



The SDSU Retirement Association is again planning a four day, three night retreat to Borrego Springs from **March 16- 19 2026**. This event began as a camping trip many years ago, then evolved to a camping and RV event and is now an outing at the Palm Canyon Hotel and RV Resort. This getaway is an excellent opportunity to relax a bit in the desert, spend some time with friends and enjoy the natural wonders – especially the blooming desert flowers. **See our list on pages 2-3**

However, the primary attraction of this Borrego Springs event is the opportunity to spend time renewing friendships with colleagues from SDSU. We'll start with a social hour on Monday March 16 in a private dining room and have both breakfast and dinner in the same room on Tuesday and Wednesday, along with breakfast on Thursday. The dining room has a kitchen and dining area and the committee organizing this event will provide the food for the six meals mentioned. (You will be contacted for your contribution towards the cost of these meals prior to the event).



Reserve Your Room for the Borrego Escape by February 16 to Get the Group Rate!

1. **Call the Palm Canyon Hotel Group Sales Reservations 805-691-8086, M-F 9:00am-5:30pm PST**
2. **Make sure to identify yourself as a member of the SDSU Retirement Association** (It is important that each reservation be tied to the SDSU Retirement Association).
3. **Reserve a hotel room** for March 16, 17 and 18 at the rate of \$159 per night for either a king or queen room (a 2 night minimum stay is required for this rate).
4. **Please email Dean Popp (dpopp8@cox.net) and tell him:**
 - The dates you will attend
 - The number of people in your group.
 - This will allow us to adequately plan for the group meals and accurately track the number of rooms our group is reserving.

QUESTIONS? please email Dean Popp at dpopp8@cox.net

Things to See and Do in Borrego



See the wildflowers! If there is a 2026 wildflower bloom (fingers crossed), pick up a flower map in Borrego. First stop might be Henderson Canyon Road--get out of your car for a close-up view of the flowers and maybe even a few White-lined sphinx moth caterpillars. And while you're out, visit Font's Point (<https://californiathroughmylens.com/fonts-point/>) for a breathtaking view of the Bryce-like Badlands. (Check conditions before venturing off-road).

Visit the Anza-Borrego Desert Natural History Association (<https://abdnha.org>) and Anza-Borrego State Park (<https://theabf.org/store/>) stores on Palm Canyon Drive. Both stores carry gear and information on desert natural history. Check out their websites too.

Tour the metal sculptures of Galleta Meadows imagined and created by artist Ricardo Breceda. More than 130 dot the landscape around Borrego. <https://abdnha.org/sculptures/>



Hike the Borrego Palm Canyon Nature Trail. Trailhead parking is near the Borrego Palm Canyon campground; the current fee is \$10, \$9 for seniors. While you're hiking, enjoy the wildflowers and look for Desert Bighorn Sheep!



Look for Swainson's Hawks! Borrego Valley is a rest and feeding stop for the migrating hawks, and only happens in the spring. Stop by the Hawkwatch sites where volunteers gather morning and afternoon to count the number of hawks arriving and departing. <https://www.borregospringshawkwatch.com>

Visit the Anza-Borrego State Park Visitor Center. https://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=638

Visit the 20th Annual Plein Air Art Invitational at the Borrego Art Institute.

<https://borregoartinstitute.org/event/borrego-art-institute-20th-annual-plein-air-invitational/>

Wander The Mall on Palm Canyon Drive. Don't miss Borrego Outfitters and Fredericks Ancient and Ethnic Art.

Things to See and Do in Borrego

Check out the **Borrego Springs County Library**, a facility whose design respects the surrounding desert environment and Borrego's Dark Sky Community status.

<https://www.gotoborregosprings.com/borrego-springs-public-library#gsc.tab=0>

Have lunch at **Casa del Zorro** and walk around the resort grounds. <https://www.lacasadelzorro.com/dining/the-fox-bistro>

Play golf at the 9-hole **Springs** golf course. Be sure to take an electric cart, don't walk--it's a long 9 holes.

<https://www.springsatborrego.com>



Enjoy the company of old – and new – friends!



Many thanks to Barbara Barnes, the SDSU Retirement Association's PostScript Editor, for researching and sharing this list and her wonderful photos!