

Sensory Guide



Welcome to Rancho Los Cerritos! Guests may use this Sensory Guide to help identify sensory-friendly spaces at the Rancho and to gauge accessibility. Use this guide to determine the levels of light, sound, scent, and touchable elements in each room or space.



This symbol indicates that there are touchable elements within the room or space



This symbol indicates that there are, or can be, sounds within the room or space



This symbol indicates that there are, or can be, strong smells within the room or space
















This symbol indicates low light
















This symbol indicates bright light

Please call (562) 206-2040 or check with RLC staff onsite if you have further questions.

We hope you enjoy your visit!

| Room or Space | Description | Sensory Experience | |
|--|---|---|---|
| <p>Visitor Center</p>  | <p>The Visitor Center houses temporary exhibitions and a gift shop. Volunteers are on hand to orient visitors and provide guided tours of the house and gardens. RLC's designated Quiet Zone is located here, on the lower level's patio area.</p> |   | <p>Touchable items in exhibition</p> <p>Space can be loud when crowded</p> |
| <p>Native Garden</p>  | <p>An uneven path takes you through the garden filled with plants native to California. Included are plants used by the Tongva for a variety of purposes: food, dyes, medicine, musical instruments. A stairway leads to the entrance to the courtyard.</p> |   | <p>Outdoor sounds (birds, planes, etc.)</p> <p>Outdoor garden smells</p> |
| <p>Ranch Manager's Room</p>  | <p>This is the first of the rooms in the "work wing" of the adobe house. The ranch manager's room furnishings are from the cattle ranching period when California was part of Mexico. The narrow doorway may not permit access to all wheelchair types.</p> |   | <p>Touchable items in the window</p> <p>Adobe aroma</p> |
| <p>Laundry Room</p>  | <p>This room shows the implements used by Chinese workers to do laundry during the 1870s.</p> |    | <p>Touchable items on the counter</p> <p>Laundry sounds</p> <p>Soap smell</p> |

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|---|--|---|---|
| <p>Storerooms</p>  | <p>These storerooms were used by the Bixby family during the sheep ranching period to store furniture, tools, and food. Sheep shearing tools and artifacts are also displayed in one room. A narrow hallway between the two storerooms does not permit wheelchair access; contents are viewed through window displays.</p> |   | <p>Touchable items in both windows</p> <p>Musty smell/ Orange smell</p> |
| <p>Touch Tables</p>  | <p>Two tables with items related to the cattle ranching and the sheep ranching periods are located along the south wing walkway. Visitors are invited to touch and interact with the items on display.</p> |  | <p>Many touchable items on the tables</p> |
| <p>Blacksmith Shop</p>  | <p>The forge and tools used by the blacksmith, as well as the workbench and tools for carpentry, are on display. A high threshold makes wheelchair access difficult.</p> |    | <p>Touchable items on the stool</p> <p>Workshop sounds (hammering, scraping, etc.)</p> <p>Low light</p> |
| <p>Tenant Room</p>  | <p>This room represents the tenant era, when the house was rented out to various families and individuals working at nearby farms and businesses.</p> |    | <p>Touchable items on the touch table</p> <p>Interview audio playing on the TV</p> |

Library



The library was created as part of the 1930's remodel of the adobe. The current book collection is part of the Long Beach Public Library. Temporary exhibits focus on different aspects of history and feature items from the Rancho archives.

Living Room



Formerly a single-story parlor and bedroom, this high-ceilinged living room is part of the 1930's remodel of the house. It is currently awaiting 1930's furniture and exhibits.

Child's Bedroom



This upstairs bedroom shows the furniture and belongings of a young boy during the 1870's. The upstairs bedrooms are not accessible by wheelchair; a virtual tour showing room contents is available by iPad on the first floor.

Master Bedroom



The furniture in the master bedroom shows the multiple uses of the room by the Bixby family during the 1870's: sleeping, sewing, washing and shaving, correspondence.

Backyard Garden



Dominated by the large, Moreton Bay fig tree, the garden also includes an herb garden, horno (clay oven), wisteria arbor, and a variety of plants.



Outdoor sounds (birds, planes, etc.)



Outdoor garden smells