerkats right here in the Morongo Valley. www.FellowEarthlings.org
22. Visit the Integratron in Landers for the acoustical experience of a sound bath. www.integratron.com
23. Go fishing in Joshua Tree Lake. www.jtlake.com
24. Hit the trails on a horse. www.visit29.com
25. Sign up for a class at the Creative Center in 29 Palms. www.29palmscreativecenter.com
26. Take a class at the Desert Institute. www.joshuatree.org
27. Critique the art at the 29 Palms Art Gallery. www.29palmsartgallery.com
28. Drive around town to see why 29 Palms is nicknamed “Oasis of Murals”. www.oasisofmurals.org
29. Watch a movie in Luckie Park during the summer months. 367-7562
30. Walk around Desert Christ Park in Yucca Valley. www.desertchristpark.org

*Area code is 760 unless otherwise noted.
JOSHUA TREE
CMC EARTHWORKS- Artists from around the world celebrate the uniqueness of our Mojave Desert environment. 366-3791
INSTITUTE OF MENTALPHYSICS- Spiritual studies & special retreats in a Frank Lloyd Wright inspired Center. 365-3880
JOSHUA TREE & SOUTHERN RAILROAD MUSEUM- RR cars & miniature engines. (by appointment) 366-8503
JOHSUA TREE NATIONAL PARK- Driving tours, camping, hiking and rock climbing in our nearby National Park. 367-5500
JTPN HIKING & ROCK CLIMBING- Stop by the Park's Visitor center for more information about these activities. 367-5525
NOAH PURIFOY JUNK ART- Renowned outdoor exhibit of an artist who made use of the junk he found in the desert.

YUCCA VALLEY
CALIFORNIA WELCOME CENTER          365-5464
COLEMAN MUSEUM- Collection of antique camping gear by famous manufacturer in Yucca Valley's famous Old Town 228-2299
DESERT CHRIST PARK- Outdoor assemblage of religious statuary by well known local artist, Atone Martin.
HI-DESET NATURE MUSEUM- Featuring hi-desert flora & fauna samples of interest to old & young alike. 369-7212
HUTCHINS MOTORCYCLE MUSEUM- Collection of vintage & contemporary Harley Davidson Motorcycles. 365-6311
OLD TOWN ANTIQUE MARTS- Numerous interesting & varied antique shops at the west end of Yucca Valley.
SWAP MEET- buy anything at the old Yucca Valley Drive-in theatre beginning early every Saturday & Sunday.
WARREN'S WELL- Vintage watering hole for cattle drivers taking herds to seasonal grazing areas “up north”. 365-1877
YUCCA VALLEY SUMMER CONCERTS- Saturday evening concerts-in-the-park with open lawn seating (seasonal). 369-7211

HOMESTEAD VALLEY
GIANT ROCK- Seven-story high Indian ceremonial rock close to a reputed 1950's extraterrestrial landing site.
GUBLER'S ORCHIDS- Commercial farm offering visitors tours of its facility. Site of its Annual Orchid Festival. 364-2282
INTEGRETRON- Mind & body healing in a unique structure by George VanTassle containing no metal parts. 364-3126
JOHNSON VALLEY OHV AREA- “Exercise” all-terrain vehicles and motorcycles on this ancient dry lake bed.
MORONGO BASIN HISTORICAL SOCIETY- Extensive collection of historical records & things from around the Basin. 365-1877
WHITE ROCK RANCH- Owners & volunteers work year round to rehabilitate abused and abandoned horses. 364-3482

PIONEERTOWN
PAPPY & HARRIET'S PIONEERTOWN PALACE- A famous tavern with great food & great live music on the weekends. 365-5956
PIONEERTOWN- Famous Hollywood western movies & TV series were produced here in the 1940's & 50's.
PIONEERTOWN MOUNTAINS- Part of a 20,000 acre area that is the largest non-profit wilderness in Southern California. 365-7105

MORONGO VALLEY
BIG MORONGO CANYON PRESERVE- Eight easy nature trails & some of the best bird watching in California. 363-7190
GROVES CABIN THEATRE- Award winning live theatre featuring talented locals. Seasonal with limited seating. 365-4523
MEERKAT PRESERVE- Visit & feed these loveable furry creatures year round, by appointment only. 363-1344

