

THE OFFICIAL GUIDE TO CALIFORNIA STATE PARKS

California escapes[®]

Discover the many states of California

2006 FREE

**ADVENTURES
UNLIMITED!**

From Crystal Cove to
Angel Island— get ready to surf, camp,
hike, and much more in your
278 state parks.



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COOL MAPS,
HOT TIPS,
AND INSIDER
INFORMATION

Where will the hundreds of California State Parks take you today?



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CONFESSIONS
OF A
Foodie

"Some fantasize about beaches.
I dream of sharing a wok
with Martin Yan."

And there Martin Yan was.
Right in front of me.
A wok in one hand, a daikon in the other.
Measuring, tossing, mixing.
Saying things like, "stir fry - don't stare fry."
And I had questions. And he answered me.
And next month,
COPIA's gonna have John Ash.



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At COPIA, food is explored, celebrated and more importantly, eaten. Located in Napa Valley, it's The American Center for Wine, Food & the Arts. For information call 1-888-51-COPIA.



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welcome



I am delighted to extend my warmest welcome to all who have come to enjoy California's exquisite state park system.

California's parks are among the finest parks in the country, with some of the world's most breathtaking landscapes. They showcase the Golden State's rich biological diversity and are home to a wide variety of plant and animal species.

These recreational hubs boast more than 3,000 miles of hiking, biking and equestrian trails. Beautiful campsites and historic monuments are scattered throughout the park grounds, providing wonderful opportunities to create lasting memories.

Please enjoy your time and thank you for visiting.

Sincerely,

Arnold Schwarzenegger
Governor



Where will the hundreds of California State Parks take you today?

If you are looking for bold, adventurous and inspiring experiences, we have the answer for you. Discover places to stretch your physical, mental and spiritual boundaries in California State Parks.

Our parks serve as California's built-in outdoor "health clubs." This challenging system contains nearly 1.5 million acres; over 280 miles of coastline; 625 miles of lake and river frontage; 13,000 campsites; and 3,000 miles of hiking, biking and equestrian trails. Californians of all ages can improve their health and well-being by choosing from a vast number of recreational adventures. Whether you are a history or cultural devotee, an avid outdoor enthusiast, an off-highway motor vehicle fan or a self-proclaimed family vacation aficionado, the adventure never stops in California State Parks. There is literally something for everyone.

Come and enjoy the Golden State's many opportunities beckoning you to explore, recreate and rejuvenate.

Discover the many states of California!

Ruth Coleman
Director, California State Parks



California escapes®

Arnold Schwarzenegger
Governor

Mike Chrisman
Secretary for Resources

Ruth Coleman
Director
California State Parks

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in accordance with the National Organic Program of the USDA which means they come only from the purest sources. Treat yourself to the unique experience of real food. Only from *O* Organics.





FEES + PASSES

● **Day Use:** Many parks charge a day-use parking fee; during the same day, you can use your parking receipt to visit other California State Parks that charge a similar parking fee. Seniors receive a small discount. Proof of eligibility is required.

● **Camping:** Many parks accept reservations up to seven months in advance. Fee information is available at www.parks.ca.gov or (800) 444-PARK, ext. 7275. Payment may be made by phone using your American Express®, Discover®, MasterCard® or VISA®, or through the mail by check, traveler's check or money order. Seniors age 62 or older receive a nightly discount, but only if requested when the reservation is made. The reservation must be in the name of the eligible person, and that person must occupy the campsite. Proof of eligibility is required.

● **Historic Sites and Museums:** Some are free, and many others charge an entry fee. Tour fees vary.

● **Hearst Castle® and Año Nuevo SR:** Avoid long waits by calling (800) 444-4445.

● **SNO-Parks:** Daily fees apply; seasonal passes are available. Parking permits do not guarantee a parking space. For information call (916) 324-1222, visit www.ohv.parks.ca.gov or send a legal-sized, self-addressed, stamped envelope to OHMVR Division Headquarters, PO Box 942896, Sacramento, CA 94296-0001.

● **Boating:** Launch fees vary; overnight mooring fees apply.

● **Annual Passes:** California State Parks offers a choice of two annual day-use passes. The **Annual Day Use Parking Pass** is \$125 and provides access to most state-operated parks that

charge a parking fee. The **Golden Poppy Annual Day Use Parking Pass** at \$90 provides access to many state-operated parks and all reservoirs that charge a parking fee. The pass excludes the most high-demand parks. All annual day-use passes are good for one year from the date of purchase. Some restrictions apply. The annual boat-use pass is sold either as a sticker that attaches to an annual day-use pass or a separate hang tag. For more information call (866) 417-2757, or purchase at www.store.parks.ca.gov. All State Vehicular Recreational Areas (SVRA) require a separate annual use pass. For more information about SVRA passes, call (916) 324-2224.

● **Discount Passes:** For applications, rules, qualifications and fees for all the discount passes listed below, call (800) 777-0369, ext. 5 or write to: California State Parks Pass Program, PO Box 942896, Sacramento, CA 94296. Regular discount passes are allowed at SVRAs. The **Golden Bear Pass** admits parking at state park-operated facilities for persons receiving SSI or CALWORKS, or for seniors 62 or over with stated income limitations. The **Limited Use Golden Bear Pass** admits parking, excluding peak season (Memorial Day through Labor Day), for seniors 62 and over for a small annual fee. In addition to the phone and address listed above, you can apply in person at most state parks. Proof of eligibility is required. The **Disabled Discount Pass** offers 50 percent off regular camping fees and day-use fees for disabled persons meeting eligibility requirements. The **Disabled Veteran/Prisoner of War Pass** offers free camping and day use for California residents meeting disabled veteran/prisoner of war eligibility requirements.

Please note: Fees, services and hours of operation may change. For the most current information visit www.parks.ca.gov.

Adventure No. 153

Montaña de Oro State Park—From mountain solitude to family sanditude, there's something for everyone to enjoy.



Where will the hundreds of California State Parks take you today?

Discover the many states of California.™



www.parks.ca.gov

Surf's up at Santa Cruz state beaches.



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ON THE COVER:
MOUNTAIN BIKING AT
CHINA CAMP SP
Photograph by Stefanie Michejda

BUY ONLINE

Visit our e-store, where you can purchase annual passes, books and other cool state parks merchandise.

www.store.parks.ca.gov



REGIONS

18 CALIFORNIA STATE MAP

Consult this overview of the Golden State along with the separate maps that accompany each of the regions below.

20 REGION 1 / NORTH COAST

30 REGION 2 / SHASTA CASCADE

32 REGION 3 / GOLD COUNTRY

36 REGION 4 / HIGH SIERRA

38 REGION 5 / SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA

44 REGION 6 / CENTRAL COAST

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Elephant seals basking at
Año Nuevo SR



YOUR PARKS

STATE PARKS FOR YOUR HEALTH

California is known for health and fitness, sunshine and active living, but sometimes we all get caught up in the day-to-day grind—being couch potatoes and eating unhealthily. Escaping stress and discovering good health is just an adventure away. This year California State Parks has embarked on a program to get us moving and eating healthier.

Take a Hike, a new program at California State Parks, gets you and your friends or family out and moving. Whether you live by a park or a mall, a beach or a desert, a city or a stream, your prescription for fun and fitness is a 30 to 60 minute walk or hike. Think of parks as outdoor health clubs—stretch your legs, laugh with your kids and see nature at work. That's better than walking on a treadmill in a sweaty gym! Learn more and pick up a trail map by visiting www.parks.ca.gov/takeahike.

Our **Healthy Foods Initiative** is designed to encourage our concessionaires—those businesses that prepare and sell foods in our parks—to offer a variety of local, sustainable and organically grown natural foods. Look for organic meals at Asilomar SB and Conference Grounds®, healthy menu items at McArthur-Burney Falls snack bar

and even an organic garden at Carmel River SB.

Camping out? Add activity and healthy eating to your outing. We are happy to offer techniques and tasty recipes designed to improve the quality of your campground meals while contributing to your health! Check out www.parks.ca.gov/campingtips.

SURF, TURF AND EVERYTHING IN BETWEEN

California State Parks are your parks—all 278 of them! That's a lot of parks, offering a lot of variety. If state parks make you think of giant redwood forests, beaches, cascading waterfalls and winding mountain trails, well, we can't argue with that. But California's state parks offer so much more.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

STATE PARK ABBREVIATIONS

SP= State Park
SRA= State Recreation Area
SR= State Reserve
SHP= State Historic Park
SB= State Beach
SVRA= State Vehicular Recreation Area

Hiker taking in the Big Sur coast from Garrapata SP



The dramatic entrance to Hearst Castle®

California's state parks are virtually everywhere in the state. Last year, more than 85 million people visited this state's parks, historic sites and beaches to camp, hike, bike, swim, surf and sightsee. This guide will get you on the road, wave, mountain-bike trail or wheelchair-accessible path—whatever it takes for you to make the most of our parks and beaches.

WHERE TO GO? AND HOW?

What's your passion? Whale-watching? Fishing? Bird-watching? Maybe you're a cyclist, an equestrian or an aspiring photographer. No matter—your interests are our pleasure. It's also our pleasure to tell you how. How can you reserve a campsite? How can your family hold an outdoor reunion on the shores of Point Sur? How do you find remnants of the classic television show *M*A*S*H* in Malibu Creek State Park? We'll tell you.

This guide answers all of your questions. In the pages that follow, you'll find:

- Park unit and reservations information.
- A large overview map of California (pg. 18).
- Maps of the 12 California travel regions that show the locations of the parks.
- Regional charts listing facilities (including

visitor centers, food/dining, lodging, RV hookups and much more and activities from camping to biking to windsurfing to off-highway vehicle activities).

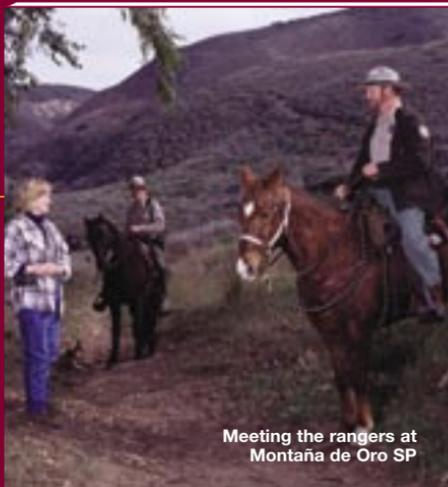
- Capsule descriptions of each park, including telephone numbers and road directions for those parks that are a little out of the way.

And remember...

The best way to get the big picture, along with the latest information on each park and the many activities offered, is to visit the California State Parks website at www.parks.ca.gov. It's what really puts the state park system at your fingertips, any day, any time.

WI-FI INTERNET

Being out-of-doors is a great way to escape, but sometimes researching your next travel stop at www.gocalif.ca.gov (the state's tourism site), making camping reservations at www.reserveamerica.com, sharing vacation photos or just staying connected to family, friends or even work is essential. Visitors with wi-fi enabled laptops or PDAs can now get online in selected state parks. You'll find a current listing at www.parks.ca.gov/wifi.



Meeting the rangers at
Montaña de Oro SP

YOUR HELP IS NEEDED

When you think of a California state park, images of beauty, serenity, trees, beaches and sunsets—even cool historic sites—probably come to mind. But with more visitors than ever, the best state park system in America needs your help. California State Parks preserves our land and water, provides inspiration and education and keeps our history alive. You can help by becoming a park volunteer. Whether locally or farther afield, you can serve as a campground host, teach children about their heritage, even build and maintain trails. Each year, 12,000 volunteers give back to the community while making new friends and learning about nature and history. For more information about volunteering, go to www.parks.ca.gov or call (916) 653-9069.

