San Roque (Upper State St.) Neighborhood.
The beautiful San Roque area is increasingly becoming an option for renters. It is very quiet, and, while you won’t be within walking distance of anything, you may find more affordable rates in this area.

Lower East Side Neighborhood. The Lower East Side offers many apartments at rental rates lower than most others in the area. The commute to UCSB is a bit more difficult than other areas, but all other types of conveniences are close at hand.

Other Neighborhoods. The Upper East Side, Riviera, Samarkand, Hidden Valley/Modoc, Mission Canyon, Hope Ranch and Montecito are other neighborhoods in Santa Barbara which are inhabited primarily by private home owners. Some of these owners rent rooms in their homes or rent out guest houses on their property.

North County, South County & Ventura County
Many UCSB students, staff and faculty choose to live in nearby communities such as Lompoc, Santa Maria, Buellton, Santa Ynez, Carpinteria, Ventura and Oxnard. Rental rates can be much more affordable in these areas for those who don’t mind commuting up to an hour each way.

HOW TO BE A RESPONSIBLE COMMUNITY MEMBER

Social Host Ordinance
At press time of the Rental Success Guide, the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors voted to move forward a Social Host Ordinance intended to hold responsible adults liable for underage drinking on property they lease or own. Providing underage people alcoholic beverages has long been against the law, but the only way for the provider of the alcohol to get in trouble was for law enforcement to see the interaction. The Social Host Ordinance allows law enforcement to penalize people if they are “knowingly” having a party where underage people are drinking. The new ordinance focuses on those who host parties or allow underage drinking in their homes. According to the Social Host Ordinance, a party is defined as a gathering of five or more people.

The first penalty yields a $500 fine and mandatory alcohol counseling class, a second violation increases the fine to $1000, and a third violation carries a $2000 fine.

The goal of the Social Host Ordinance is to act as a preventative measure to reduce the amount of underage drinking and the negative effects associated- including drunk driving, sexual assault, and alcohol poisoning.

Students who live in Isla Vista are worried about what the Social Host Ordinance means for rentals where some roommates are of legal drinking age and some are not. Another concern is that many households have more than 5 people on the lease, which already constitutes a party.

Lastly, many are concerned about what happens if some of the roommates are not home or do not know there is a party- what is their level of responsibility.

To find out more information about the Social Host Ordinance and other laws go to:
www.lifeoftheparty.sa.ucsb.edu

Neighborly Relations
Want to avoid problems with your neighbors throughout the school year? Be proactive! Some helpful tips:

• Introduce yourself and get to know a little about one another, especially regarding lifestyle. Exchange phone numbers so that if anything comes up, you know how to get in contact.

• Be aware of shared walls or ceilings/floors with your neighbors since noise from TVs, appliances, and even walking can carry through walls and floors.

• Be courteous regarding parking, especially in Isla Vista with parking in such high demand. Park in your allotted spot or risk getting towed!

• Give neighbors plenty of notice before you have a party. Make sure they have your phone number so that if things get out of hand they will call you first, rather than law enforcement. If you get along well, invite them to the festivities.

• Keep your trash contained in the appropriate receptacles and keep common areas clear. During move-out, if a mess is left, the property provider may divide the charge amongst all tenants.

• Be aware of your surroundings as well as those of your neighbors, and report any suspicious activity.