

SPRING 2021

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA NEWS GROUP

ROAM

A red suitcase is the central focus of the image. A white, pleated face mask with white elastic straps is hanging from the top handle of the suitcase. The background is a light, textured grey.

ADVENTURES NEAR AND FAR

THE STATE
OF TRAVEL

FANTASY
VOYAGE

DESERT
DELIGHTS

\$4.95



ESCAPE FOR THE DAY!

BY JILL HAMILTON

Things recently started opening here in SoCal – sloooooowly – and some of us are very much ready to load up the trusty family vehicle and finally set off for a day trip adventure. If you're going to hit the road, we have six ideas that the whole family (really!) will enjoy. Just remember: COVID-19 safety rules are shifting, so before going check to make sure your destination is open and whether there are special precautions you'll need to take.



PHOTO BY MARK RIGHTMIRE

CATALINA ISLAND

310-510-1520

catalinachamber.com

Part of the fun of going to Catalina Island (officially, Santa Catalina Island) is getting there by boat (catalinaexpress.com), standing on the deck and watching the coast of San Pedro (or Long Beach or Dana Point, depending) fade as you head out to sea for unknown adventures. Due to COVID-19, no food or drinks are onboard and masks will be required.

Once ashore, you can get back on the water with a kayak adventure. The leeward side of the island around Avalon is better for beginners.

More experienced paddlers can start from Two Harbors and explore the island's 52 miles of coast. You also can rent

stand-up paddle boards, motorboats and jet skis as well as snorkeling and fishing gear.

For more land-based fun, rent bikes or a golf cart to explore and gaze upon the wildflowers that bloom in the spring or, for a family challenge, try a bike, golf cart or walking scavenger hunt (urbanadventurequest.com). Masks rules are in effect, and many activities require reservations.

Between adventures, head back to civilization to refuel with family friendly fare with a harbor view at Coney Island West, take-out Hawaiian food at Luau Larry's or enjoy the eternal kid favorite – pizza – at Antonio's Original Pizza.

(For a complete list of restaurants open for dining, check lovecatalina.com/covid-19/open-restaurants.)