WHAT'S NEW

Crystal Cove Cottages

This summer California State Parks is planning to open 14 oceanfront cottages to the public for affordable, short-term overnight rental. These newly restored cottages, overlooking white sand beaches, are representative of the 46 historic cottages that make up the nationally registered



Sightseeing at Año Nuevo SR

THE TIME IS RIGHT

Do yourself a favor. Explore the parks in their off-seasons. Thanks to California's mild weather, you don't need a summer day to hike through a giant redwood grove or share a campfire with family and friends. Historic sites that make great winter escapes include Hearst Castle®, Bidwell Mansion or Old Town San Diego. And here's a summer tip: Campsites are often less crowded midweek, even in prime Sierra locations.

RANGER RECRUITMENT

Looking for a job that offers culture, escape and adventure? California State Parks is looking for rangers and lifeguards who seek career choices beyond working in the woods—these locations could include lakes, beaches, deserts and urban parks. For information go to www.parks.ca.gov or call (866) PARK-JOBS.

ACCESSIBILITY: EVERYONE IS A V.I.P.

- California State Parks welcomes all visitors, regardless of their abilities. When planning your visit, please call the park to obtain additional information or request suitable arrangements.
- Find accessible features throughout the parks at <http://access.parks.ca.gov>
- Disabled Discount Passes (see Fees, pg. 4).

- Department staff are working to implement accessibility improvements and remove barriers to access. Should you encounter obstacles, please ask for assistance onsite.
- We are proceeding systematically with our vision of universal-access facility design and programs that will benefit all visitors. As projects are funded over the coming years,

access will be provided by the retrofitting and construction of new facilities statewide.

- Comments may be made to the Department's Accessibility Section, (916) 445-8949, or at <http://access.parks.ca.gov>.

For a large format version of this magazine, visit www.parks.ca.gov or reference the link on the publications page.



Volunteering at Pigeon Point Light Station SHP

KEEPING CALIFORNIA GOLDEN



CALIFORNIA STATE PARKS FOUNDATION

The California State Parks Foundation is the only statewide nonprofit organization dedicated to protecting, enhancing and advocating for California's magnificent state parks. Join us to build on a proud

history of environmental stewardship and success. As a member, you'll be more than a spectator of California's natural beauty—you'll be its caretaker too. To become a member, simply call (800) 963-7275 or visit our website: www.calparks.org.

Historic District at Crystal Cove State Park. They include single- and multi-bedroom single-family homes and three dormitory or hostel-style units. A new cafe will also be opened in the Historic District to serve day-use and overnight visitors. Once available, reservations for these cottages can be made through the Department's reservation service, ReserveAmerica, by calling (800) 444-PARK or visiting www.parks.ca.gov.

The California State Parks e-Store

The California State Parks e-Store sells annual passes, quality publications, apparel, accessories and more to the public. These items will inspire and educate you on the best of California's outdoor recreation and the magnificent natural and cultural resources within our state parks. All proceeds from the sale of state park merchandise directly support California State Parks. Find a memento of your park experience before or after your trip at www.store.parks.ca.gov or call toll-free (866) 417-2757.

Los Angeles State Historic Park

California State Park's newest urban park is the Los Angeles SHP, most recently known as the Cornfield or Chinatown Yard property. Opened in April 2006, the park is a 32-acre site linked to the long and varied history of the city and its diverse people. The site has a broad historical significance to the Los Angeles story, includ-

ing its very existence as a state park, due to the efforts of one of the most diverse coalitions of local citizens, activists and environmental justice advocates ever assembled.

CALIFORNIA MAIN STREET COMMUNITIES

The California Main Street Program was established in the Office of Historic Preservation within California State Parks. California has 37 towns, cities and communities throughout the state that are active Main Street communities. Many are located near state parks and are becoming active partners with California State Parks. These historic communities, such as popular San Luis Obispo, Grass Valley, Eureka, Berkeley, Paso Robles, Salinas, San Diego, Arcata and Monterey, are exciting tourist destinations; most have public markets, annual festivals, celebrations and holiday events.

For a listing of California's 37 Main Street communities and their websites, visit the Office of Historic Preservation's website, www.ohp.parks.ca.gov. These sites will provide information on upcoming events and festivals, as well as local contacts and other community information.

The communities focus on volunteer, grass-roots efforts to enhance the economic, social, cultural and environmental well-being of historic and traditional commercial districts located in California's diverse cities and towns.

The eastern Sierra ghost town at Bodie SHP



Ohlone Day at Henry Cowell Redwood SP near Santa Cruz

FAMILY ADVENTURE

FAMILY ADVENTURE REFLECTING TODAY'S CALIFORNIA

The best adventure is one that entertains and educates. Our "adventure questions" are sprinkled throughout California Escapes® to provoke thought and conversation around the campfire or on the trail. The "adventure numbers" correspond with parks featured on our website.

California State Parks are an outdoor adventure for everyone. Our state parks system has grown along with the population to over 270 state parks, bringing the benefits of nature, healthy recreation, culture and history within reach of all Californians.

FOR THE RECORD

Of course, it wouldn't be California without a few superlatives, like the most popular railroad museum in North America (California State Railroad Museum), the best view of California (Mount Diablo SP) and the best preserved Western ghost town (Bodie SHP, California's official State Gold Rush Ghost Town).

GETTING URBAN

Even if you live in a big city, you are near a state park. Old Town San Diego SHP is also a popular eating and shopping area for San Diegans. Angelenos have the new Los Angeles SHP to visit where cornfields once stood, Watts Towers of Simon Rodia and beaches galore. The "OC" is known for Doheny and Huntington SBs and Crystal Cove SP. Bay Area folks jog, hike and picnic at Candlestick Point SRA near the San Francisco 49ers' home and at Mount Tamalpais SP across the bay in Marin. Sacramento is home to Governor's Mansion SHP, Leland Stanford Mansion SHP, Sutter's Fort SHP, California State Indian Museum, the California State Capitol Museum, Old Sacramento SHP and the California State Railroad Museum.

>> ADVENTURE QUESTION 1

Which state museum was used in the filming of scenes for *Memoirs of a Geisha*?

Answer 1) California State Railroad Museum, Adventure No. 258



Setting up camp
in Prairie Creek
Redwoods SP

HISTORY AND CULTURE ABOUND

A trip through the state parks is a trip through time, from the era of the Pomo Indians, to that of the Spanish missions, to the Gold Rush of 1849. In *your* parks, you will see Chumash cave paintings and Craftsman-style architecture (as found, for instance, at Asilomar SB and Conference Grounds®). In *your* parks, you can learn a Chaw'se Native American dance, grind corn for tortillas or pan for gold. In *your* parks, you can tour William Randolph Hearst's famous castle or walk the same streets the 49ers did in Columbia SHP. And don't forget the Spanish mission at La Purísima Mission SHP and Colonel Allensworth SHP in Allensworth, the only town in California founded, financed and governed by African-Americans. Perhaps the many ethnic strands woven through the seemingly unending tapestry of California history are best seen on Angel Island SP, in San Francisco Bay—as the West Coast's version of Ellis Island, it was the first stop for many immigrants coming to the Golden State.

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

California State Parks is one of the largest state agency providers of education. Our scientific, ecological and historical assets—which make

possible day trips, environmental-living overnights, in-school programs and video conferencing—served more than 20,000 school groups last year. Some 560 schools also booked tours at the California State Capitol Museum. Using video technology, the museum connects to classrooms nationwide for presentations on capitol architecture, the legislative process and Sacramento's role in the Gold Rush.

VIRTUAL DIVING, A NEW WAY TO LEARN

One of our favorite video programs allows underwater divers at Crystal Cove SP to broadcast in “real time” to classrooms. Children interact with the divers, watch the marine life of one of the state's most pristine environments and learn about the effects of commercialization and residential growth. This technology also lessens the impact of visitors on sensitive environments and allows children with disabilities to participate. Visit www.parks.ca.gov for more about these and other programs.

Add everything up, and it becomes clear that California's state parks are priceless resources for generations to come. Outings to the parks don't just teach our children—they create lasting memories.

FOR THE KIDS

Your state parks offer many learning opportunities for children and families. In the **Junior Ranger Program**, kids learn how issues in parks relate to larger global concerns. The **Junior Lifeguard Program** teaches visitors ages 8 to 15 about water safety and physical conditioning. Our **Litter-Getter Program** rewards children with a prize for every bag of litter they collect, helping them to make their own contribution to the park. Call for a schedule of programs at the park of your choice.

ENJOYING CALIFORNIA'S NATURAL RESOURCES

California is teeming with unique species, such as our giant sequoia trees and huge elephant seals. It's a state where majestic bald eagles soar above mountains that serve as homes to big-horn sheep. All of these species call California's state parks home, thriving in habitats as various as sparkling tidepools, snowy peaks, foggy redwood groves and sun-blasted desert basins. Nature lovers, scientists and travelers come from around the world to see and experience California's rich natural heritage.

Our state parks are priceless repositories of nature, sanctuaries for the human spirit, places where anyone can observe, explore and marvel at the beauty of the natural world.

PRESERVING YOUR PARKS

To protect this vast and varied heritage requires active management to repair damaged landscapes and to help restore their natural cycles. Unfortunately, human impact on California's natural resources has been significant over the centuries, and our state parks also pay a price for their popularity. If the resources we take for granted are to survive for future generations, we must all accept responsibility for their preservation.

PRESERVATION RULES

- Put litter in its place.
- Stay on designated trails (no shortcuts).
- Avoid disturbing tide pool creatures.
- Do not feed the animals.
- Do not dispose of wastewater in lakes and streams.
- Do not disturb historic and archaeological artifacts.



Bighorn sheep watch over the desert.

>> ADVENTURE QUESTION 2

Which state park is California's oldest state park?

Answer 2 Big Basin Redwoods SF, founded 1902, Adventure No. 27

A scenic landing spot at Mono Lake Tufa SR



>> ADVENTURE QUESTION 3

What is the only state park in California where people may drive vehicles and camp on the beach?

Answer: 3) Oceano Dunes SVRA Adventure No. 101



Native species in their natural habitat

FRANK S. BALTHIS

HOW YOUR STATE PARKS ARE PRESERVED

Fire Management

Because total fire suppression has resulted in dangerous accumulations of dry tinder that can feed destructive wildfires, “prescribed burn” fires are allowed to slowly burn away duff, smaller brush and some trees.

Non-native Species

Non-native plants and animals in native ecosystems are of national concern. Spreading rapidly and out-competing native species, they change the landscape and destroy habitats for native species, creating ecosystem imbalance. Feral animals may prey on natives, sometimes threatening endangered species. When fed by humans, non-natives gain an even greater advantage.

Endangered Species

The past three decades have seen, in California alone, 79 native animal species and 156 native plant species classified as endangered or threatened. Our state parks preserve habitat for more than 160 of these species.

Success Stories

By 1999, endangered species like the peregrine falcon and the California gray whale had come back from the brink of extinction. Management of wildlife and habitats has kept species such as the California bighorn sheep, found at Anza-Borrego Desert SP®, and the tule elk (for which Tule Elk SR is named) from disappearing.

Responsible Recreation

Preserving public lands for future generations is an inherent part of the mission of California State Parks. When enjoying trails by foot, horse or motorized vehicle, it is necessary that we take the time to learn how our actions impact the environment around us. By recreating responsibly, we can help protect everyone’s right to enjoy California’s beautiful parks for years to come.

PRESERVING OUR PAST

Archaeologists, restoration specialists and historians are involved in the study of California’s diverse cultures, helping to identify and protect Native American burial grounds, restore Spanish missions and even maintain the state of “arrested decay” at the Gold Rush ghost town of Bodie. California State Parks’ ongoing preservation work makes it possible to educate thousands of schoolchildren each year about the importance of California’s past.

A big cutback
at Cardiff SB

>> ADVENTURE QUESTION 4

Where did presidents stay and movie stars play?

