



Point Vicente Interpretive Center Palos Verdes, California

Visitors Share the Journey of the Pacific Gray Whale

In 1998, The Acorn Group developed an exciting interpretive master plan for the Point Vicente Interpretive Center on the Palos Verdes Peninsula. The Center's new exhibit design scheme is based on coastal ecology and the Pacific gray whale, replacing old, static displays with dynamic, multi-sensory immersion exhibits that stimulate the visitor's imagination. Interior design includes a 32' walk-through ancient sea cave, a replica of a nineteenth century whalers' shack, and a 15' visitor-accessible fiberglass whale model with moveable blowholes, barnacle-encrusted skin, and touchable baleen.

Even the architecture is interpretive. The walkway and retaining wall leading up the Center reflect the shape of the Pacific Ocean coastline from Baja California to the Bering Sea. As visitors approach the building, they follow the migratory pathway of the Pacific gray whale.