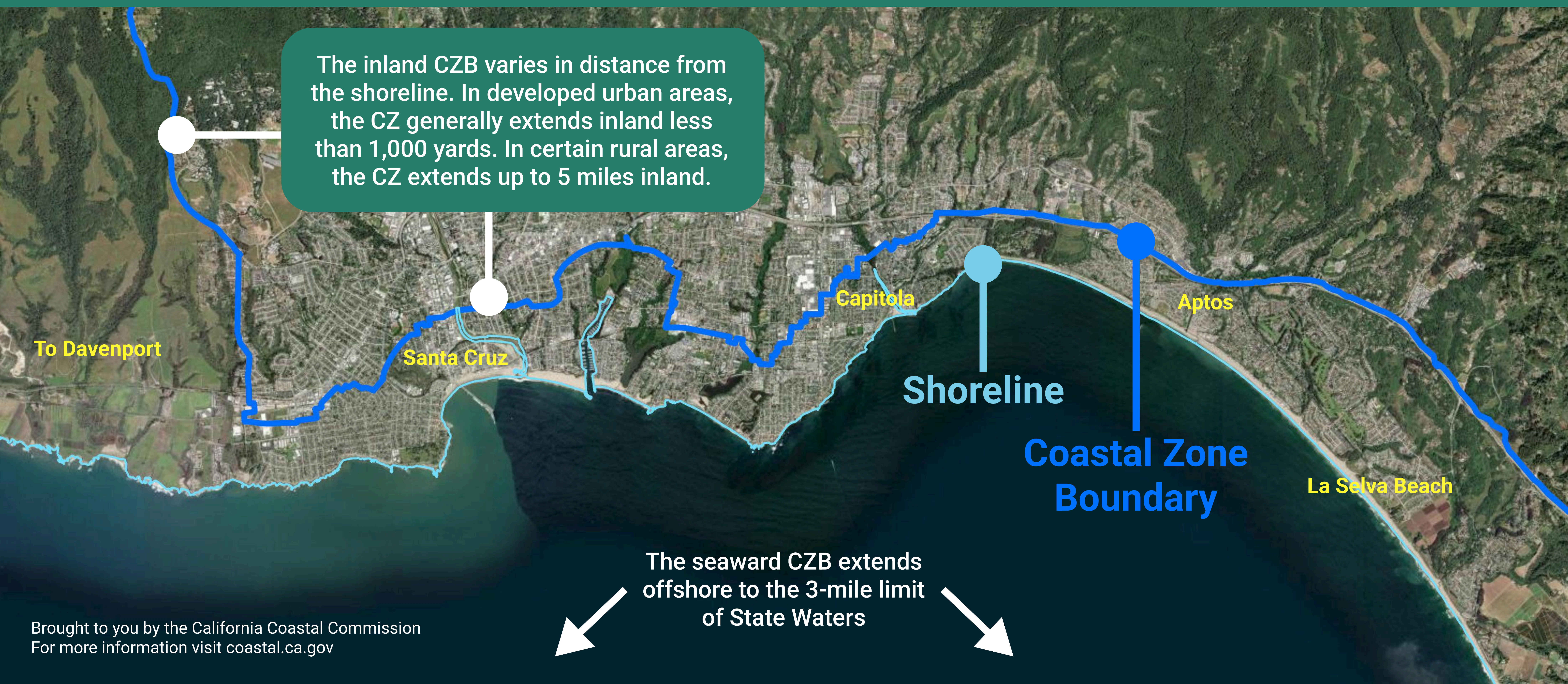




# The Coastal Zone, Defined

The Coastal Zone (CZ) is a legislatively-defined geographic region that establishes the area regulated under the Coastal Act, encompassing both land and water areas along the length of the California coastline from the Oregon border to the Mexico border. The Coastal Zone boundary (CZB) defines the California Coastal Commission's boundary of authority.

*Take a closer look:  
See what the CZ  
looks like around  
Santa Cruz:*



The inland CZB varies in distance from the shoreline. In developed urban areas, the CZ generally extends inland less than 1,000 yards. In certain rural areas, the CZ extends up to 5 miles inland.

To Davenport

Santa Cruz

Capitola

Aptos

La Selva Beach

Shoreline

Coastal Zone  
Boundary

The seaward CZB extends  
offshore to the 3-mile limit  
of State Waters