

Reading Hospital School of Health Sciences
Medical Imaging Program
Clinical Seminar IV
2022

**Sacrum, Coccyx & SI Joint
Radiography**

Merrill's Vol. 1, Chapter 8

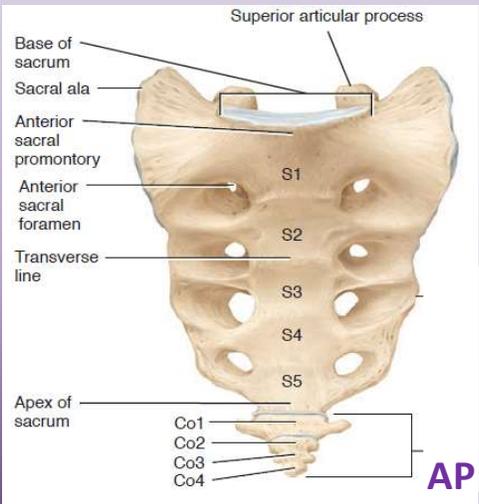
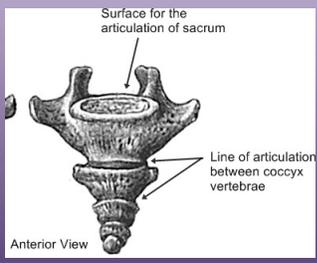
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SACRUM & COCCYX

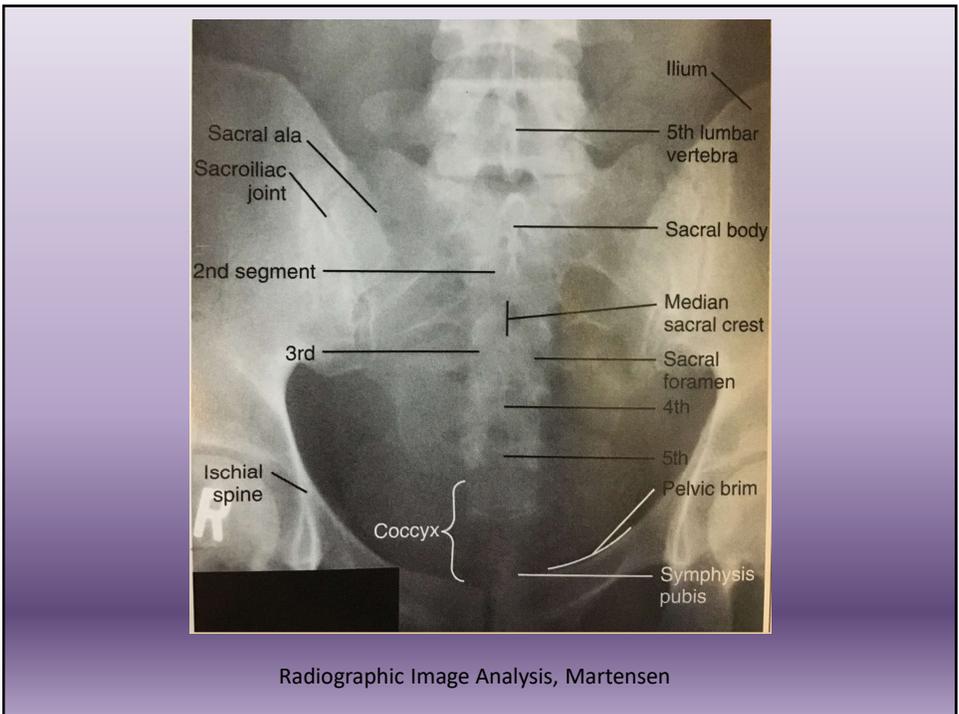
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SACRUM & COCCYX

- Sacrum = made of 5 vertebral segments
 - Size and curvature vary considerably
- Coccyx 3-5 = most of the time 4 segments