Answer 4) Hearst Castle@, Adventure No. 220



FUN STUFF

ADVENTURE: IT'S IN OUR BLOOD

Thanks to our parks, adventure recreation has become a birthright for Californians. With more than 280 miles of coastline, over 1,200 miles of waterfront, thousands of campsites and picnic areas, and hundreds of sites of historical, cultural and ecological interest, your state parks have something for everybody.

BEACHES

California State Parks' beaches are legendary, from the ruggedly beautiful North Coast to Point Lobos (called the greatest meeting of ocean

and land in all the world) to the sandy playgrounds of southern California, where "beach culture" was virtually invented.

CAMPING

Busy parks may be full if you arrive without reservations, particularly during the summer season. Many coastal parks remain busy year round, especially on weekends. Fortunately, campsites for individuals, families, or groups can be reserved up to seven months in advance at www.parks.ca.gov or via ReserveAmerica at **(800) 444-PARK**. Other campgrounds may be available first come, first served. For informa-

Off-Road Adventures in the State Parks

For more than 30 years, California State Parks has managed off-highway recreation in California through its Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation (OHMVR) Division. Using innovative management techniques to provide long-term sustainable recreation, OHMVR offers new opportuni-

ties for future generations. The division operates eight recreation areas and supports other off-highway activities by providing supplemental funding to federal agencies, counties, cities and nonprofit groups. Activities include, but are not limited to, the operation of dirt bikes, all-terrain vehicles

(ATVs), snowmobiles, SUVs and dune buggies. Visitors enjoy snow play, cross-country skiing, hiking and camping. Visit www.ohv.parks.ca.gov, or contact OHMVR, PO Box 942896, Sacramento, CA 94296-0001. For more information about off-highway recreation, call **(916) 324-4442**.



>> ADVENTURE QUESTION 5

In which historic state park can visitors ride a 100-year-old stagecoach ?

Answer 5) Columbia SHP, Adventure No. 60

Snowmobiling at a SNO-Park in Hope Valley

tion, call (800) 777-0369 or (916) 653-6995. Several parks, some with horse rental facilities, provide equestrian camping. For more information, call (916) 653-6995.

SNO-PARKS

California State Parks operates 21 SNO-Park sites that provide snow-cleared parking lots with sanitation facilities and access to snow play areas, cross-country ski and snowmobile trails. Snow-cleared parking lots cannot be guaranteed on a daily basis due to weather conditions. The SNO-Park program is administered by the Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation (OHMVR) Division. Please call (916) 324-1222 or visit www.ohv.parks.ca.gov/snoparks.

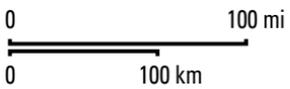
TAKE A HIKE...IN A STATE PARK

Ready for a real hiking adventure? Take a Hike and explore the California Coastal Trail and the Pacific Crest Trail. Both run from the Oregon border to the Mexican border, traversing many state parks. With more than 300 miles of hiking, biking and equestrian trails, California's parks offer four seasons of outdoor adventure and natural beauty. In early spring, Anza-Borrego Desert SP® features purple sand verbena. In late spring, columbine, lupine, and leopard lily grace Emerald Bay SP. Kruse Rhododendron SR and

Antelope Valley California Poppy Reserve display acres of beautiful blossoms. Many California state parks offer surprising displays of autumn foliage: Cuyamaca Rancho SP, Point Mugu SP, Annadel SP and Sugar Pine Point SP. During winter, snowshoe in the meadow at Grover Hot Springs, and then take a dip at the natural hot springs; or explore the desert trails near Salton Sea SRA.

PARK REGULATIONS

- Collecting flowers, rocks, plants, animals and artifacts is prohibited.
- Firewood should not be gathered—it can be purchased at most parks.
- Fireworks are prohibited.
- Fishing licenses are required by state law.
- Hunting or the possession of loaded or unloaded firearms is prohibited in most state parks.
- Pets must be kept on a leash. Dogs are prohibited from most trails, beaches and developed areas.
- Off-road vehicle driving is only allowed in California's state vehicular recreation areas.
- Bicyclists under 18 are required



W California Welcome Centers
www.visitcalifornia.com

Los Angeles
Catalina Islands

regional information

The state of California can be divided into 12 distinct regions that encompass a rich diversity of culture, terrain and wildlife. From the Gold Country to the San Francisco Bay Area, from the North Coast to San Diego County, these regions are home to 278 state parks renowned for natural beauty, historic significance and recreational opportunities.



JUSTIN HOFMAN

A poppy in bloom at Butano SP



THE STATE ICONS

• STATE ANIMAL

The California grizzly bear, now called the golden bear (*Ursus arctos Californicus*), appears only on the state flag and the state seal, due to its extinction.

• STATE FLOWER

The golden poppy (*Eschscholtzia californica*) can be found blooming somewhere in California every month of the year.

• STATE MARINE MAMMAL

You can spy the mighty California gray whale (*Eschrichtius robustus*) as it travels in groups called pods off the coast each winter and spring.

• STATE BIRD

Stout and social, the California quail (*Callipepla californica*) can be seen in pairs or in coveys of up to 300.

• STATE REPTILE

The desert tortoise (*Gopherus agassizii*) is an endangered species that has lived in California for thousands of years. It should never be handled.

• STATE FISH

The golden trout (*Oncorhynchus aguabonita*) can be found in certain high-altitude Sierra streams and lakes.

north coast



This wild, green and rugged part of the state is characterized by old- and second-growth redwood forests, coastal bluffs, secluded coves and wildlife areas. The rich history of the North Coast includes Sonoma, the site of the 1846 Bear Flag Revolt and where the last California mission was built, and Fort Ross, Imperial Russia's southernmost outpost in North America.

ADMIRAL WILLIAM STANDLEY SRA

Escape the crowds for a day of quiet picnicking and hiking at this 45-acre redwood grove. A rough unpaved road continues to the coast. (707) 247-3318.

ANDERSON MARSH SHP

Once home to the Pomo, the 1,065-acre park is popular for picnics, hikes, bird-watching and its August Blackberry Festival. (707) 994-0688.

ANNADEL SP

This park preserves significant native and early California quarry industry sites and the most outstanding example of northern oak woodland in existence. Trails within Annadel's 5,000

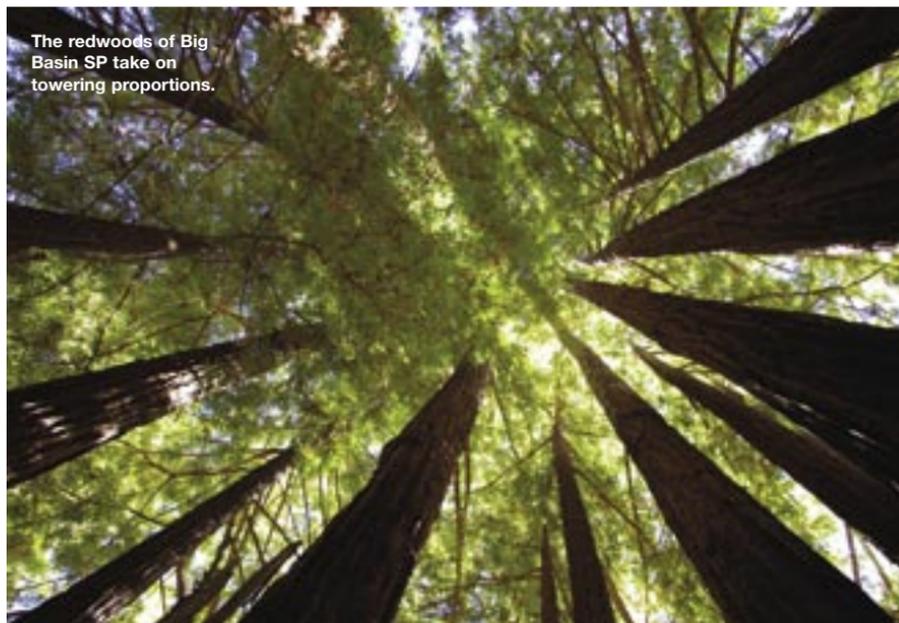
acres are popular with hikers, equestrians and bicyclists. The park is open for day use only. (707) 938-1519.

ARMSTRONG REDWOODS SR

The 440-acre grove preserved by Colonel James Bodyston Armstrong in the 1890s has grown to 805 acres. The park has a multisensory accessible trail, as well as accessible restrooms, parking, a visitor center and picnicking. (707) 865-2391.

AUSTIN CREEK SRA

Open forests and rugged terrain contrast the cool, dark redwoods in adjoining Armstrong reserve. More than 25 miles of trails are ideal



The redwoods of Big Basin SP take on towering proportions.

MICHAEL DEBOER

for hikers and equestrians. The road, closed to vehicles more than 20 feet long and pulled trailers of any length, begins at the Armstrong Redwoods picnic area. (707) 865-2391.

AZALEA SR

Western azaleas thrive in this 30-acre reserve north of Eureka. In spring, pink and white blossoms scent the air. (707) 677-3132.

BALE GRIST MILL SHP

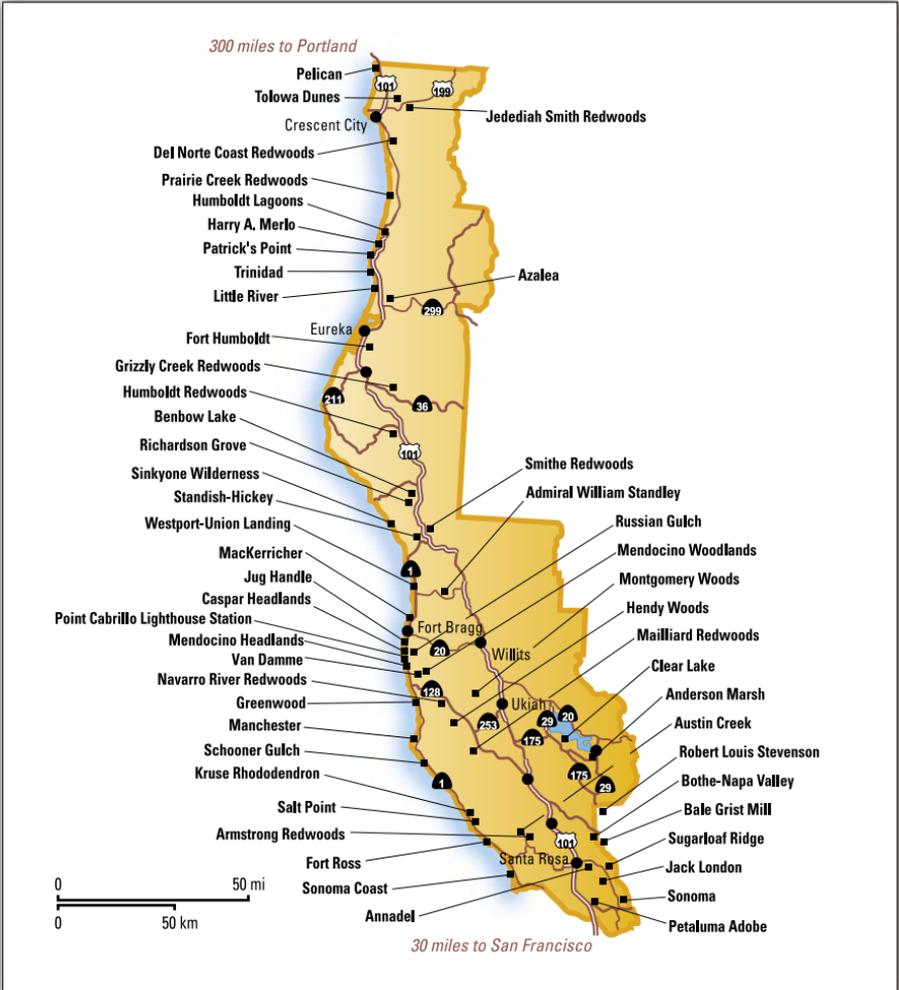
Edward Turner Bale turned Napa Valley's grain into flour on land received via a Mexican grant in the 1840s. The park is open every day; the restored mill, most days. (707) 942-4575.