*Presently under construction.
Area code is 760 unless otherwise noted.
UNDER 100 MILES

35 mi. MOJAVE NATIONAL PRESERVE
- AMBOY CREATER- Hike in from the edge of old Route 66 to view the interior of this ancient black volcano. 760-326-7000
- ROY'S PLACE ON OLD RT 66- Active relic of the National Trails Hwy when it was the “king of roads”. 760-252-6100
- MOJAVE NATIONAL PRESERVE- Pristine shifting Kelso sand dunes & the Kelso Depot are attractions. 760-928-2586
- MITCHELL CAVERNS- Provides visitors with a 1 ½ hour tour through this unique limestone wonderland. 760-928-2586

60 mi. DESERT HOT SPRINGS
- CABOTS LODGE MUSEUM- Featuring a record of the early days & development of Desert Hot Springs. 760-329-7610
- SPAS & RESORTS- Numerous spas & personal treatment services help relax both body & mind. 760-329-6403

71 mi. COACHELLA VALLEY
- PALM SPRINGS AIR MUSEUM- Collection of static & operational World War II era military aircraft. 760-778-6262
- PALM SPRINGS VILLAGE FEST- Every Thursday evening “main” street is closed down for this Street Fair. 760-320-3781
- LIVING DESERT- 1200 acre world given over to the nurturing & display of exotic desert plants & animals. 760-346-5694
- WINDMILL FARM TOURS- From its experimental beginnings in 1980, this farm boasts over 4,000 windmills. 760-251-1997

73 mi. LUCERNE VALLEY
- WOLF MOUNTAIN SANCTUARY- Spend some time with these noble creatures of the wild (by appointment). 760-248-7818

96 mi. OAK GLEN
- FAMOUS APPLE PIES- Stop at this quaint community en route to San Diego & sample their apple pies. 760-765-1857

UNDER 200 MILES

106 mi. IDYLLWILD
- ALPINE VILLAGE RESORT- Head high into the Santa Rosa National Forest for unusual visitor experiences. 888-659-3259

107 mi. CHIRICAO SUMMIT
- GEORGE PATTON MUSEUM- WWII Allied & Axis battle tanks & a museum dedicated to our US Army. 760-227-3483

108 mi. BIG BEAR
- YEAR ROUND RESORT AREA- Boating, fishing, camping & skiing in the San Bernardino National Forest. 800-424-4232

111 mi. BARSTOW
- CALICO GHOST TOWN- Knott’s Berry Farm founder helps you experience California’s early gold rush days. 866-819-7654
- RT 66 MUSEUM- Famous National Trails Highway-favored early route between Chicago and Santa Monica. 760-255-1890

123 mi. SALTON SEA
- SALTON SEA STATE PARK- Learn the fascinating history of this semi-natural desert bound body of water. 760-393-3052
- SALVATION MOUNTAIN (Niland)- Large hand painted hillside often referred to as the “Watts of the Desert”. 866-819-7654

140 mi. TEMECULA
- SOCAL’S WINE GROWING REGION- Tour 22 SoCal wineries & sample the varied fruits of their labors. 800-801-6586
- MT. PALOMAR OBSERVATORY- Another 28 miles from the wineries brings you to this famous observatory. 760-742-2119

165 mi. LOS ANGELES
- LABREA TAR PITS- Large ancient tar pit in mid LA & a museum displaying its animal victims. 23-934-7243
- LA COUNTY MUSEUM- Major metropolitan museum featuring permanent & traveling art exhibits. 323-857-6000
- UNIVERSAL STUDIOS- Universal offers tours showing the major inner workings of this famous studio. 800-UNIVERSAL
- WARNER BROTHERS STUDIOS- This tour takes you behind the scenes of many movies & TV shows. 800-UNIVERSAL

172 mi. BORREGO SPRINGS
- ANZA BORREGO STATE PARK- Landscapes ranging from barren earthen hills to vegetated desert vistas. 760-767-5311

186 mi. LAKE HAVASU
- LONDON BRIDGE- A Colorado river resort featuring the famous bridge transported here in the 1950’s. 928-453-3444

UNDER 300 MILES

216 mi. RED ROCK CANYON STATE PARK
- RED ROCK CANYON SP- Experience the breathtaking landscape of this outstanding State Park. 661-942-0662

(mileages are approximate)