

News Release



For Immediate Release
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FIESTAS PATRIAS
Presented by
OLD TOWN SAN DIEGO STATE HISTORIC PARK
Saturday, September 14, 2013 from Noon to 5 pm.

Experience a Traditional Mexican Independence Celebration

This free festival commemorates an important day in early San Diego history when Alta California was still part of Mexico – gaining independence from Spain in 1821.

The ringing of the bell in the historic Casa de Estudillo will kick off the festivities including an “El Grito” contest, parade, and an address from the Mexican Consulate. We invite everyone to march in the short parade around the plaza along with horses, dancers, dignitaries, and people in historical costumes. The parade is scheduled at 12:30 pm.

Park guests can relax and picnic in the grassy area in front of the stage that will be filled with free entertainment. A special theatrical production on the origin and meaning of Fiestas Patrias, “Doin’ the Grito, San Diego Style” will be performed at 12:10 and 4:00 pm on the plaza stage.

Following the parade, there will be a variety of entertainment, including historic and traditional music and dance groups, crafts, games, and informational demonstrations that represent the activities enjoyed by the early settlers of San Diego in the 1800s. Escaramuzas Golondrinas (female equestrian group) will perform during the day.

The event is sponsored by California State Parks, Boosters of Old Town, and the San Diego business community.

The park is located on San Diego Avenue and Twiggs Street, and is conveniently next to the Old Town transit Center, with Coaster, Trolley and MTS bus service. Free parking is available in the CalTrans parking lot on Sunset Street off of Taylor Street in Old Town all day on weekends. For more information go to www.parks.ca.gov/oldtownsandiego or call 619-220-5422.

For energy efficient recreation –
California State Parks on the Internet: <http://www.parks.ca.gov>