BENBOW LAKE SRA

Located on the Eel River near the historic Benbow Inn, this park offers accessible camping and picnicking. The day-use area has a seasonal lake for water activities. Benbow hosts a summer arts festival. (707) 247-3318.

BOTHE-NAPA VALLEY SP

This area was home to the Wappo Indians until the 1840s. The park has a seasonal swimming pool and accessible camping, picnicking, visitor center (open weekends) and trails. A horseback riding concession operates during summer and fall. (707) 942-4575.





Hiking into Prairie Creek Redwoods SP

CASPAR HEADLANDS SB & SR

These 2 park units protect about half a mile of sculpted rocks, crashing waves and splashy displays of seasonal wildflowers. The reserve's entry permit can be obtained free of charge at the California State Parks district office 2 miles north of Mendocino at Russian Gulch, east of Hwy. 1 at Pt. Cabrillo Drive. (707) 937-5804.

CLEAR LAKE SP

This park is on the south end of California's third-largest freshwater lake. Fishing for bass, catfish and bluegill is accessible, as are picnicking and camping. Summer brings swimmers and water-skiers to the lake's relatively warm waters. (707) 279-2267.

DEL NORTE COAST REDWOODS SP

Combining spectacular Pacific coastline with dense stands of old-growth redwoods, this park has a campground with accessible campsites and restrooms. (707) 464-6101, ext. 5120.

FORT HUMBOLDT SHP

This outpost, built in the 1850s to settle the conflict between local Native Americans and incoming settlers, is now partially reconstructed and features a historical museum with military and native displays depicting then-common events of the region. The park has a logging museum, exhibits and 2 operational steam engines. (707) 445-6567.

FORT ROSS SHP

Fort Ross was in operation from 1812 to 1841 as a trading outpost for the Russian-American Company. One original and five reconstructed buildings exist within the stockade's walls. A visitor center with accessible restrooms reveals the 3,000-acre park's unique natural and cultural history. The Reef Campground is located 1 mile south of the fort and is open seasonally (no reservations accepted). (707) 847-3286.

GREENWOOD SB

Sea stacks and coastal bluffs make this a classic North Coast park. Once the site of a redwood lumber mill (as seen in the Visitor Center Exhibit), it is now favored by picnickers and anglers. (707) 937-5804.

GRIZZLY CREEK REDWOODS SP

Once the noon stop for stagecoaches, this 399-acre park is a fine place for swimming or fishing in the Van Duzen River and hiking through the redwoods. (707) 777-3683.

HARRY A. MERLO SPA & HUMBOLDT LAGOONS SP

Three lagoons grace these 2 coastal parks. Beachcombing, kayaking, fishing and surfing are popular activities. The lagoons are separated from the ocean by a 200-yard-wide barrier beach. (707) 677-3132.

HENDY WOODS SP

This 850-acre park encompasses more than 100 acres of old-growth redwoods and the Navarro River. Campgrounds have become base camps for travelers visiting the Wine Country. (707) 937-5804.

HUMBOLDT REDWOODS SP

This park includes 17,000 acres of old-growth redwoods and the majestic Avenue of the Giants among its 53,000 acres. Campers can choose from family campsites, environmental sites, trail camps, a hike and bike camp, group and horse camps. (707) 946-2409; www.humboldtredwoods.org.

STEVE CASIMIRO



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JACK LONDON SHP

The *Call of the Wild* author made Sonoma's Valley of the Moon his home in 1905. From his cottage, he wrote short stories, novels and articles while overseeing ambitious agricultural enterprises on what is now 1,400 acres of cultural and historical trails. (707) 938-5216.

JEDEDIAH SMITH REDWOODS SP

This 10,000-acre park with some of the world's tallest old-growth trees was named for Jedediah Smith, who in 1827 became the first white man known to have crossed the coastal range. Accessible group camping and restrooms, hiking trails, river access and fishing are also available. (707) 464-6101, ext. 5112.

JUG HANDLE SR

This reserve offers a firsthand look at 500,000 years of California's geological history. A 2.5-mile self-guided interpretive nature trail leads through 5 terraces uplifted from the sea approximately 100,000 years apart. The lowest terrace still battles ocean waves, the third terrace has a unique pygmy forest and terraces above display a more advanced vegetation. Picnicking and beach access. (707) 937-5804.

KRUSE RHODODENDRON SR

This park, north of Jenner, boasts thickets of sun-loving rhododendrons, which sprang up after the original forest was destroyed by fire. Now, clusters of pink blossoms cover parts of the reserve from April through June. District office (707) 865-2391.

LITTLE RIVER SB

The park's 112 acres of undeveloped expanses of flat sand and low dunes are located on the south side of Little River. (707) 677-3132.

MacKERRICHER SP

Eight miles of beach offer refuge to harbor seals, plus a visitor center, exhibits, fishing and accessible camping and trails. There are 139 developed and 10 walk-in campsites, as well as a horseback riding concession nearby. From December through March, the park's headland is a great place to see migrating whales. (707) 937-5804.

MAILLIARD REDWOODS SR

By redwood park standards, Mailliard Redwoods is quite small, with only 242 acres of old-growth and second-growth forests, but it is a good place in which to escape crowds. (707) 937-5804.

MANCHESTER SP

The San Andreas Fault runs into the ocean at 1,400-acre Manchester State Park in southern Mendocino County. The park offers winter steelhead runs in 2 creeks, habitat for tundra swans, great surf fishing and 5 miles of sandy beach. Primitive camping is available year-round. Efforts are under way to move 18 campsites out of the Point Arena mountain beaver habitat; this will be a temporary inconvenience this coming year. (707) 937-5804.

MENDOCINO HEADLANDS SP

Wind through the picturesque village of Mendocino, just off Hwy. 1, and you will be greeted by headlands that jut into the Pacific Ocean. The park's paths provide ocean vistas, seasonal whale migration viewing and spring-time wildflower displays. The 7,400-acre Big River Unit has a sandy beach, multipurpose redwood forest trails and estuary exploration opportunities for non-motorized watercraft travelers. (707) 937-5804.

MENDOCINO WOODLANDS SP

This 720-acre, year-round retreat lies deep in a peaceful redwood forest 7 miles east of Mendocino's spectacular coastline. Each of its 3 camp areas (for groups only) is equipped with rustic, well-appointed dining and recreation halls, 2- and 4-bedroom cabins and communal restrooms with hot showers and electricity. For reservations call (707) 937-5755.

MONTGOMERY WOODS SR

Remote and beautiful, the reserve's 1,140 acres offer picnicking and a 2-mile nature trail that winds through small yet impressive old-growth stands of redwoods. West of Hwy. 101 in the heart of the Coast Range, it is near the resort of Orrs Springs. (707) 937-5804.

NAVARRO RIVER REDWOODS SP

This 673-acre park parallels the Navarro River and Hwy. 128. Walking paths from the highway to the river are available. There are 2 year-round campgrounds: Paul M. Dimmick, with 25 developed sites, and Navarro Beach, with 10 primitive sites (no water, chemical toilets). Ranger-led canoe trips are offered at Navarro Beach spring through fall. (707) 937-5804.

PATRICK'S POINT SP

Whale watching from high bluffs, wandering miles of beach, exploring tide pools and searching for agates are typical activities at

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A trail ride through the dunes at Sonoma Coast SB



Patrick's Point. Sumeg, a recently constructed Yurok Indian village, offers a look at an ancient and fascinating culture. Accessible camping, picnicking, exhibits and trails. (707) 677-3570.

PELICAN SB

Travel north of Crescent City along California's coastline to find this small, secluded beach, a quiet retreat for beachcombers. Pay close attention, as the road to the beach is easy to miss; take the last road before the agricultural inspection station, 21 miles north of Crescent City on Hwy. 101. (707) 464-6101, ext. 5151.

PETALUMA ADOBE SHP

In the 19th century, General Mariano Guadalupe Vallejo created an agricultural empire on his 66,000-acre Mexican land grant. From 1834 until 1850, Vallejo ran his cattle hide and tallow business, raised sheep, bred horses and grew numerous crops. Part of his two-story adobe headquarters has been restored and outfitted with early California furnishings and ranch equipment. (707) 762-4871.

POINT CABRILLO LIGHT STATION

The preserve occupies a spectacular headland thrusting out into the Pacific Ocean. Park and walk the half-mile down the access road to explore the light station. It comprises the lighthouse, three original lightkeepers' houses, outbuildings, a new visitor center and a museum. The fully restored lighthouse is open Saturdays

and Sundays from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. from the first weekend in March through the last weekend in October. Guided walks in the preserve are available every May through September. Accessible parking is available in front of the light station residences. (707) 937-5804 or www.pointcabrillo.org.

PRAIRIE CREEK REDWOODS SP

Paralleling eight miles of Hwy. 101, 50 miles north of Eureka, this is one of California's most popular redwood parks. Roosevelt elk graze in the open prairie adjacent to the Newton B. Drury Parkway and along much of Gold Bluffs Beach. Along with more than 70 miles of trails, the 14,500-acre park has campsites in Elk Prairie Campground and next to Gold Bluffs Beach. (707) 464-6101, ext. 5301 or 5300 or 5064.

RICHARDSON GROVE SP

Stately old-growth redwood trees line the south fork of the Eel River in this 2,000-acre park named after a former California governor. The park is a traditional destination for vacationing families and offers camping, picnicking, hiking and swimming. The historic lodge building has a visitor center and a nearby self-guided nature trail. (707) 247-3318.

ROBERT LOUIS STEVENSON SP

In 1880 the author of *Treasure Island* spent his honeymoon on the slopes of 4,343-foot Mount St. Helena. Today hikers climb the five-mile trail

to the mountain's summit for spectacular views of Mt. Shasta, Lassen Peak and, on clear days, the distant Sierra Nevada. (707) 942-4575.

RUSSIAN GULCH SP

Mendocino's coast, waterfalls and trails highlight this 1,300-acre park. Waves enter via the "Punch Bowl" tunnel, churning inside a collapsed sea cave. RV and tent camping sites are available, along with a picnic area on the bluffs and beach access. (707) 937-5804.

SALT POINT SP

This 6,000-acre park offers 6 miles of dramatic coastline, with an underwater park that's a favorite of free-divers and scuba enthusiasts. Hike through Bishop pines to see a pygmy forest and prairie, or walk along the bluffs. Campsites and picnic areas available. (707) 847-3221.

SCHOONER GULCH SB

This small beach and headland is for picnicking, beachcombing and surfing. (707) 937-5804.

SINKYONE WILDERNESS SP

Located on the rugged Lost Coast of California, this park has spectacular scenery, abundant wildlife and some 20 miles of hiking trails. There is a primitive campground at Usal Beach and walk-in tent sites at Needle Rock. Access roads are steep, narrow and unpaved; trailers and motor homes are not recommended. (707) 986-7711 or (707) 247-3318.

SMITHE REDWOODS SR

Formerly a private resort, this stand of old-growth redwoods makes a pleasant stopping point for travelers on Highway 101. There is undeveloped access to the Eel River for fishing and swimming. No restrooms. (707) 925-6482.

SONOMA SHP

Sonoma was home of California's last mission, San Francisco Solano, built in 1823. Later it was secularized by the Mexican commander of San Francisco's Presidio, Mariano Guadalupe Vallejo, who was imprisoned by American settlers during 1846's Bear Flag Revolt. (707) 938-9560.

SONOMA COAST SB

Spectacular views, sandy strands and quiet coves invite exploration of 19 miles of coastline. Enjoy picnics, exhibits and accessible trails as well as spring wildflowers and whale-watching. Reservations—call (800) 444-7275—are recommended at the two popular coastal campgrounds: Bodega Dunes (wheelchair accessible) and Wright's Beach. (707) 875-3483.

