

# The Community

## Santa Cruz

Whose face doesn't light up when you mention Santa Cruz, California? At the top of the Monterey Bay crescent, Santa Cruz shines like an emerald between warm beaches and cool redwood forests. With a population that barely tops 54,000, Santa Cruz belies her small town size with big personality and endless possibilities for recreation and entertainment. Home to the University of California (UCSC) and Cabrillo College, Santa Cruz has a vibrant youth culture that keeps the community unique and up to date while still retaining a warm neighborhood feel.

### *Outdoors*

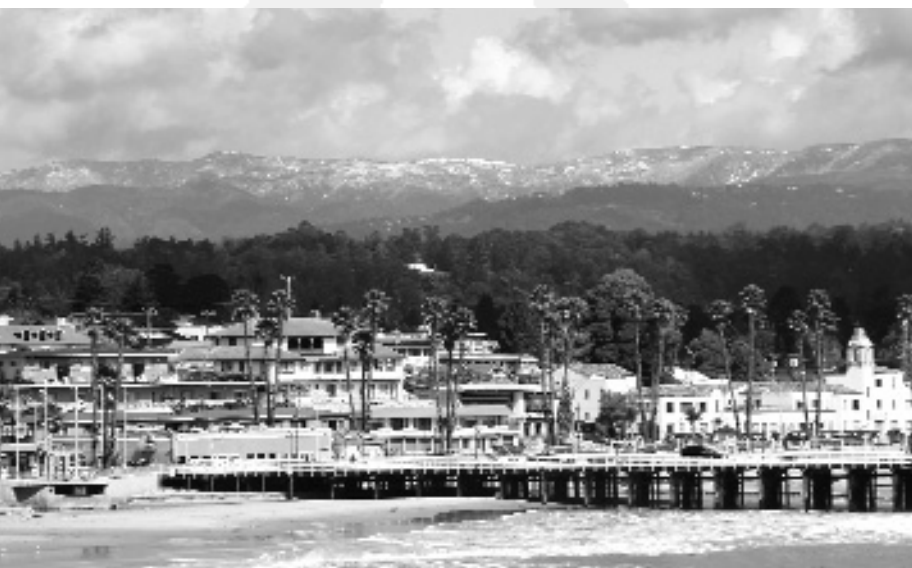
If you love fresh sea air, surf and the great outdoors, you have come to the right place. Blessed with mild weather and a gorgeous coastline, Santa Cruz has lured surfers, boaters, hikers and bikers for decades. Bursting at the seams with parks, beaches and open spaces, Santa Cruz County is one of the most beautiful places to find yourself outside.

### *Food and Local Agriculture*

One of the five branches of Chinese medicine is nutrition, and Santa Cruz makes it easy for you to find fresh, wholesome, local food at many restaurants, cafes and health food markets. Nearby farms are represented at several farmers' markets located throughout the city, featuring fresh organic fruits and vegetables, locally caught seafood, artisan cheeses, fresh flowers and more.

### *Arts and Entertainment*

The creative denizens of Santa Cruz have made sure your experience here is steeped in art of every persuasion. Museums, art galleries, theater and dance troupes will keep your cultural calendar overflowing with options. Look forward to music every night of the week, thanks to a thriving local music scene. Downtown hosts a lively shopping district with bookstores, boutiques, restaurants and movie theaters catering to locals and visitors alike. The historic Santa Cruz beach boardwalk, home of the world famous Big Dipper roller coaster, is a seaside amusement park that has been a family destination for over 100 years.



**Santa Cruz beach  
one block  
from campus**

## San Jose

In the heart of Silicon Valley, the mecca of high tech, San Jose is the largest city in Northern California. Attracted by mild Mediterranean weather and high wages, people from around the world have made their home in San Jose, creating the most ethnically diverse city in the nation. Add a low crime rate and a spacious, wide open feeling and you have one of the most livable, family-friendly locations in the west. The San Jose International Airport makes travel easy and proximity to San Francisco, Santa Cruz, and the wine country provide day trip destination getaways.

### *Outdoors and Athletics*

With 300 days of sunshine per year, you can imagine San Joseans take good advantage of their parks and open spaces. Many walking and biking trails within the city limits provide glimpses of nature during your green commute. Local sport fans are proud of their NHL hockey team the San Jose Sharks, as well as the major soccer league team the San Jose Earthquakes. These pro games are events you won't want to miss.

### *Food and Local Agriculture*

Once known more for apricots, plums and grapes than silicon, the fertile Santa Clara valley supplies a rich harvest of produce that can be seen on display at many area farmers' markets. As one of the oldest wine producing regions in California, Santa Clara valley has many wineries offering tours and tastings daily. Replete with international cuisine and fine restaurants, the quality and variety of dining experiences in San Jose are something to savor.

### *Arts and Culture*

Thanks to a special city ordinance, public art is on the rise in San Jose and many pieces can be seen throughout the city in parks and downtown areas. The celebration of art and culture continues with many community events, performance companies, galleries and museums, including the renowned contemporary San Jose Museum of Art. One of the busiest venues in the world, the HP Pavilion hosts major musical acts, sporting events and conferences. The cosmopolitan Santana Row district combines shopping, dining, living and relaxing all in a beautiful tree-lined atmosphere.



