Fort Ross Conservancy  
A California State Park Cooperating Association

Fort Ross & Salt Point State Parks News  
September 2013

Upcoming Events

Harvest Festival
Children's Art Contest
Park Fall Hours
Park Champions Day
Interpretive Hike
Marine Mammal Monitoring

Register or Update Your Email Address

Contact Us
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19005 Coast Highway One  
Jenner, CA 95450

info@fortross.org  
707-847-3437

Fort Ross Website

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Harvest Festival: October 26
$15/per car special event fee

Autumn is our favorite time of year along the coast, and we invite you to join us at Fort Ross Harvest Festival, generously underwritten by Renova Fort Ross Foundation.

In addition to the inspirational song and dance of Kedry, this year we are proud to also host the full Kitka ensemble to Ross to help us celebrate the changing season. The day offers a wide variety of activities suitable for all ages and interests:

- Fascinating interpretive talks on the historic orchard, the replica windmill, and the Alaskan marine history at Ross,
- Working demonstration of replica Russian-style windmill,
- Delicious seasonal fare for sale,
- Local samples of heirloom apples, apple cider, apple baked goods, Sonoma cheese, and more,
- Historic crafts, cannon firing, communal dances, children's activities,

The Fort Ross-Seaview Wine Festival, in collaboration with Fort Ross Conservancy, introduces the grapegrowers, wineries and winemakers who produce and vinify the grapes grown on the steep ridges of the Sonoma Coast, overlooking the Pacific Ocean.

**Lunch** (Limited seating, advanced tickets only): Join us at 12pm for a 4-course luncheon on a bluff overlooking the Pacific Ocean, prepared by four renowned Chefs, choosing from the seasonal bounty of the Sonoma Coast and paired with the award winning local wines. Lunch ticket also provides entry to the tasting wine tent from 1 - 4PM, all Harvest events and State
Parks entrance fees. **Advance Purchase Only through Eventbrite** - $95 per person all inclusive.

Wine Tasting 1-4pm:

Meet the grape growers and winemakers in an intimate setting. List of participating Fort Ross-Seaview wineries coming soon. **Advance Purchase through Eventbrite** $35 per person, which includes access to wine tent and all Harvest events, and parking/State Parks entrance fees. (Day of Event ticket for Wine Tasting: $20/person plus event entrance fees.)

Questions:
Call us at 707/847-3437.

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The Renova Fort Ross Foundation is happy to announce its first International Children's Art Contest "My Fort Ross". Children ages 3 to 15 are encouraged to participate and share their visions of Fort Ross, literal or figurative. For more information, visit [Renova Fort Ross Foundation](#).

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**Fall Hours at Fort Ross & Salt Point**

For the fall and winter season, Fort Ross is open Saturdays, Sundays and holidays after September 3rd except Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day. We are open on November 29th and December 26 through January 1st for the holiday break. Reef campground and day use is closed.

Salt Point:
Woodside Campground Closed
Fisk Mill Day Use Closed
Stump Beach Day Use Closed
Gerstle Cove Campground and Day Use Open
Park Champions Work Day at Salt Point: September 14

Our second workday at Salt Point will focus on clearing brush along the trails.

- We can accommodate up to 19 volunteers.
- Work day runs from 10am - 3pm on Saturday, September 14.
- California State Parks offer free camping at Salt Point on both Friday and Saturday night (September 13 and 14) for all volunteers who pre-register and work the full day.
- Lunch is provided for all volunteers.

To register, go to Calendar and click on the work day (September 14).

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Fort Ross Interpretive Hike: September 22, 10:30.

Explore and enjoy the natural and cultural splendor of our pristine coastal bluffs, beach & historic Fort Ross!

During this approximately 2 1/2 mile (2-3 hour) guided hike, we'll learn about our marine mammals, the early 19th century Alaskan hunters who were here with the Russian American Company, the SS Pomono shipwreck off our coast, plus, during lunch break en route, learn more about our unique Fort Ross history. If you are interested in joining us contact Hank Birnbaum.

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Marine Mammal Monitoring

Join us as we grow our "citizen scientist" work at Fort Ross by monitoring the health of our oceans. This season we meet at least twice a month, depending on tidal considerations, to survey the marine mammals that live just offshore at Ross. We can also offer a special Powerpoint training session for volunteers who wish to learn how to identify the Steller and California Sea Lions, Harbor seals, and other marine mammals who reside here. For more information on our marine mammal monitoring program, contact Hank Birnbaum, Programs Manager, Fort Ross Conservancy.

Harbor Seal Surveys
Once a month, September-March
Upcoming dates:
Saturday, Sept. 14, 12:30
Saturday, Oct. 12, 11:30
Begin at Hwy One Mile Marker 34.00, but please contact us to confirm attendance and to receive special parking/carpooling instructions (due to current roadside construction).

Sea Lion Rocks Steller Sea Lion Survey
Once a month, September-March
Please email to confirm current survey date and time.