STANDISH-HICKEY SRA

Located at the southern gateway of the state's redwood country, this park offers camping and hiking in the redwoods, and good access to the south fork of the Eel River for swimming and fishing. (707) 925-6482.

SUGARLOAF RIDGE SP

The park's 2,700 acres offer 25 miles of hiking trails, the headwaters of Sonoma Creek and a horseback riding concession. Clear days bring breathtaking views of the Golden Gate Bridge and the Sierra Nevada from the 2,729-foot-summit of Bald Mountain. In addition, there are accessible picnicking spots, educational exhibits and the Ferguson Observatory to visit. (707) 833-5712 or (707) 938-1519.

TOLOWA DUNES SP

The Smith River ends its journey to the Pacific Ocean after passing through a rich delta that consists of a sandy beach, grass-covered dunes, lakes, ponds and marshes. Coastal accesses are not well signposted. Take Lake Earl Drive, turn west on Lower Lake Road and access the park by turning west on Kellogg or Pala Road. For access from the south, take Northcrest Drive north from Crescent City, turn west on Old Mill Road and follow to the end. (707) 464-6101, ext. 5151.

TRINIDAD SB

Tucked in a secluded cove near the small town of Trinidad, 15 miles north of Arcata, this sandy beach is a pleasant retreat. It's a short hike through woods, across open bluffs and past seasonal wildflowers down to the beach. There is a natural arch near the north end of the beach. Low tide is the best time to visit. (707) 677-3132.

VAN DAMME SP

The park's sheltered and easily reached beach is a gathering place for abalone and sea urchin divers. Ten miles of hiking trails follow the Little River. The park has accessible camping, a visitor center and exhibits, as well as a wheelchair-accessible trail in the pygmy forest. (707) 937-5804.

WESTPORT-UNION LANDING SB

The 41-acre park is a narrow, 2-mile-long strip with primitive camping and beautiful beaches. It is a haven for tidepool explorers, surf anglers, abalone divers and spearfishing enthusiasts. (707) 937-5804.

REGION 1 NORTH COAST	Visitor center	Picnic areas	Food/dining nearby	Lodging nearby	Campsites	Boating supplies	OHV access	RV hookups	Trailer sanitation station	Wi-Fi Access	Bike trails	Boating	Canoeing/kayaking	Camping	Educational exhibits & programs	Family & childrens programs	Guided tours	Fishing	Hiking	Historic sites	Horse trails	Nature viewing	Rafting	Swimming	Surfing	Windsurfing
	PARKS										FACILITIES					ACTIVITIES										
Admiral William Standley SRA																										
Anderson Marsh SHP																										
Annadel SP																										
Armstrong Redwoods SR																										
Austin Creek SRA																										
Azalea SR																										
Bale Grist Mill SHP																										
Benbow Lake SRA																										
Bothe-Napa Valley SP																										
Caspar Headlands SB & SR																										
Clear Lake SP																										
Del Norte Coast Redwoods SP																										
Fort Humboldt SHP																										
Fort Ross SHP																										
Greenwood SB																										
Grizzly Creek Redwoods SP																										
Harry A. Merlo SRA																										
Hendy Woods SP																										
Humboldt Lagoons SP																										
Humboldt Redwoods SP																										
Jack London SHP																										
Jedediah Smith Redwoods SP																										
Jug Handle SR																										
Kruse Rhododendron SR																										
Little River SB																										
MacKerricher SP																										
Mailliard Redwoods SR																										
Manchester SP																										
Mendocino Headlands SP																										
Mendocino Woodlands SP																										
Montgomery Woods SR																										
Navarro River Redwoods SP																										
Patrick's Point SP																										
Pelican SB																										
Petaluma Adobe SHP																										
Point Cabrillo Light Station																										
Prairie Creek Redwoods SP																										
Richardson Grove SP																										
Robert Louis Stevenson SP																										
Russian Gulch SP																										
Salt Point SP																										
Schooner Gulch SB																										
Sinkyone Wilderness SP																										
Smithe Redwoods SR																										
Sonoma SHP																										
Sonoma Coast SB																										
Standish-Hickey SRA																										
Sugarloaf Ridge SP																										
Tolowa Dunes SP																										
Trinidad SB																										
Van Damme SP																										
Westport-Union Landing SB																										

For detailed current information about parks, including reservations, fees and accessibility, visit the website www.parks.ca.gov. For general park information, call (800) 777-0369; campsites reservations (800) 444-7275; OHV operations (916) 324-4442. Other parks in this region may be owned by California State Parks but operated by local authorities.
 SP = State Park; SHP = State Historic Park; SR = State Reserve; SRA = State Recreation Area; SB = State Beach; SVRA = State Vehicular Recreation Area.



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shasta cascade



The grand drama of the Shasta Cascade area combines sleeping volcanoes and an old Chinese temple, ancient lava flows and the ruins of a Gold Rush town. Historic adobes and a 26-room mansion bring home the stories of some of California's great pioneers. Here a verdant park full of coldwater springs vies for attention with 4,000-foot granite spires, and a rich variety of wildlife abounds.

AHJUMAWI LAVA SPRINGS SP

Surrounded by a network of rivers and lakes accessible only by boat, this park northeast of Redding contains abundant springs of cold, clear water, as well as 6,000 acres of waterways, pools and lava flows. (530) 335-2777.

BIDWELL MANSION SHP

Agriculturalist, social activist and politician John Bidwell's 26-room, 10,000-square-foot home dates to the 1860s. (530) 895-6144.

BIDWELL-SACRAMENTO RIVER SP

The park's 260 acres include 4 miles of riverfront and boat launches that serve as an access point for boaters, rafters, canoeists and kayakers. Take Hwy. 32 between Chico and I-5, then turn south one mile on River Road. (530) 342-5185.

CASTLE CRAGS SP

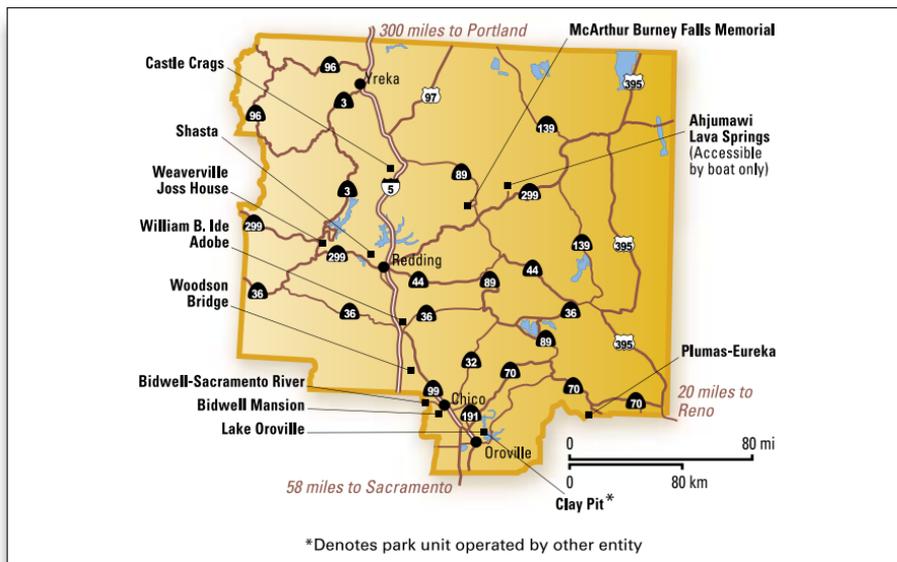
The 4,350-acre park offers views of granite spires towering above the Sacramento River. It has 76 developed campsites. (530) 235-2684.

CLAY PIT SVRA

Clay taken from the Feather River Valley, 3 miles west of Oroville, was used to build Lake Oroville. The resulting depression—a shallow pit ringed with low hills—is the site of this 220-acre recreation area for motorcycles, all-terrain vehicles and dune-buggies. (530) 538-2200.

LAKE OROVILLE SRA

The second-largest reservoir in California features camping, boating, 55 miles of trails, floating campsites and horse camps. (530) 538-2219.





A sunset at Ahjumawi Springs SP

McARTHUR-BURNEY FALLS MEMORIAL SP

Camp to the ambient sounds of 100 million gallons of water flowing over this 129-foot cascade each day—surely one of the most dramatic sites in the region (530) 335-2777.

PLUMAS-EUREKA SP

The 6,700-acre park protects the remains of the Mohawk Stamp Mill and several other buildings. Camp and fish here during summer and cross-country ski in winter. (530) 836-2380.

SHASTA SHP

This park honors the “Queen City of the Northern Mines.” The restored courthouse is

now a museum displaying more than 100 paintings by early California artists. (530) 243-8194.

WEAVERVILLE JOSS HOUSE SHP

The oldest continuously used intact Chinese temple in California, this joss house was rebuilt in 1874 after the first one burned. (530) 623-5284.

WILLIAM B. IDE ADOBE SHP

This scenic park, located next to the Sacramento River, offers a glimpse into pioneer life of 1852. (530) 529-8599.

WOODSON BRIDGE SRA

Acres of valley oak meadows flank the Sacramento River, great for shad, steelhead, striped bass and salmon fishing. (530) 839-2112.

REGION 2 SHASTA CASCADE	FACILITIES														ACTIVITIES												
	Visitor center	Picnic areas	Food/dining nearby	Museum	Lodging nearby	Campsites	Boating access	OHV access	RV hookups	Trailer sanitation station	Wi-Fi Access	Bike trails	Boating	Camping	Canoeing/keytailing	Family & Childrens programs	Educational exhibits & programs	Guided tours	Fishing	Hiking	Historic sites	Nature viewing	Horse trails	Rafting	Swimming	Windsurfing	
Ahjumawi Lava Springs SP																											
Bidwell Mansion SHP																											
Bidwell-Sacramento River SP																											
Castle Crags SP																											
Clay Pit SVRA																											
Lake Oroville SRA																											
McArthur-Burney Falls Mem. SP																											
Plumas Eureka SP																											
Shasta SHP																											
Weaverville Joss House SHP																											
William B. Ide Adobe SHP																											
Woodson Bridge SRA																											

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STEVEN CHRISTIANO

gold country



The excitement of the 1848 gold discovery at Coloma, the Gold Rush that followed and the movement for statehood come to life in this region. Roam the “diggings,” and visit Gold Rush towns to learn about the adventurous men and women who built them. Among the attractions are the Governor’s Mansion, the State Capitol Museum and the State Railroad Museum. Come ride a steam engine through classic Western countryside!

AUBURN SRA

In the heart of gold country, the Auburn State Recreation Area (Auburn SRA) is made up of over 38,000 acres along 40 miles of the North and Middle Forks American River. Once teeming with thousands of gold miners, the area now offers a wide variety of recreational opportunities to nearly a million visitors a year. Major recreational uses include hiking, swimming, boating, fishing, camping, mountain biking, gold panning and off-highway motorcycle riding. Whitewater recreation is also very popular on both forks of the river, with class II, III and IV runs. Nearly 40 private outfitters are licensed to offer whitewater trips in Auburn SRA. (530) 885-4527.

CALIFORNIA STATE CAPITOL MUSEUM

Restored rooms offer fascinating glimpses into California’s turn-of-the-century architecture, society and politics. Free guided tours are given hourly from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. For groups of 10 or more, call toll free (866) 240-4655. Exhibits

and most areas of the Capitol and grounds (including a 40-acre garden) are accessible; assistive hearing devices for tours are available. (916) 324-0333; www.StateCapitolMuseum.com.