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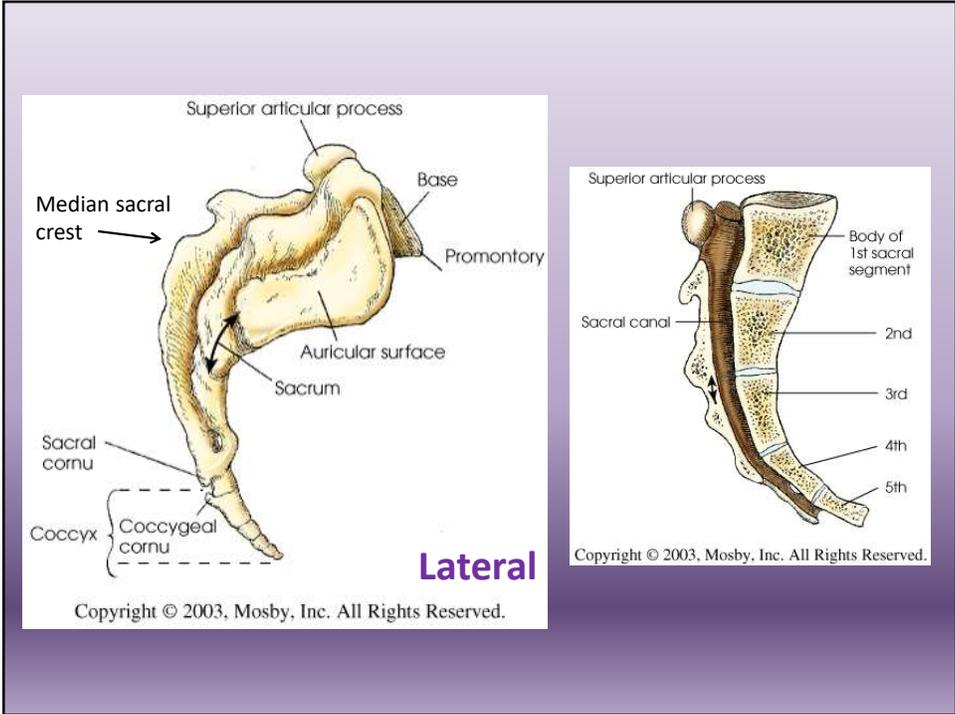
- Median sacral crest – ridge formed by remnants of spinous processes
- Auricular surfaces- articulates with the iliac bones

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- The end of the cauda equina passes through the sacral hiatus

