## **NEWS RELEASE**



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## OLD TOWN SAN DIEGO STATE HISTORIC PARK CELEBRATES THE FOURTH OF JULY

Jump Back in Time and Celebrate an 1800s Fourth of July to Remember

Old Town San Diego State Historic Park is hosting an old-fashioned Fourth of July celebration! Visitors can join park staff and volunteers to celebrate Independence Day as early San Diego residents did in the 1800s. Free games, activities, music, and dance are all part of the celebration.

The event kicks off at 11:00AM with a brass band followed by patriotic speeches and flag raising ceremony. One of the highlights of the day is the annual Fourth of July parade around the plaza. Following the parade the Old Town Historic Dance Society presents a dance where visitors are encouraged to kick up their heels and join in.

Nineteenth century contests, such as cow chip throwing, cherry pit spitting, and the ever-messy egg toss will be presented throughout the day. The afternoon concludes with an all-American pie-eating contest. Guests of all ages are encouraged to join in all the festivities.

Visitors will gain an appreciation of early San Diego life through living history activities, demonstrations, crafts, music, dance, and song. This celebration has become a memorable tradition for many families in San Diego year after year.

Old Town San Diego State Historic Park, with the support of the Boosters of Old Town, the County of San Diego, Wells Fargo Bank, and Fiesta de Reyes is proud to offer these free activities for adults and children of all ages. The park is located on San Diego Avenue and Twiggs Street in San Diego, and is conveniently situated next to the Old Town Transit Center, with Coaster, Trolley, and MTS bus service. Free parking is available at the CalTrans headquarters, just two blocks from the park at 2994 Sunset Street.

For more information about the Fourth of July celebration in Old Town San Diego State Historic Park, please visit <a href="www.parks.ca.gov/oldtownsandiego">www.parks.ca.gov/oldtownsandiego</a> or call the park's visitor center at (619) 220-5422.