



Explore California *History & Romance*

Leo Carrillo Ranch Historic Park is a designated local, state and National Historic Landmark.

Welcome to *Rancho de los Quiotes*— Leo Carrillo's Ranch of the Spanish Daggers. You are at his Hollywood retreat. Leo was a Los Angeles-born stage and screen actor and a descendant of one of California's early Spanish families.

From 1937 to 1961, this working ranch was Leo's romantic re-creation of an early Spanish and Mexican lifestyle. Here at the ranch, where the valleys echoed with the bellow of cattle and the whinny of horses, the tranquility he felt decades ago is still felt here today.

Tour the grounds, explore California history and enjoy Leo's enduring hospitality.



Saddle Up & *Join Us*



Leo Carrillo's vision is carried on by the City of Carlsbad and the Friends of Carrillo Ranch, Inc., and by you, as a supporting visitor.

Join Today

Join **The Friends of Carrillo Ranch, Inc.** inside the Visitor Center and enjoy the benefits of membership in park events and news. You can also join online: Carrillo-Ranch.org

Volunteer

Lead ranch tours for children and adults, and assist guests at the visitor center.

Rent the Ranch



Host a memorable personal or business occasion with a private ranch rental. Call Personal Touch Dining at (858) 638-0672.

Share Your Memories: #leocarrilloranch

Thank you for visiting. Each season brings new views. Ask us about upcoming events, summer camps and our 4th grade California History & Art program.



(760) 476-1042 | carlsbadca.gov

6200 Flying Leo Carrillo Lane, Carlsbad, CA 92009

Leo Carrillo Ranch Historic Park Visitor Guide



Park Dedicated 2003



Actor, Rancher & *Mr. California*

Leo Carrillo is best known for playing Pancho in the 1950s TV series *The Cisco Kid*. He has two stars—for film and television—on the Hollywood Walk of Fame. He performed in Broadway plays prior to his Hollywood film career from 1929 to 1950.

At an age when many people think of retiring, Leo established a 1,750-acre working ranch of his childhood dreams. His preservation of California's cultural and natural resources adds to his legacy. Leo was proclaimed "Mr. California" for the 18 years he served on the State Beaches and Parks Commission and for touring the world as the state's Goodwill Ambassador.



*Beauty spots, historic sites
and notable buildings should be
preserved for future generations...
never used for any purpose except
the benefit of the citizens and the
education of children.*

—Leo Carrillo

Homestead to *Hacienda*

When Leo was shown the 1868 homestead of the Matthew Kelly family, he fell in love with what remained of the 1882 adobe home on lands adjoining the 13,000-acre *Rancho Agua Hedionda*. He envisioned the potential for the abandoned property. Leo restored it beginning in 1937, adding to and adapting the buildings for his expanding ranch retreat.

In every structure, you can admire Leo's vision for preserving early ranch architecture. Many buildings were built with adobe bricks—made with earth and water—and baked by the sun. Adobe was a central theme in Leo's remembrance of his childhood family ranches.

Your House, *Friend*

Su casa amigo! You are a welcome guest here at Leo Carrillo's ranch. After Leo's daughter, Tony, left the estate, the structures began to decline. **The City of Carlsbad** acquired the remaining 10.5-acre ranch in 1977.

Philanthropists Alan and Joan Kindle started the nonprofit organization **The Friends of Carrillo Ranch, Inc.** in 1990 to educate and advocate for ranch preservation and restoration.

There was much to restore, like adapting the crumbling pool into a reflecting pool, and stabilizing buildings worn by weather and time. Building restoration continues today and will for years to come. A transfer of 16 additional acres from residential development completed the 27-acre park today, which opened to visitors on August 16, 2003.



Your donations go to the **Carrillo Ranch Trust Fund** for preservation and education. Thank you. *Gracias.*





- 1 WELCOME KIOSK
- 2 CATTLE CHUTE
- 3 VISITOR CENTER BARN
- 4 BLACKSMITH SHOP | FOUNDRY
- 5 STABLE | BUNKHOUSE
- 6 TACK SHED | PIGEON ROOST
- 7 CARRIAGE HOUSE
- 8 CANTINA
- 9 WASH HOUSE
- 10 HACIENDA
- 11 CABAÑA & REFLECTING POOL
- 12 DEEDIE'S HOUSE
- 13 WATER TANK
- 14 HISTORIC ENTRANCE | WEIR
- 15 CARETAKER'S HOUSE

BEGIN BOTANICAL TOUR

PICNIC

ADA PATHWAY

The ranch landscape is uneven in areas, including stairs and trails. Comfortable walking shoes are recommended.

EXPLORE the 27-Acre Historic Park

3 Visitor Center Barn



Begin your adventure at the Visitor Center Barn.

- Gift shop and refreshments
- Kindle Theater exhibit and film
- Park information available

Park Hours *Free Admission*

Tuesday–Saturday 9 a.m.–5 p.m.

Sunday 11 a.m.–5 p.m.

Closed Mondays

Park subject to closure during inclement weather

Guided Tours *Free*

Saturday 11 a.m. & 1 p.m.

Sunday 12 p.m. & 2 p.m.

Meet at the Welcome Kiosk in the parking lot.

Buildings are only opened for tours.

Park Rules

The Ranch's natural, cultural and historical resources are protected by law.

- No pets
- No smoking
- Children must be supervised
- Stay on trails
- Do not feed or harass the peafowl
- Photographers: Check in at Visitor Center

5 Stable | Bunkhouse



Five stalls and an attached corral housed ranch horses. Leo used the upper level as an office and bunkroom.

8 Cantina



The 1,750-acre ranch was home to cattle, horses, turkeys, chickens, peafowl, dogs and acres of crops. Ranch hands and *vaqueros*, or cowboys, gathered here at day's end to relax and refresh.

10 Hacienda



The adobe *hacienda* is the estate house where Leo, wife Deedie, and their daughter, Tony, stayed when visiting. It was built in 1882 by Matthew Kelly and remodeled by Leo in 1937 in the *Californio* ranch style.

12 Deedie's House



In 1940, Leo built this space for his wife, Deedie, to support her artistic endeavors, including Native American basketry. Look for Leo's hand-etched petroglyphs, or pictures, on the cottage's outer walls.

11 Cabaña | Reflecting Pool



Hollywood friends, colleagues, and politicians partied here. The 18-inch deep reflecting pool was converted from the original 10-foot deep swimming pool. It is still bordered by its white sand beach.

15 Caretaker's House



Guests were greeted at the ranch entrance by the caretaker. Today, it is the staff office. Come inside and view cultural artifacts from Leo's Hollywood career and the ranch.



Peafowl Pride

We share this park with the descendants of six peafowl that Leo Carrillo brought to his ranch in 1937. While commonly called peacocks, the family, or pride of peafowl, includes the iridescent male peacock, the female peahen and baby peachicks.