CALIFORNIA STATE INDIAN MUSEUM SHP

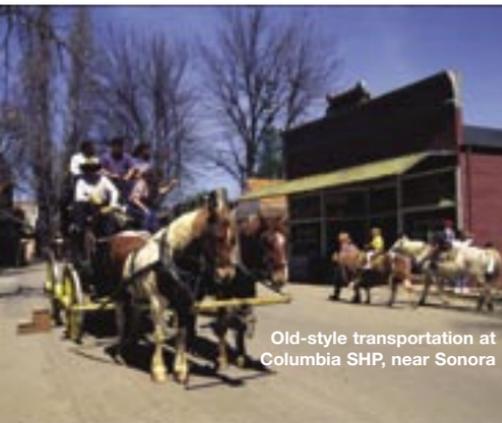
As many as 300,000 Indians lived in California before the arrival of the first Europeans. In addition to a fine collection of cultural artifacts, the accessible museum includes an exhibit that explores the impact of the Gold Rush on California’s indigenous peoples. (916) 324-0971.

CALIFORNIA STATE MINING AND MINERAL MUSEUM

The museum displays California’s official mineral collection, established in the 19th century. Nearly 13,000 specimens make up these treasures of nature. Displays include the Fricot Nugget, the largest crystalline gold specimen surviving from the Gold Rush era, and exhibits that relate the importance of minerals and mining in the past, present and future. Largely accessible. (209) 742-7625.

CALIFORNIA STATE RAILROAD MUSEUM

Tour a swaying Pullman sleeping car. Board a million-pound steam locomotive. Examine beautiful dining car china and enjoy a dazzling display of toy trains at North America’s most popular railroad museum! All-new exhibit galleries help guests appreciate how the railroad and its many individual workers from diverse backgrounds developed California into a trend-setting land of opportunity and helped make America a world power. Exhibits and restrooms are accessible. Steam train rides are available weekends, April through September. (916) 445-6645 or (916) 323-9280; www.californiastaterailroadmuseum.org.



Old-style transportation at Columbia SHP, near Sonora

COLUMBIA SHP

The town of Columbia sprung up quickly to provide services and supplies to the miners who flooded the area after the discovery of gold in March 1850. Today the 6-block historic district tells the story of the merchants who came to California to “mine the pockets of the miner.” Over 20 concessions in the historic district recreate the businesses of the Gold Rush, from saloons to hotels to dry-goods merchants to a candy store. Activities such as gold panning are also available. (209) 588-9128.

DELTA MEADOWS

Delta Meadows preserves a remnant of the Sacramento River Delta as it was before dams and levees controlled the annual flooding. The

440-acre park is most accessible by boat, but vehicle access can be reached between the towns of Locke and Walnut Grove near the Delta Cross Channel via the old railroad bed. Boats may anchor in the Meadows Slough or Railroad Slough for up to 15 consecutive days and no more than 30 days per year. (916) 777-7701.

EMPIRE MINE SHP

Grass Valley was an active gold-mining town for more than 100 years, and its Empire Mine was one of the state’s richest, producing nearly 6 million ounces. The entrance to 367 miles of abandoned and flooded mine shafts is open, along with many mine buildings, the former owner’s home and the formal gardens. (530) 273-8522.



FOLSOM LAKE SRA

Located at the base of the Sierra Nevada gold country, Folsom Lake is one of the most popular recreational lakes in the state. Its 75 miles of shoreline offer beautiful vistas of the Sierra Nevada foothills. Access to more than 32 miles of paved bike/hike paths provides connection to multipurpose trails offering horseback riding, hiking and mountain biking opportunities. Lake Natoma offers 14 miles of shoreline and is ideal for canoeing, kayaking, sailing, fishing and swimming. Group camping by reservation. (916) 988-0205.

FOLSOM POWERHOUSE SHP

To the accompaniment of a 100-gun salute, the Folsom Powerhouse brought electric power to Sacramento in 1895. Fully operational until 1952, it still looks much as it did 100 years ago. The vintage turbines are still in place, as is the marble control switchboard. Accessible restrooms. (916) 988-0205; tours (916) 985-4843.

GOVERNOR'S MANSION SHP

The mansion was built by hardware store merchant Albert Gallatin in 1877. It became the official residence for California's governors from 1903 until 1967, when Ronald Reagan became the last governor to reside in it. Guided tours offer insight into the lives of the families that lived in the mansion. (916) 323-3047.

INDIAN GRINDING ROCK SHP

The park offers camping year round among the pines and oak woodlands where Miwoks once lived. There is a reconstructed village used for celebrations and ceremonies by sev-

eral California Native American communities; the Chaw'se Regional Indian Museum displays Miwok culture. Accessible camping, picnicking, exhibits and video. (209) 296-7488.

LELAND STANFORD MANSION SHP

Sacramento businessman Shelton C. Fogus built this elegant brick home in 1857. Four years later, Leland Stanford, one of the Big Four of the Central Pacific Railroad, and governor of California from 1862 to 1864, purchased the mansion. Stanford expanded and remodeled the home to a 4-story, 19,000 sq.ft. mansion over the next decade. This National Historic Landmark now serves as California's official reception center. (916) 324-7405. www.lelandstanfordmansion.org

MALAKOFF DIGGINS SHP

Though legal battles between mine owners and downstream communities ended the mining technique of using powerful jets of water to wash away the hillsides, the effects are still visible in the 3,000-acre park. Accessible camping, picnicking, exhibits, restrooms and fishing (with assistance). (530) 265-2740.

MARSHALL GOLD DISCOVERY SHP

This park encompasses about 70 percent of the town of Coloma, marking the site where the California Gold Rush started. Monuments tell the story of James Marshall and the fateful day he struck gold on the South Fork of the American River. Visit the Gold Discovery Museum and Research Library, historic blacksmith and gun shops, house museums, one room school, two cemeteries and churches (available for weddings). Gold panning, programs and exhibits teach mining methods and the history of the Gold Rush. Extensive hiking trails, wildlife and picnic areas. (530) 622-3470.

OLD SACRAMENTO SHP

In this registered National Historic Landmark, early Sacramento and California Gold Rush history can be seen in such structures as the Big Four Building, where much of the Transcontinental Railroad was planned, and the B.F. Hastings Building, the western terminus of the Pony Express. (916) 445-6645 or (916) 323-9280; www.californiastaterailroadmuseum.org.

PRAIRIE CITY SVRA

With approximately 850 acres of rolling hills and cobbled mine tailings to ride on, OHMV beginners as well as experts find the variety of terrains, trails and tracks both challenging and enjoyable. Prairie City is located at the base of the Sierra foothills,

The facade of Leland Stanford Mansion SHP



high sierra



Crystal-clear lakes high in the snow country, steaming hot springs and giant sequoias reaching for the clouds—these describe the beautiful High Sierra. This region is also the site of a large gold-mining ghost town, a state historic park used for Native American ceremonies and magnificent Lake Tahoe and eerie Mono Lake, whose 60 square miles of salty, alkaline waters and stark “towers” of tufa tempt photographers.

BODIE SHP

California’s most notorious gold-mining town, Bodie attracted miners, gamblers, prostitutes and hotel operators. Now it’s the best-preserved ghost town in the West. (760) 647-6445.

BURTON CREEK SP

Boasting 2,000 acres of undeveloped forest, meadows and streams, much of the park is open in winter for cross-country skiing. Park: (530) 525-3345. Ski center: (530) 583-5475.

CALAVERAS BIG TREES SP

Two protected groves of giant sequoias provide a mid-Sierra elevation experience in this park located northeast of Stockton. (209) 795-2334.

D.L. BLISS SP

This Tahoe beach offers 2.9 miles of lakefront campsites and trails connecting to the Emerald Bay Trail, as well as the world’s highest-elevation historic lighthouse. (530) 525-9530 or (530) 525-9528.

DONNER MEMORIAL SP

A memorial to the Donner Party’s attempted mountain crossing in 1846–47, the park offers the Emigrant Trail Museum and accessible camping and picnicking. (530) 582-7892.



Sugar Pine Point SP, on Lake Tahoe

EMERALD BAY SP

One of Lake Tahoe’s most-photographed natural attractions, this park offers the Emerald Bay Trail (5.5 miles) and also showcases the Vikingsholm castle, an eclectic combination of Scandinavian architecture. (530) 541-3030 or (530) 525-9528.

GROVER HOT SPRINGS SP

Cross-country skiing and 102-degree mineral spring waters add to this park’s appeal. (530) 694-2248.

KINGS BEACH SRA

Visitors come to swim, bask in the sun and play volleyball at this day-use-only park on the north shore of Lake Tahoe. (530) 546-4212.

LAKE VALLEY SRA

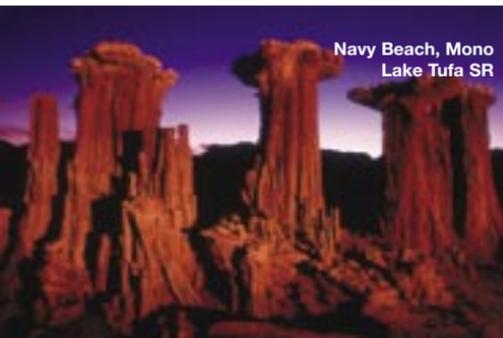
This park offers a championship 18-hole golf course during summer and a snowmobile and cross-country ski area during winter. Golf course: (530) 577-0802.

MONO LAKE TUFA SR

Mono Lake offers spectacular scenery, including unusual tufa formations. The alkaline lake supports large bird populations. (760) 647-6331.

SUGAR PINE POINT SP

Year-round campgrounds provide access to Lake Tahoe beach areas and the Pine Lodge in summer, and cross-country trails in winter. Historic



Navy Beach, Mono Lake Tufa SR

maritime exhibits showcase 1920s boats. (530) 525-7982 or (530) 525-9528.

TAHOE SRA

This 57-acre park offers excellent views of the lake as well as direct access to its shoreline, a historic dam, an Indian basket museum and 26 campsites. (530) 583-3074 or (530) 525-9528.

WASHOE MEADOWS SP

The Washoe tribe of Native Americans fished in this area for thousands of years. The 620-acre park's meadows and forestlands have not been developed. (530) 525-3345.

WASSAMA ROUND HOUSE SHP

This 27-acre park is still used as a ceremonial meeting place; visitors can view the massive wooden round house, the focus of ceremonial activities of local Miwok and Chukchansi. (209) 742-7625.

For detailed current information about parks, including reservations, fees and accessibility, visit the website www.parks.ca.gov. For general park information, call (800) 777-0369; campsite reservations (800) 444-7275; OHV operations (916) 324-4442. Other parks in this region may be owned by California State Parks but operated by local authorities. **SP = State Park; SHP = State Historic Park; SR = State Reserve; SRA = State Recreation Area; SB = State Beach; SVRA = State Vehicular Recreation Area.**



REGION 4 HIGH SIERRA	FACILITIES															ACTIVITIES											
	Visitor center	Picnic areas	Food/dining nearby	Lodging nearby	Campsites	Boating supplies	Boating	Trailer sanitation station	RV hookups	OHV access	Wi-Fi Access	Bike trails	Canoeing/kayaking	Camping	Boating	Family & childrens programs	Educational exhibits & programs	Guided tours	Fishing	Hiking	Historic sites	Nature viewing	Horse trails	Rafting	Swimming	Windsurfing	
Bodie SHP																											
Burton Creek SP																											
Calaveras Big Trees SP																											
D.L. Bliss SP																											
Donner Memorial SP																											
Emerald Bay SP																											
Grover Hot Springs SP																											
Kings Beach SRA																											
Lake Valley SRA																											
Mono Lake Tufa SR																											
Sugar Pine Point SP																											
Tahoe SRA																											
Washoe Meadows SP																											
Wassama Round House SHP																											

san francisco bay area



This region is home to some of the world's most recognizable sights, as well as Big Basin Redwoods State park, California's first state park. Sheltered coves lead to forests traced by hiking and horse trails; northern elephant seals breed on an austere point that also marks the path of a monarch butterfly migration. Lighthouses, oak-studded hillsides, a mountain that surveys 20,000 square miles—it's the San Francisco Bay Area.

