

MISSION SAN JUAN CAPISTRANO

\$2
OFF
INSIDE

HISTORIC CHAPEL, LANDMARK AND MUSEUM



*World-renowned for
Return of the Swallows*

CALIFORNIA LANDMARK #200

❖ FOUNDED 1776 ❖

History of the Swallows

The miracle of the
“Swallows of Capistrano”
takes place each year at
Mission San Juan Capistrano
on March 19th, St. Joseph’s Day.



These faithful little birds wing their way back on a 6,000 mile journey that takes them from Goya, Argentina to the most famous mission in California. As they return, the town of San Juan Capistrano welcomes visitors from all parts of the world to witness the return of the swallows.

At dawn on St. Joseph’s Day, the little birds arrive and begin rebuilding their mud nests, which are clinging to the Ruins of the Great Stone Church of San Juan Capistrano. The arches of the two story, vaulted Great Stone Church were left bare and exposed when the roof collapsed during the earthquake of 1812.

The Great Stone Church, said to be the largest and most ornate of all the missions, now has a more humble destiny -- that of housing the birds that St. Francis loved so well.

After the summer spent within the sheltered walls of the Mission in San Juan Capistrano, the swallows take flight again, and on the Day of San Juan, October 23rd, they leave after circling the Mission bidding farewell to the “Jewel of the Missions.”

Enjoy the Swallows Walk & Talk Tour
Offered Daily at 1:00 p.m.



\$2 OFF
ADULT
ADMISSION

*Up to 4 individuals,
not good with any other offer.
Expires December 31, 2018

26801 Ortega Highway
San Juan Capistrano, CA
Open Daily 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.



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