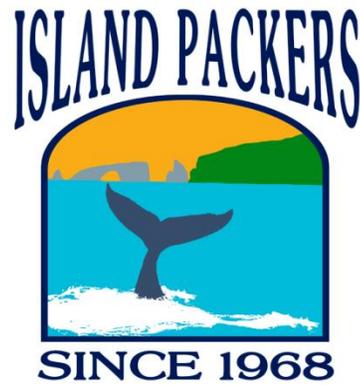


FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## NEWS

### **Island Packers Announces Caroling, Holiday Parties and Whale Watching Cruises**

*Island Packers, the authorized boat concessioner providing scheduled service to the Channel Islands National Park, announces special holiday cruises and whale watching excursions*

**VENTURA, CA December 2014** – The holidays are a special time for family and friends to get together. [Island Packers](#) can make your holiday gatherings easy by scheduling a Ventura Harbor holiday cruise aboard their decorated 64' catamaran. There are many options for this special holiday cruise including:

- A one hour caroling cruise in the Ventura Harbor
- Ventura Harbor Parade of Lights cruise
- A private holiday cruise
- Whale watching excursions

Taking a holiday caroling cruise is a great way to bring relatives and friends together for an outdoor activity, viewing the decorated boats in the Ventura Harbor and the homes in the Ventura Keys. Recommend to make advance reservations for the cruise.

Island Packers is offering the following holiday cruise selection:

**One Hour Caroling Cruises** - Passengers can sing along with the crew or just relax and admire the decorated homes and boats in the Ventura Keys. Hot and cold beverages and items from the snack bar are available for purchase. Boats depart at 6:30 p.m. and return approximately 7:30 p.m. on December 9, 11, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, & 22. The fare is \$16 per adult, \$13 per senior (55+), and \$10 per child.



**Ventura Parade of Lights** – December 12 & 13 departs 6:15 p.m. and returns at 8:15 p.m. The cruise gives the passengers a chance to be a part of the boat parade ending with an onboard view of the fireworks display at 7:40 p.m. Help Island Packers win the parade! Also on December 12 is a special boat to watch the parade. Departs at 6:30 p.m. and returns at 8:30 p.m. Hot and cold beverages and items from the snack bar are available for purchase. The fare is \$34 per adult, \$31 per senior (55+) and \$24 per children. (Advanced reservations recommended for the cruise)

**Private Group Holiday Parties** (great for company functions) - This particular cruise includes a buffet-style dinner, a no host or host bar, and optional entertainment. Menu options and prices are available from Island Packers. Group rates are available for 30 to 100 guests at \$930 per hour with a 1 ½ hour minimum.

**Whale Watching Excursions - December 26 through April** marks the official start of the gray whale migration. Regular trips scheduled through mid-April. Departure times are listed daily on the Island Packers website. Rates start at \$37 per adult for this half day trip.

**Island Packers Gift Certificate makes a great stocking stuffer or gift!** Easy to purchase by calling the office or stopping in at our Ventura location 1691 Spinnaker Drive. Some of the most popular include:

- Whale watch ranging from \$ 37 to \$ 79 per adult
- An half day island wildlife cruise \$ 37 per adult
- An island day hike \$ 59 per adult
- A camping trip to one of the five northern Channel Islands ranging \$79 up to \$ 114 per adult
- A harbor dinner cruise aboard our 64' catamaran \$ 56 per adult
- Or purchase a specific amount

**Recommended attire:** Harbor cruise and whale watching passengers are strongly encouraged to dress in layers with coat and gloves. Island Packer's gift shop does offer a variety of warm fleece pullovers and vests, t shirts, hats, and children's clothing should items need to be purchased prior to boarding.

For information, reservations or to purchase gift certificates, visit [www.islandpackers.com](http://www.islandpackers.com) or call 805-642-1393.

### **About Island Packers**

Island Packers is the authorized concessionaire servicing the Channel Islands National Park and has been family owned and operated since 1968. The main office is located at 1691 Spinnaker Drive, Suite 105B in the Ventura Harbor Village. For more information about the company, visit <http://www.islandpackers.com> or call 805-642-1393.

Photo credit: Dan Harding