

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Ventura County

California · Ventura · FIPS 06111 · Population 842,009 ·
Crosodo Index #1689*

STATE BASELINE

Cal. Health & Safety Code §113758 (Cottage Food Operations); Class A/B system

STATE TIER

Good

ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)

Tiered (see notes)

CONFIDENCE

HIGH

LAST VERIFIED

2026-05-05

IMPORTANT — NOT LEGAL ADVICE

This report compiles publicly-available statutes, regulations, and county zoning rules into a research reference. It is **not legal advice** and is provided **without warranty** as to accuracy, completeness, or current applicability.

Cottage food law changes frequently. Counties may amend zoning, health departments may issue new permits, and state legislatures may update statutes after the publication date shown above.

Always verify rules directly with your state department of health/agriculture and your county health and planning offices before relying on them for any business or regulatory decision. Consult a licensed attorney for advice specific to your situation.

How to start — 60-second path

Ventura County, California — permit, pickup, and label steps before the full county rules.

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes

STATE SALES CAP

Tiered (see notes)

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Yes

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION

Conditional

PETS

Standard sanitation; not specifically stated in county materials

BEFORE YOU SELL FROM THIS ADDRESS

- ☐ **1. Menu** — Confirm each product under California cottage food rules (county cannot expand a state ban).
- ☐ **2. Pickup & zoning** — Home occupation and porch pickup cells above; HOA/lease may still block customer traffic.
- ☐ **3. Local tax / license** — Business license or sales tax certificate if your city/parish requires it (common even with no state food permit).
- ☐ **4. Training** — Food handler or state registration before market day.
- ☐ **5. Labels** — Disclaimer, allergens, ingredients, net quantity, producer info.
- ☐ **6. Call if unclear** — County health and planning for your exact address.

LABEL FIELDS TO INCLUDE

- ☐ Product name · producer name · address (or allowed alternative)
- ☐ Ingredients by weight · major allergens · net weight/quantity
- ☐ California home-kitchen disclaimer (see live label one-pager)

CONTINUE ONLINE

[Open the live county page →](#)

[California label one-pager →](#)

[Local notes & questions →](#)

Planning path only — not legal advice. Rules change. Always verify with state and local offices before selling.

CALIFORNIA: VENTURA COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #1689* · FIPS 06111 · Ventura

Ventura County

Population 842,009 · State baseline: Cal. Health & Safety Code §113758 (Cottage Food Operations);
Class A/B system · **HIGH**

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Ventura County Resource Management Agency (Environmental Health Division) administers CFO permits. Class A (direct sales only, up to \$75,000/year); Class B (direct and indirect, up to \$150,000/year). Both classes require proper application with required documentation and fees submitted to Environmental Health Division.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

Standard sanitation; not specifically stated in county materials

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Yes (State law (Cal. Gov. Code §51035) preempts local zoning restrictions on CFOs. However, for incorporated cities in Ventura County (Thousand Oaks, Simi Valley, Oxnard, etc.), check with the city's planning department. For unincorporated areas: contact Ventura County Planning Division. The county CFO page does not specify a separate home occupation permit requirement but standard California practice includes zoning verification.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Conditional (Class B: home kitchen inspection required. Class A: self-certified. Complaint-based thereafter.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Ventura County Resource Management Agency (Environmental Health Division) administers CFO permits. Class A (direct sales only, up to \$75,000/year); Class B (direct and indirect, up to \$150,000/year). Both classes require proper application with required documentation and fees submitted to Environmental Health Division.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	Standard sanitation; not specifically stated in county materials
WATER SUPPLY	Potable water required; state baseline
HANDWASHING	Cottage Food Operator Training required within 3 months; food handler certificates required for all persons preparing/packaging
FOOD STORAGE	Standard food storage per state approved foods list

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Conditional — Class B: home kitchen inspection required. Class A: self-certified. Complaint-based thereafter.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Yes — State law (Cal. Gov. Code §51035) preempts local zoning restrictions on CFOs. However, for incorporated cities in Ventura County (Thousand Oaks, Simi Valley, Oxnard, etc.), check with the city's planning department. For unincorporated areas: contact Ventura County Planning Division. The county CFO page does not specify a separate home occupation permit requirement but standard California practice includes zoning verification.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Class A: direct sales via in person, phone, internet; mail/third-party delivery within California. Class B: direct plus indirect (restaurants, markets). \$75,000/\$150,000 annual caps. California only.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	1 non-family non-household full-time equivalent employee