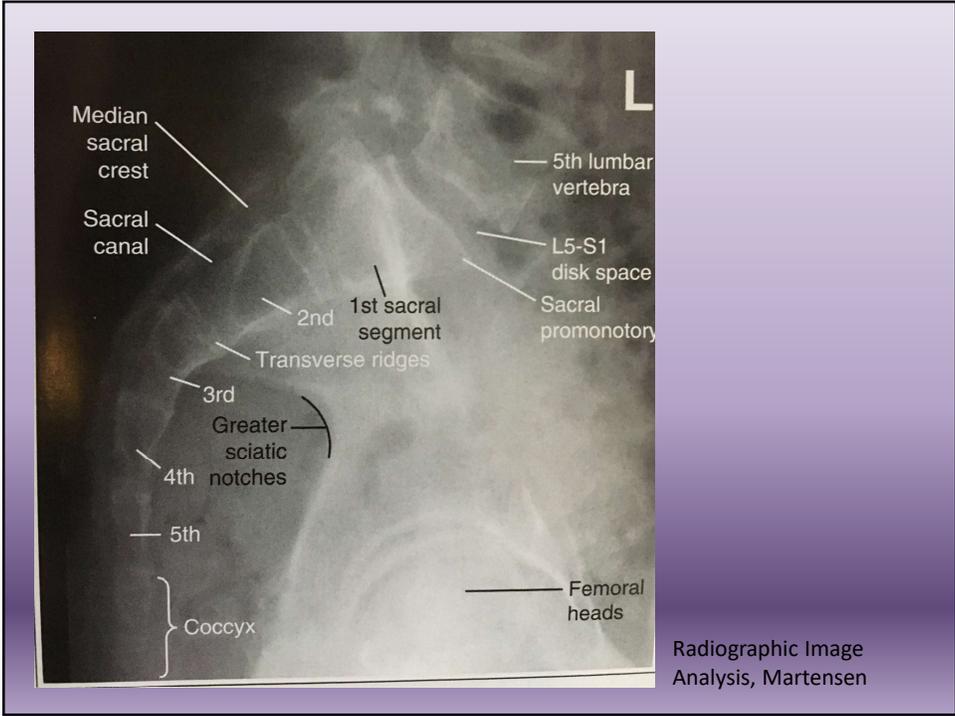
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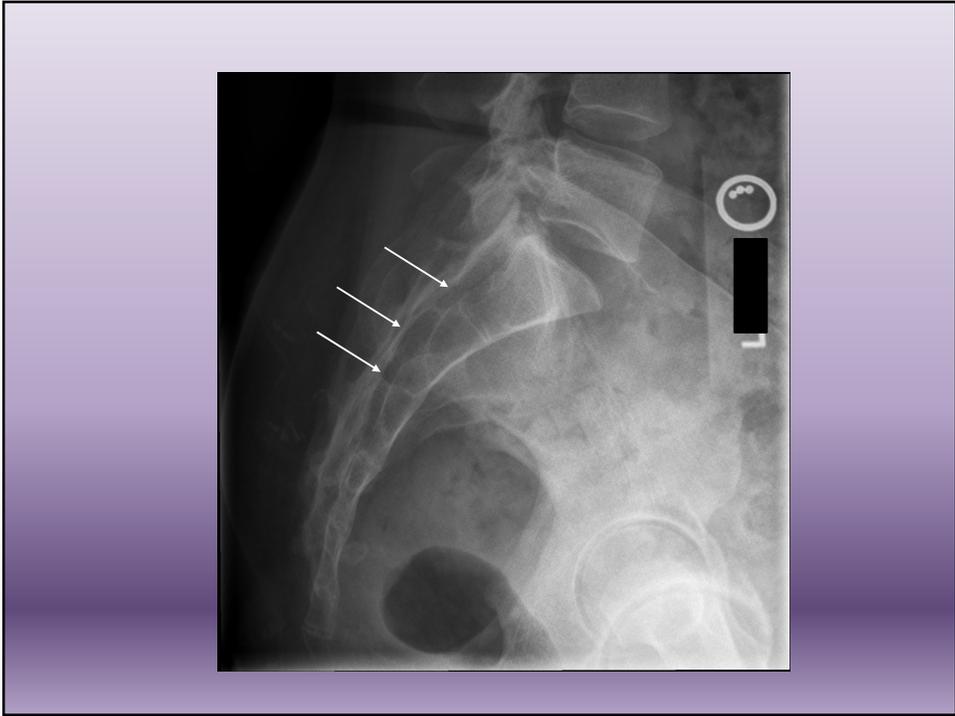
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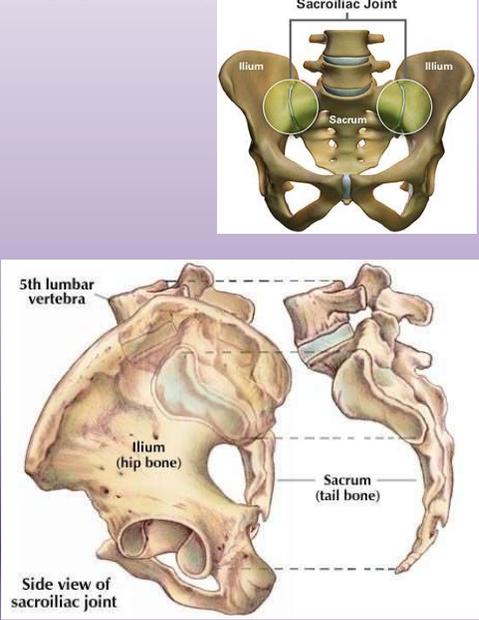
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SACROILIAC JOINTS

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SACROILIAC JOINTS

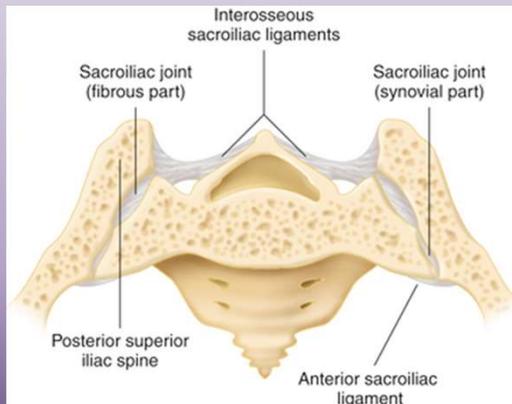
- Junction of iliac ala and sacral ala
- “Ear-like” in shape with ridges and depressions
- Concave sacral surface joins with convex iliac surface
- Classified as synovial joints



The top diagram is a posterior view of the pelvis showing the sacroiliac joint between the ilium and the sacrum. The bottom diagram is a side view of the sacroiliac joint, showing the 5th lumbar vertebra, the ilium (hip bone), and the sacrum (tail bone).

