



Being courteous and safety-minded helps make [Ciclovía Salinas](#) a great experience for everyone. Along with **following applicable California laws and Salinas ordinances**, observe Ciclovía Salinas etiquette. Help build good relationships among people there, and we'll learn and get in the groove of Ciclovía Salinas etiquette and safe practices together!

All Participants

1. **Be alert and courteous.** Stay aware of and show respect to the people around you.
2. **Be respectful of private property**, including homes and businesses. The public street is our playground from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. —but adjacent private properties are not.
3. **Support local businesses.** Need a break? You are encouraged to support neighborhood businesses along the route. Also support businesses elsewhere in Salinas before or after Ciclovía Salinas event hours!
4. **Consuming alcohol in a public place is prohibited** by law within the City of Salinas. This is a family-friendly event. Do not participate if you are intoxicated in any way.
5. **Make the Ciclovía Salinas route a litter-free zone, and neighborhoods will be eager to have more Ciclovía dates!** Leave nothing behind. Pack your trash, or throw it away in a recycling or trash bin along the route. And if you do see litter, please pick it up so the route is left better than we found it.
6. **Avoid audio distractions.** Safety first! Even runners, joggers, and walkers need to be alert for sounds around them, to keep themselves and others safe. At minimum, leave one ear uncovered. That's required by law for bicyclists—and it's Ciclovía Salinas etiquette for all participants!
7. **Be visible.** Being seen is one of the best ways to avoid a collision with another person. Consider decorating yourself (or a bike) with high-visibility items, which adds to the festive atmosphere. Bright clothing helps too, such as orange, green, purple, or yellow. You can't go wrong with white!
8. **Pay attention to existing hazards**, such as driveway entrances, storm water grates, and possible puddles.
9. **Pausing to chat?** Part of the fun of Ciclovía Salinas will be visiting with new or familiar people. But if you stop to chat a moment, please move onto a curb or sidewalk, as appropriate—get out of CS traffic flow.
10. **Barricade volunteers have a serious responsibility.** Please do not engage them in lengthy conversation. Instead, make use of the Ciclovía Salinas Information Booth.
11. **Yield to any motor vehicles that are permitted to drive on the route.** These will be emergency vehicles—and possibly, in rare cases, civilian vehicles that have been granted permission by a police officer. Give them the right of way.
12. One way to make this a recurring event is for everyone to share responsibility for learning and following the etiquette. **In a kind manner**, if appropriate to do so, you may wish to communicate with others to help establish Ciclovía Salinas etiquette. **Keep in mind that someone may speak another language**, or they may simply not be quick to understand your intended message. Your **tone of voice is as important as your words**. And use good judgment—**don't get carried away or be too authoritarian!** You might gently communicate to a cyclist on the left by calling out pleasantly, "Stay to the right." If someone is littering, perhaps greet them with a friendly smile and say, "Howdy, litterbug." It's called community watch. It's the community self-monitoring, and when everyone participates, it works. Naturally, communicate any obstacles too, such as by calling out "pothole" or "glass." (*Glass? See what you can do to help clean it up!*)
13. **Avoid conflict.** If you see an angry person, pass on by. Don't engage in shouting matches or with violent people. (And remember: Often people aren't trying to challenge you, they simply don't understand.) If there is a genuine concern, report it to a uniformed police officer or police cadet, or to a barricade volunteer (who can report the concern), or to the Information Booth. **Emergency? As always, call 911.**
14. **Be safe and have fun!**

Walkers and Joggers

1. Pedestrians are to stay to the right side of the street.
2. Take care not to dart out in the path of a cyclist, skater, or skateboarder.

Only Service Dogs Invited

1. With the exception of service dogs (e.g., for the blind), **leave any other dogs at home** or at a kennel.
2. Service dogs must be on a short leash at all times. Clean up after your pet, as City ordinance requires.

Bicyclists, Skaters, and Skateboarders

At Ciclovía Salinas, where applicable, skaters and skateboarders are generally requested to abide by the same rules as bicyclists. Skateboarding is not a crime at Ciclovía Salinas! Nonetheless, a speedy boarder whizzing by may be frightening to others. Slow it down, to help create a friendlier vibe for the day. As East Alisal nears Oldtown, there's a hill under the overpass that skateboarders are likely to enjoy—and where it's also necessary to **stay especially alert** for the safety of others. Be a good ambassador for skateboarding at Ciclovía!

1. **Keep to the right**, *except* when passing on the left.
2. **Pedestrians have the right of way.** Yield to walkers and runners.
3. **Be especially mindful of and courteous to elder adults, children, and differently abled people**—whether they are on wheels or on foot. Ride slowly and carefully wherever they are present.
4. **Stay off sidewalks—the streets are yours today**, so there's no need to consider sidewalk riding.
5. **Walk your bike or skateboard** if you come upon any narrow path or overpass ramp along the route.
6. **Ride straight, ride predictably.** Don't make sudden stops. Don't weave or make sudden turns.
7. **If you need to get out of a cluster of travelers on the street**, look first; then call out to announce it, hand signal, and move out slowly. Unless the situation requires otherwise, move to the right.
8. **Follow California Bike Laws.** For a [summary of CA bike laws, click here](#). For all California bicycle laws, plus safety tips, see BicyclingMonterey.com's [California bike laws and personal safety](#) section. Following CA bike laws is about more than avoiding a ticket. It's about preventing the City getting complaints. It's about leaving a good impression with decision makers and the public, so when infrastructure votes come up, they feel good about supporting more and better bikeways. Observe all laws, *including (a) leave one ear bud out, (b) proper lane usage, and (c) helmets for minors*. At Ciclovía Salinas and many Open Streets events, helmets are recommended for all. Also, kids under 18 are required to wear helmets by CA law (CA Vehicle Code Div. 11 Chap. 1 Art. 4 Section 21212). **(d) Give special attention to laws requiring a brake** (yup, fixies and BMXers, this includes you). The thing is, on CA streets, bikes are illegal without brakes—"bicycles must be equipped with a brake that allows...a one-braked-wheel skid on dry, level, clean pavement. CVC 21201(a)." Bikes without brakes are prone to cause accidents in group riding situations. Don't let it happen at Ciclovía Salinas! We look forward to seeing many fixies and other bikes—just be aware about brakes.
9. **Ride sober.** It is illegal to drink and ride a bicycle. The law applies just like a DUI. In addition, many riders who drink cause bicycle accidents. They harm fellow riders and themselves. Not all events need alcohol to be fun! Ride sober. Even if you're 21 and confident you can have one drink without being under the influence, that's not cool at Ciclovía Salinas. And remember that in the City of Salinas, it is illegal to drink on public property.
10. **Have your wheels ready to go.** Prepare your bike before Ciclovía Salinas. Pump bike tires, and make sure brakes work. Bring a patch kit and spare inner tube. Be sure you or friends have basic tools for unexpected maintenance.
11. **Keep your wheels secure:** Lock up your wheels if you leave them unattended. (For [bike security tips, click here](#).)
Forgot your lock? From 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., a free bicycle valet parking station will be available. You are welcome to have the valets ("bike babysitters") keep your wheels secure (whether a bicycle, bike trailer, cargo bike, or even a stroller, skateboard, or skates). Anyone is welcome to use this free service. It will make it easier for people to also participate in volunteer duties, or in one of the many organized activities (such as dance or fitness instruction) along the route. You are likewise welcome to use this free valet service while patronizing a restaurant, retailer, or other business between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.

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