

**GAVIOTA COAST PLAN FARMSTAY STANDARDS**  
**Source: Santa Barbara County Land Use & Development Code**

**35.110.020 - Definitions:**

**Farmstay.** A type of working farm or ranch operation that is partially oriented towards visitors or tourism by providing guest accommodations. Such an operation may include interactive activities where guests participate in basic farm or ranch operations such as collecting eggs and feeding animals, or a work exchange agreement where the guest works a set number of hours in exchange for free or reduced rate accommodation.

**35.42.240 - Rural Recreation**

**D. Specific allowable uses and development standards for the Gaviota Coast Plan area. The following allowable uses, permit requirement and development standards shall apply to projects located in the Gaviota Coast Plan area on property zoned AG-II. These uses are in addition to uses allowed in compliance with Subsection B (Allowable uses and permit requirement), above.**

**2. Farmstay.**

- a. A Farmstay operation may be allowed with a Land Use Permit issued in compliance with Section 35.82.110 (Land Use Permits) provided the operation complies with the following development standards:
  - (1) The operation is located on a single lot of 40 acres or greater and the entire lot is located in the AG-II zone. Only one Farmstay operation may be allowed on a lot.
  - (2) The operation is housed in a single permitted or nonconforming dwelling existing as of December 9, 2016.
  - (3) The primary purpose of the Farmstay operation shall be the education of registered guests regarding the agricultural operations on the lot. Lodging and meals are incidental and not the primary function of the Farmstay operation.
    - (a) The maximum number of registered guests that can be accommodated shall be 15 per night and they shall be accommodated in no more than six bedrooms. Only registered guests may utilize the accommodations overnight.
    - (b) Food service is only available to registered guests of the operation. The cost of any food provided shall be included in the total price for accommodation and not be charged separately.
  - (4) The operation shall be consistent with the compatibility guidelines set forth in Uniform Rule Two (Compatible Uses within Agricultural Preserves) of the County Uniform Rules for Agricultural Preserves and Farmland Security Zones.
    - (a) If a Farmstay operation is proposed on a lot not subject to a contract executed in accordance with the County Uniform Rules for Agricultural Preserves and Farmland Security Zones, then the applicable review authority shall determine if the operation will be consistent with the compatibility guidelines.

- (5) The operation is located on, and is part of, a farm or ranch operation that produces agricultural products, and the Farmstay operation:
    - (a) Does not constitute the principal land use of the premises, and
    - (b) Is beneficial and inherently related to the farm or ranch operation.
  - (6) The operation will not significantly compromise the long-term productive agricultural capability or natural resources of the subject lot or adjacent lot(s).
  - (7) No sign(s) located on the premises on which the Farmstay operation is located shall advertise or otherwise identify the existence of the Farmstay operation.
- b. A Farmstay operation that may not be allowed in compliance with Subsection D.2.a., above, may be allowed with a Conditional Use Permit approved in compliance with Section 35.82.060 (Conditional Use Permits and Minor Conditional Use Permits) provided the following additional findings are first made:
- (a) The operation will not result in significant adverse impacts to visual resources.
  - (b) The operation will not include a new at-grade crossing of Highway 101.