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- Synovial, amphiarthrodial joint:
 - Superior portion is only connected by ligaments
 - Inferior portion is typical synovial joint
- Joint is angled both posteriorly and obliquely

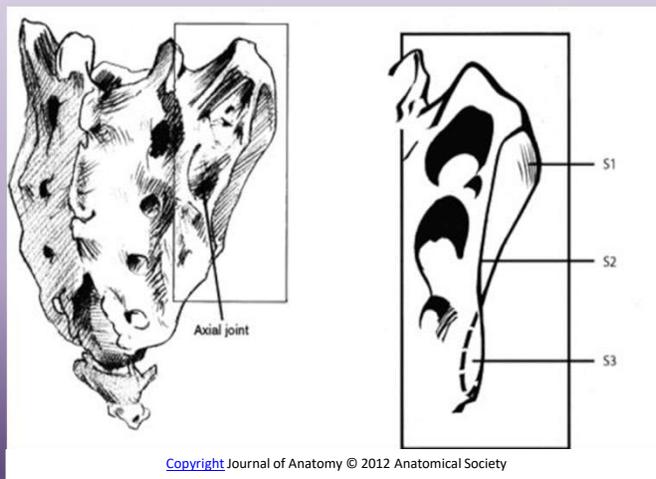


<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D6NTMgWCSaU>

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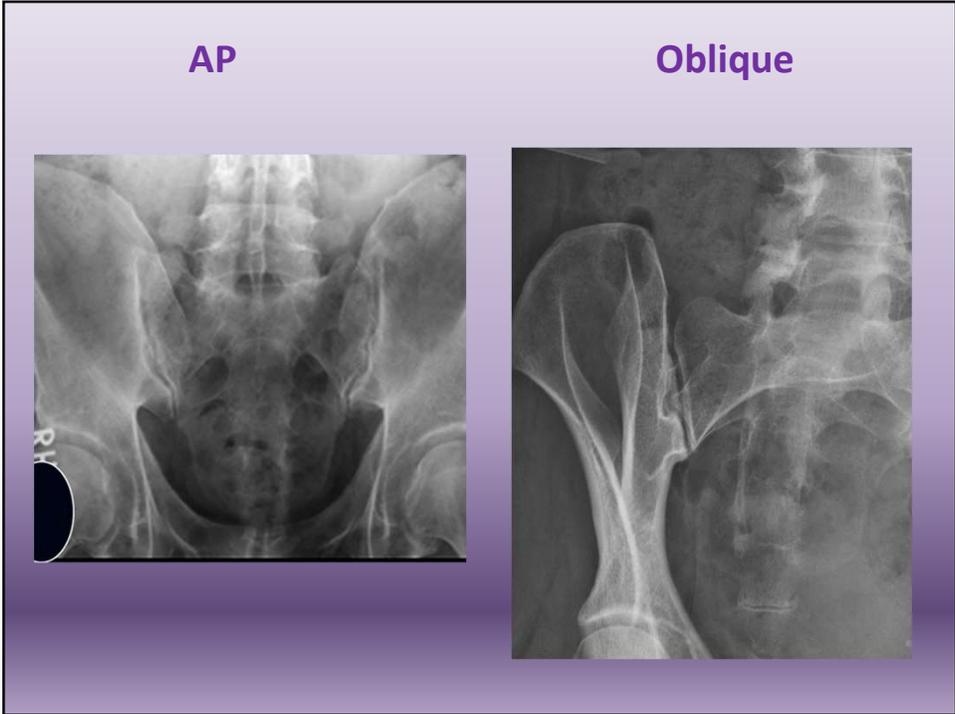
The SI joints are not uniformly vertical:

- S1 = 40°
- S2 = 25°
- S3 = -10°



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