

Port San Luis - A Gateway Through Time

Fishing and Boating

In the 1500s and 1600s the Port San Luis area was visited by Spanish and Portuguese explorers. Following a bustling period as a trade and passenger port in the late 1800s and early 1900s, the Port today supports local fishing and boating ventures.

Courtesy of the San Luis Obispo County Historical Society



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Port of Entry

Around the turn of the 20th century passenger and cargo ships were frequent visitors to the bustling Port San Luis.



Jeremy Howard

Commercial Fishing

Today approximately 30 commercial fishing boats operate out of Port San Luis and catch crab, rockfish, halibut and salmon.



Brian Krowicki

Recreation in the Bay

Recreational activities in the bay include fishing from piers, small personal boating and charter fishing, whale watching, scuba diving, bird watching, and sightseeing.

1868

Whaling begins at Port Harford Station

1880

Whaling ends

1888

Steam ship Queen of the Pacific sinks within 500' of the pier; no lives are lost

1900

Abalone and commercial fishing starts

1908

U.S. Navy's "Great White Fleet" anchors in San Luis Obispo Bay

1945

Fishing trawlers begin operating from the port