ANGEL ISLAND SP

A brief ferry trip from San Francisco, Tiburon, Vallejo or Oakland/Alameda, this former Civil War camp preserves many of its wooden army buildings. It was a jumping-off point for soldiers returning from the World War II Pacific campaigns and later home to a Nike missile base. The island offers campsites, biking and hiking trails, bike rentals and sea kayak tours with breathtaking views. The Immigration Station Museum details the arrival of Asian immigrants. Accessible picnicking, boating, tram tour, exhibits, Cove Café and a van with a lift (call ahead). (415) 435-1915. Tram tours: (415) 897-0715.

AÑO NUEVO SP & SR

This park is set aside to protect a substantial area of the Central Coast Range inland of Año Nuevo Point. Also, this reserve is a gathering area for northern elephant seals. In the breeding

season, December 15 through March 31, access to the reserve is only available via guided walks: (800) 444-4445. In that season, ASL guides and wheelchair-accessible guided walks are offered on weekends only. (650) 879-2033. Accessible picnicking and visitor center (650) 879-0227.

BENICIA SRA

On the Carquinez Strait (where the strait narrows before emptying into San Francisco Bay), the park's grass-covered hillsides and wetlands have become a popular destination for exercise enthusiasts, including runners, cyclists, walkers and inline skaters. (707) 648-1911.

BENICIA CAPITOL SHP

California's early statehood saw a succession of capitals, with Benicia the third before Sacramento became the seat of government. The Capitol's interior has been restored in intricate detail, showcasing mid-19th-century craftsmanship. (707) 745-3385.

BETHANY RESERVOIR SRA

This lake is popular among anglers, windsurfers and cyclists. (209) 599-3810.

BIG BASIN REDWOODS SP

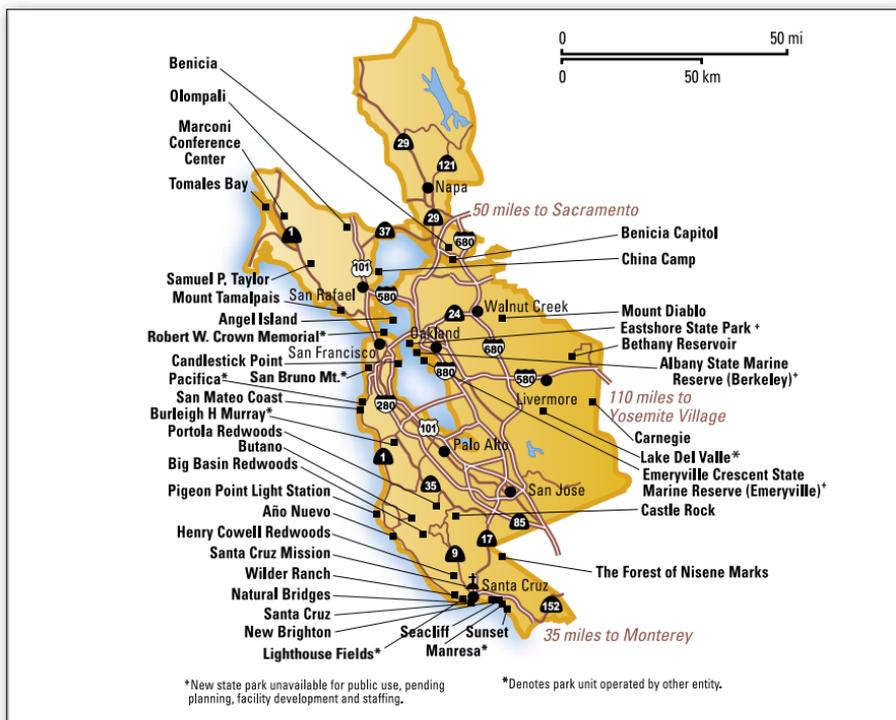
California's oldest state park, established in 1902, has grown to more than 18,000 acres, with more than 80 miles of trails passing among streams, waterfalls and old-growth redwoods. There are 147 developed campsites (some accessible), 5 trail camps, 35 tent cabins and accessible natural and cultural history exhibits. Other accessible features include nature and hiking trails and tent cabins. (831) 338-8860.

BUTANO SP

Located in the Santa Cruz mountains, this park is only 3 miles from the ocean. Trails meander through coastal scrub and redwood forests. The higher mountains afford coastal views.



Winged visitors at Natural Bridges SB



Butano offers 20 developed campsites, as well as 18 walk-in sites. (800) 444-7275. Accessible visitor center. (650) 879-2040.

CANDLESTICK POINT SRA

This popular Bay Area park has many activities to offer—windsurfing, group picnicking and bike riding along the trail. Accessible approach to the pier, fishing platform, picnic area and garden. (415) 671-0145.

CARNEGIE SVRA

With more than 1,500 acres of open area, Carnegie offers a variety of terrain upon which to ride. Characterized by rocky washes, rolling hills and rugged canyons, the park provides a setting for off-highway vehicle users of all skill levels. Carnegie offers a motocross track, an ATV track, a track for younger riders and a 4x4 obstacle course, as well as a campground and picnic area. Carnegie is located in the hills off I-580 between Livermore and Tracy. Day-use hours are from 8 a.m. until sunset, and the park is open 7 days a week. (925) 447-9027.

CASTLE ROCK SP

Stands of coastal redwood, madrone and

Douglas fir are broken by rock formations and views of the coast range to the ocean. More than 33 miles of trails for hikers and equestrians wind through the park. Overnight camping for backpackers. (408) 867-2952 or (831) 338-8861 (for backcountry registration).

CHINA CAMP SP

Site of the Bay Area's last Chinese shrimp-fishing village—dating to the 1880s—this park offers 30 developed walk-in campsites. Visitors come to watch the multitudes of birds and to mountain bike, hike, swim, fish, boat or windsurf. Accessible camping. (415) 456-0766.

THE FOREST OF NISENE MARKS SP

In 1963, the Marks family donated 10,000 acres of second-growth redwood forest to the state. There are several picnic areas, but the only campground is located 6 miles from the nearest parking area. (831) 763-7062 or (831) 763-7063.

HENRY COWELL REDWOODS SP

Enjoy some of the most spectacular redwoods in the Bay Area at this conveniently located park. In wintertime, anglers fish for steelhead and salmon. The nature center, nature trail

campground, gift shop and programs are all accessible. (831) 335-4598.

MARCONI CONFERENCE CENTER SHP

This site was once home to a mile-high radio antenna that controlled ship-to-shore communications for the western seaboard. Historic buildings provide a spectacular setting for walking trails with views of Tomales Bay and its abundant wildlife. (415) 663-9020.

MOUNT DIABLO SP

Some 20,000 square miles of the state—including Lassen Peak, the Farallon Islands and the Sierra Nevada—are visible from this Contra Costa County mountain’s summit on a clear day. The park offers camping as well as day use. Camping reservations recommended. (925) 837-2525.

MOUNT TAMALPAIS SP

The twisting road to the mountain’s 2,571-foot summit is a paradise for hikers and bicyclists. Mountain biking was first tested at Marin’s Mt. Tam in the early 1970s. It has 16 developed walk-in campsites and 10 rustic cabins that perch on a bluff overlooking the Pacific. Accessible picnicking and cabin; annual Mountain Play. (415) 388-2070.

NATURAL BRIDGES SB

Named for picturesque rock formations off its coastal bluffs, the park is world famous for its annual monarch butterfly migration (October to February). Picnicking, nature trail, visitor center and exhibits are accessible. Call for beach wheelchair and tidepool tours. (831) 423-4609.

OLOMPALI SHP

This park was the site of a large Coast Miwok village. Hikers will find excellent opportunities to hike the slopes of Mount Burdell with great panoramic vistas of the Petaluma Basin and hills beyond. Day use only. Accessible picnicking. Visitor center (415) 892-3383.

PIGEON POINT LIGHT STATION SHP

The lighthouse itself is closed for repairs, but the grounds of this historic park are open year round. Docent-lead talks on the history of the lighthouse are offered Friday to Sunday. Docents also present a whale-watching program in the spring. An adjoining hostel is available for overnight accommodations. For information on the lighthouse call (650) 879-2120, Friday–Sunday. For hostel information and reservations call (650) 879-0633 or www.norcalhostels.org.

PORTOLA REDWOODS SP

This state park is covered by Douglas fir, oaks and coastal redwoods, one of which, at 300 feet in height, is among the tallest in the Santa Cruz Mountains. Some campsites. (650) 948-9098.

SAMUEL P. TAYLOR SP

Enjoy open hillsides with hiking, mountain biking and equestrian trails, creeks, canyons and thriving redwoods. Some accessible campsites, 4 group camps, an equestrian camp, accessible picnic area and trail. (415) 488-9897.

SAN MATEO COAST SBs

Between San Francisco and Santa Cruz, travelers are greeted by a series of state beaches: **Gray Whale Cove, Montara, Half Moon Bay, San Gregorio, Pomponio, Pescadero Marsh Nature Preserve** and **Bean Hollow**. Most have parking lots, picnic tables and restroom facilities. Half Moon State Beach has a 52-site campground. Overnight accommodations are also available at the Point Montara Lighthouse hostel. For hostel information: (650) 728-7177 or www.norcalhostels.org. For state beach information: (650) 726-8819.

SANTA CRUZ SBs

Several popular state beaches line this part of the coast. **New Brighton** has swimming, fishing and accessible picnicking and camping. Visitor Center and exhibits are accessible, (831) 464-6330. Call (831) 475-2275 for surf conditions at **Manresa**, where accessible camping is also available. **Twin Lakes** is a popular place for swimming and beach day use, and bird-watching at Schwan Lake is excellent (831) 427-4868.

SANTA CRUZ MISSION SHP

Dating to 1793, this mission was lost to earthquake damage in 1857; the Neary-Rodriguez Adobe, the last building to survive, tells the story. The park has picnic facilities and accessible rest-



The view of San Francisco from Angel Island SP



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rooms and exhibits. (831) 425-5849.

SEACLIFF SB

This long stretch of sand and bluffs has great accessible facilities including an interpretive center, fishing pier, a stranded cement ship and RV-only camping (reservations recommended). Call for beach wheelchair. (831) 685-6500.

SUNSET SB

Pines and dunes protect this beach's accessible campground from stiff breezes. An accessible picnic area is close to surf-fishing and beach day use. Strong currents make swimming hazardous.

Call for beach wheelchair. (831) 763-7062.

TOMALES BAY SP

Featuring sheltered coves, beaches and tidal marshes, this day-use park is great for swimming, windsurfing, hiking and kayaking. Located next to Point Reyes National Seashore, it also offers accessible picnic areas. (415) 669-1140.