Relevant county code

Cal. Health & Safety Code §113758; Cal. Gov. Code §51035; Ventura County Environmental Health Division

RESEARCH NOTES

Ventura County RMA Environmental Health has a dedicated CFO page confirming the Class A/B system, application process, fees (see CFO Fees PDF), and required documentation including CFO flowchart. Applications submitted by mail or in person at Environmental Health Division public service counter, or via Electronic Plan Submittal Portal. MEHKO status: Ventura County does not appear on the list of California MEHKO opt-in jurisdictions (as of mid-2025). CFO is the applicable program.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.venturacounty.gov/health>

<https://www.venturacounty.gov/planning>

<https://www.ventura.org>

<https://rma.venturacounty.gov/divisions/environmental-health/cottage-home-food-operations/>

Questions about this county? Local notes and a place to leave a question: crosodo.com/nb/california/ventura-county-discuss

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Ventura County	Kern County	Los Angeles County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	Standard sanitation; not specifically stated in county materials	Standard sanitation applies; not specifically addressed in county guidance	No pets allowed in food preparation area during production; consistent with state baseline GMPs.
INSPECTION REQUIRED	Conditional	Conditional	Upon-complaint
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Class A: direct sales via in person, phone, internet; mail/ third-party delivery within California. Class B: direct plus indirect (restauran...	Class A: direct sales only (in person, phone, internet; mail or third-party delivery permitted). Class B: direct and indirect through resta...	Class A direct sales only (in-person, online, shipping within CA). Class B adds indirect retail. MEHKO allows direct meal service at home. ...
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Yes	Yes	No
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Yes	Varies by city
RESTRICTIONS	Ventura County Resource Management Agency (Environmental Health Division) administers CFO permits. Class A (direct sales only, up to \$75,00...	Must be operator's primary residence. Kern County Environmental Health Department administers CFO permits. Class A (direct sales only, up to t...	LA County follows the state CFO Class A/B framework. Additionally, LA County opted into the MEHKO program in May 2024 (permits issued begin...
FOOD STORAGE	Standard food storage per state approved foods list	Standard food storage per state Approved Foods List requirements	State baseline applies
POPULATION	842,009	906,883	9,936,690

State context — California cottage food law

Ventura County's rules sit on top of California's state cottage food framework. The state law sets the floor — counties can add but cannot remove protections.

STATUTE

Cal. Health & Safety Code §113758

ANNUAL SALES CAP

Tiered (see notes)

REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Yes

FOOD HANDLER CERT

Yes (specific course)

KITCHEN INSPECTION

No

DIRECT SALES ONLY

No

INDIRECT SALES

Limited (see notes) — Class B permit holders may sell indirectly through retail stores and restaurants statewide; Class A registrants are limited to direct sales only and may not sell through any retail or wholesale venue.

For the full state-level analysis including the verbatim statute text, see the **California cottage food law report** on Crosodo, or open the live guide: crosodo.com/states/california.

STATE-LEVEL REFERENCES

State statute: https://leginfo.ca.gov/faces/codes_displaySection.xhtml?lawCode=HSC§ionNum=113758

State dept cottage food page: https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CEH/DFDCS/CDPH%20Document%20Library/FDB/FoodSafetyProgram/Cottage%20Food%20Operations/CFO_Faq.pdf

Forrager.com: <https://forrager.com/law/california/>

Questions about Ventura County? Local notes and a place to leave a question are on Crosodo. We monitor new threads — start with zoning, permits, or porch pickup.

crosodo.com/nb/california/ventura-county-discuss

Classifieds

Resources for cottage food & home bakers · crosodo.com/advertise

NATIONAL

SUPPLIES

Advertise here — Supplies

Reach home bakers across the country. crosodo.com/advertise

COURSES

Advertise here — Courses

Reach home bakers across the country. crosodo.com/advertise

INSURANCE

Advertise here — Insurance

Reach home bakers across the country. crosodo.com/advertise

LOCAL

Advertise here

Reach home bakers in Ventura County, California. Supply stores, farmers markets, kitchen rentals, and bakery services welcome.

crosodo.com/advertise

Your business here

Local cottage food listings, kitchen rentals, co-packer referrals, and community events — post yours on Crosodo.

crosodo.com/nb/california/ventura-county-discuss

Free ad space available

Let us know if you're a non-profit or community organization. Farmers markets, kitchen rentals, and cottage food events near you welcome.

Ads are paid placements. Crosodo does not endorse listed vendors. Verify all information independently. · To advertise: crosodo.com/advertise