**San Jose campus building seen from Santana Row**



## On Campus

Located in sunny California, our Santa Cruz and San Jose campuses offer students the best of both worlds: the relaxing atmosphere of beautiful beaches and redwood forests and the high energy excitement of a city filled with culture, entertainment and high technology.

### *The Santa Cruz Campus*

The Five Branches Santa Cruz campus is located in a beautiful residential community, one block from the beach, on the Monterey Bay and close to the Santa Cruz Yacht Harbor. Located along California's scenic Central Coast, Santa Cruz is renowned for its beautiful beaches and nearby redwood forests. With the cosmopolitan appeal of a college town, as well as the ambiance of a small coastal California city, Santa Cruz offers a cultural life that is both diverse and progressive. At the heart of the campus is the Five Branches health center which has provided exceptional healthcare to patients for over 25 years. Our Santa Cruz campus radiates a natural and peaceful feeling, the perfect environment for healing and the study of Traditional Chinese Medicine.

### *The San Jose Campus*

In the heart of Silicon Valley, the Five Branches San Jose campus is part of a bustling commercial metropolis that is home to major players in the world of technology, such as Google, Intel and eBay. The San Jose campus resides in a modern high-rise office building, located across from the prestigious shopping area called Santana Row, within walking distance of sidewalk cafes and beautiful fountains. Universities in the San Jose area are plentiful, with the most renowned being Stanford. The city of San Francisco and the beaches of the Monterey Bay are only a short commute away. Enter the San Jose campus through a welcoming courtyard leading you to the entrance of both the health center and the University, where our English, Chinese and Korean Master's daytime and evening programs and our prestigious doctoral program reside. The San Jose campus glows with the vibrant energy of the city, the perfect environment for students who want to excel in the study and practice of Traditional Chinese Medicine.

**Student and instructor  
preparing herbal  
formulas in herb room**

Here is a list of amenities our campuses have to offer:

### **Health Center**

Patients await their treatments in a beautifully designed reception area, while practitioners treat over 100 patients each day in our busy health centers. With a combined 29 treatment rooms, herbal pharmacies containing over 500 medicinal products, and expert patient-care and clinical instruction, our health centers are the ideal place to gain experience in a clinical environment and to learn how to provide exceptional healthcare to your patients.

### **Herb Room**

The herb room is a fragrant experience. Walls lined with wooden drawers full of Chinese herbs, emanate earthy aromas, as practitioners prepare herbal remedies for their patients in the traditional way. In the herb room you will meet with practitioners to learn first-hand how to use herbal medicines to effectively treat patients.

### **Classrooms**

Our spacious classrooms and small class sizes provide an optimal environment for dynamic discussion, meaningful interaction and meaningful teacher-student relationships.



## **Student Lounge**

A place to rest, nourish yourself and socialize, the student lounge is fitted with comfortable sitting areas, tables for study, a kitchen to prepare meals, a wireless connection for internet surfing, and a bulletin board to check out the latest campus and public events.

## **Library**

For students working on patient cases or preparing for exams, the library is a quiet haven for research and study. Our libraries are the information conduits of our campuses with over 5,000 books and journals about TCM and Western medicine, computers with wireless internet, study aid programs, and a helpful staff.

## **Administrative Offices**

The open, friendly and accessible administrative team consider students their top priority. Whether you need assistance to plan your class schedule, secure financial aid or to voice your concerns, administrative staff is available to assist you.

## **Conference Rooms**

For confidential consultations, students, faculty and administrators may use the meeting room, one of the conference rooms or private staff offices.

## **Special Events**

Classrooms and meeting rooms are used for Continuing Education seminars, workshops, and special presentations in fields related to Traditional Chinese Medicine.

## **Parking**

Both of our campuses have free, ample parking to accommodate the needs of students that commute.

## **Local Favorites**

At the Santa Cruz campus, one block from the beach, lunch breaks on the ocean are a favorite pastime. Enjoy Yacht Harbor spots like the Crow's Nest, a famous restaurant with wonderful happy hour specials and a dining room perfect for watching the sunset. Also within walking distance in the vibrant Seabright neighborhood are delis and cafés, as well as a wonderful park with tennis courts and a picnic area, a great place to sit and enjoy the sunshine.

The San Jose campus has a bountiful supply of restaurant choices. Located within walking distance, the Santana Row shopping area offers food from around the globe. Designed after the gracious shopping experiences in Europe, Santana Row offers students outdoor cafes, tree-lined walks, the latest fashions, and great people-watching.

## **Transportation**

Transporting yourself to the Santa Cruz campus is easy with two designated free parking areas, numerous bike racks, and a bus stop directly in front of the student lounge. To obtain information on the bus routes in the Santa Cruz area, go to <http://www.scmtd.com>.

The San Jose campus is conveniently located at the major freeway intersections of Highway 280 and Highway 880, making your travel to and from school a breeze. To obtain information on public transportation in the San Jose area, go to [www.511.org](http://www.511.org).

## **Housing**

Students who need housing should arrive in Santa Cruz or San Jose six weeks before the beginning of the semester. The distance between the two campuses is 35 miles. While it is possible to commute, students may wish to find housing closer to their home campus. Go to the Five Branches website, [www.fivebranches.edu](http://www.fivebranches.edu), Student Life/On Campus/Housing, to find a list of resources to aide you in your housing search.

**Students in  
campus  
library**