WILDER RANCH SP

The ranch offers 31 miles of hiking, biking and equestrian trails through coastal terraces and wooded valleys. Tours and an accessible museum present the history of early dairy ranchers

REGION 5 SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA	PARKS	FACILITIES										ACTIVITIES															
		Visitor center	Picnic areas	Food/dining	Museum	Lodging nearby	Campsites	Boating access	RV access	Trailer sanitation station	Wi-Fi Access	Bike trails	Educational exhibits & programs	Family & childrens programs	Canoeing/kayaking	Camping	Boating	Guided tours	Fishing	Historic sites	Hiking	Nature viewing	Horse trails	Rafting	Swimming	Windsurfing	
Angel Island SP																											
Año Nuevo SP & SR																											
Bean Hollow SB																											
Benicia SRA																											
Benicia Capitol SHP																											
Bethany Reservoir SRA																											
Big Basin Redwoods SP																											
Butano SP																											
Candlestick Point SRA																											
Carnegie SVRA																											
Castle Rock SP																											
China Camp SP																											
Forest of Nisene Marks SP																											
Gray Whale Cove SB																											
Half Moon Bay SB																											
Henry Cowell Redwoods SP																											
Marresra SB																											
Marconi Conference Center SHP																											
Montara SB																											
Mount Diablo SP																											
Mount Tamalpais SP																											
Natural Bridges SB																											
New Brighton SB																											
Olmopali SHP																											
Pescadero SB																											
Pigeon Point Light Station SHP																											
Point Montara Light Station																											
Pomponio SB																											
Portola Redwoods SP																											
Samuel P. Taylor SP																											
San Gregorio SB																											
Santa Cruz Mission SHP																											
Seacliff SB																											
Sunset SB																											
Tomales Bay SP																											
Twin Lakes SB																											
Wildier Ranch SP																											

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San Francisco Recreation & Parks

central coast



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ANDREW MOLERA SP

A river and miles of trails wind through this park. A riding concession lets visitors enjoy the area on horseback. (831) 667-2315.

ASILOMAR SB AND

CONFERENCE GROUNDS®

Located on the Monterey Peninsula, the conference facilities (with lodging) feature historic buildings by architect Julia Morgan. For reservations, call (831) 372-8016 or go to www.VisitAsilomar.com; for the ranger's office, call (831) 372-4076.

CARMEL RIVER SB

This coastal strand, near its namesake town, offers a lagoon, fishing and bird-watching. Beware of the extremely dangerous surf. (831) 624-4909.

CARPINTERIA SB

Named by the Spanish for the Chumash Indians who used the area's tar to seal plank boats, this park offers a mile of swimming beach. Call ahead for a beach wheelchair. (805) 968-1033.

CHUMASH PAINTED CAVE SHP

Bring a flashlight to view this colorful sandstone cave painted by Chumash Indians in the 16th century. (805) 968-1033.

EL CAPITAN SB

Rocky tide pools, a sandy beach, and stands of sycamore and oak make for great swimming, fishing, surfing or beach-going afternoons. Call ahead for beach wheelchair. (805) 968-1033.

EL PRESIDIO DE SANTA BARBARA SHP

Until 1846, this presidio served as the military/government headquarters for lands from Los Angeles to San Luis Obispo. (805) 965-0093.

EMMA WOOD SB

The ruins of a World War II artillery site occupy this popular beach just outside the quiet surf town of Ventura. (805) 968-1033.

ESTERO BAY

This 355-acre parcel consists of grassland-dominated coastal terraces. A recent addition to State Parks, Estero Bay has intertidal areas, wetlands and coastal terraces. (805) 772-7434.

FREMONT PEAK SP

Mountain and astronomical vistas come together with 5 miles of hiking trails. Picnicking, camping and educational programs are also offered. Park information (831) 623-4255 or www.fpoa.net; observatory (831) 623-2465.

GARRAPATA SP

Trails from Big Sur beaches wind through stands of cacti and redwood groves. There are no entrance signs; park at Soberanes Point, seven miles south of Carmel. Garrapata Beach, 11 miles south of Carmel. (831) 624-4909.

GAVIOTA SP

A hot springs, nine miles of trails, a fishing pier and boat hoist are featured at this 2,756-acre park that overlooks the Channel Islands. Call for beach wheelchair. (805) 968-1033.

HEARST CASTLE®

Also known as "Hearst San Simeon SHM," this house museum was the collaboration of



ATV riding at Oceano Dunes SVRA



publisher William Randolph Hearst and architect Julia Morgan. State Parks offers guided tours of the 165 rooms, the art collection and 127 acres of gardens. Wheelchair accessible; tours. Reservations are strongly suggested: (800) 444-4445 or www.hearstcastle.com.

HENRY W. COE SP

A hiker's paradise with over 400 miles of trails and dirt roads. (408) 779-2728.

HOLLISTER HILLS SVRA

The Lower Ranch offers more than 2,400 acres and 64 miles of trails for OHVs. The Upper Ranch, an 800-acre area, is used for OHV events. Open 7 days a week, 24 hours a day; the Upper Ranch is open from 8 a.m. until sunset. The red sticker riding season is October 1 to May 31. (831) 637-3874.

JULIA PFEIFFER BURNS SP

This park encompasses some of Big Sur's most spectacular coastline, including an 80-foot waterfall. Individual environmental campsites provide limited accommodations. (831) 667-2315.

LA PURISIMA MISSION SHP

Founded in 1787, the most completely restored mission includes a visitor center, museum, 3-mile trail and historic buildings. (805) 733-3713.

LIMEKILN SP

This rugged area includes crashing surf, 32 developed campsites—some in the trees along Limekiln Creek and some near the beach—and 3 hiking trails through a redwood forest. (831) 667-2403.

LOS OSOS OAKS SR

This small reserve protects several oak stands dating back 700 years. (805) 772-7434.

MARINA SB

This beach offers surf fishing, kite flying, an accessible boardwalk and accessible hang-gliding conditions. (831) 384-7695.

McGRATH SB

This is one of the state's best bird-watching areas, with over 200 species. Call ahead for beach wheelchair. (805) 968-1033.

MONTAÑA DE ORO SP

This park features more than 8,000 acres of cliffs, pocket beaches, coastal plains, canyons and hills. There are trails for hiking, biking and horseback riding, plus primitive and equestrian campsites. (805) 528-0513 or (805) 772-7434.

MONTEREY SB

Enjoy scuba diving, kayaking, surf-fishing, kite-flying, an accessible boardwalk and volleyball at this park's 3 beaches. While impressive, the dark, churning water is known for its hazardous rip currents. (831) 649-7118 or (831) 649-2976.

MONTEREY SHP

As an early capital under Spanish and Mexican rule, this area is filled with historic buildings and sites that are available for tours. (831) 649-7118.

MORRO BAY SP

This park offers kayaking, boating, fishing, hiking and birdwatching. Docents lead guided tours and school tours. The 18-hole golf course overlooks the Morro Bay estuary. There are campsites for RVs, tents and groups. (805) 772-7434.

MORRO STRAND SB

Windsurfers come for the reliable gusts; fishing enthusiasts come for the catch; everyone else for the beach and the view. The 83-site campground is located behind the low dunes of Morro Bay. (805) 772-7434.

MOSS LANDING SB

This reserve offers great opportunities for bird-watching, but water recreation is hazardous. (831) 649-7118 or (831) 649-2976.

OCEANO DUNES SVRA

Located south of Pismo Beach, this SVRA includes 1,500 acres of open sand dunes for OHV recreation; it's the only state park in California where vehicles may drive and camp on the beach. Reservations: (800) 444-7275 or (805) 473-7220.

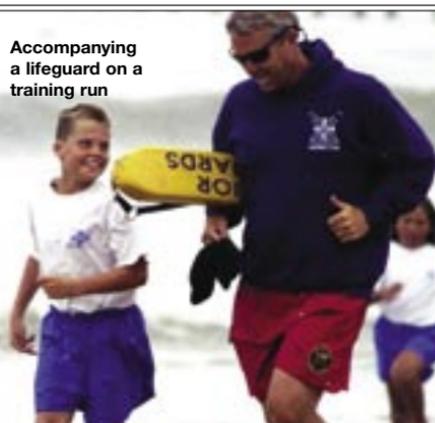
PACHECO SP

This park offers panoramic views of the San Joaquin and Santa Clara valleys. (209) 826-6283.

PFEIFFER BIG SUR SP

The Big Sur River, giant redwoods and coastal

Accompanying a lifeguard on a training run



mountains converge here, providing spectacular camping and hiking. (831) 667-2315.

PISMO SB

This 1,000-acre park along a broad, open beach has two campgrounds as well as a golf course and restaurant. Thousands of monarch butterflies spend the winter here. The Oceano campground has a nature center as well as a freshwater lagoon. Reservations: (800) 444-7275 or (805) 473-7220.

POINT LOBOS SR

Sea lions, harbor seals, gray whales and sea otters make this reserve their home. (831) 624-4909. Scuba diving by reservation only: www.pointlobos.org.

POINT MUGU SP

This park includes the Boney Mountain State Wilderness area and excellent whale watching. Call for beach wheelchair. (818) 880-0350.

POINT SUR SHP

California's only complete turn-of-the-century light station complex open to the public by guided tour. (831) 625-4419.

REFUGIO SB

Palm trees lend a tropical look to the beach's campsites and picnic areas. Call ahead for beach wheelchair. (805) 968-1033.

SALINAS RIVER SB

The park includes protected habitats of snowy plover and other native dune animals and plants. (831) 649-7118 or (831) 649-2976.

SAN BUENAVENTURA SB

Picnic or surf on 2 miles of beach and dunes here. Call for beach wheelchair. (805) 968-1033.

SAN JUAN BAUTISTA SHP

These buildings and exhibits portray the early Mexican and American eras. (831) 623-4881.

SAN SIMEON SP

This park contains the closest campground to Hearst Castle®, and it offers 2 miles of coastline with 3 day-use areas between Cambria and San Simeon. Camping reservations are available from April to September by calling (800) 444-7275, otherwise, they're given out first-come first-serve. (805) 927-2035.

WILLIAM RANDOLPH HEARST MEMORIAL SB

This cove offers ocean kayaking, picnicking and easy beach access. (805) 927-2010.

ZMUODWSKI SB

This park north of Monterey is popular with birders and equestrians. Fishing and hiking are also available. (831) 649-7118 or (831) 649-2976.

REGION 6 CENTRAL COAST	FACILITIES													ACTIVITIES															
	Visitor center	Picnic areas	Food/dining nearby	Museum	Lodging nearby	Campsites	Boating access	OHV access	RV hookups	Trailer sanitation station	Wi-Fi Access	Bike trails	Boating	Canoeing/kayaking	Camping	Family & childrens programs	Educational exhibits & programs	Guided tours	Fishing	Hiking	Historic sites	Nature viewing	Horse trails	Rafting	Swimming	Surfing	Windsurfing		
Andrew Molera SP																													
Asilomar SB and Conf. Gnds.®																													
Carmel River SB																													
Carpinteria SB																													
Chumash Painted Cave SHP																													
El Capitan SB																													
El Presidio de Santa Barbara SHP																													
Emma Wood SB																													
Estero Bay																													
Fremont Peak SP																													
Garrapata SP																													
Gaviota SP																													
Hearst Castle®																													
Henry W. Coe SP																													
Hollister Hills SVRA																													
Julia Pfeiffer Burns SP																													
La Purisima Mission SHP																													
Limekiln SP																													
Los Osos Oaks SR																													
Marina SB																													
McGrath SB																													
Montaña de Oro SP																													
Monterey SB																													
Monterey SHP																													
Morro Bay SP																													
Morro Strand SB																													
Moss Landing SB																													
Oceano Dunes SVRA																													
Pacheco SP																													
Pfeiffer Big Sur SP																													
Pismo SB																													
Point Lobos SR																													
Point Mugu SP																													
Point Sur SHP																													
Refugio SB																													
Salinas River SB																													
San Buenaventura SB																													
San Juan Bautista SHP																													
San Simeon SP																													
Wm. Randolph Hearst Mem. SB																													
Zmudowski SB																													

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central valley



Here in California's agricultural heartland flows a seemingly endless aquatic treasure of rivers, lakes and reservoirs, offering unsurpassed opportunities for recreation. Historic sites include the state's only town founded, financed and governed by African-Americans; a U.S. Army fort from the 1850s; a tule elk reserve; and the last of the early small-town opera houses.

BRANNAN ISLAND SRA

The Sacramento–San Joaquin Delta forms a maze of waterways and islands ideal for wildlife viewing and water sports. The park has 125 campsites, a six-lane boat launch ramp, two day use areas and 32 boat slips. (916) 777-6671 or (916) 777-7701.

CASWELL MEMORIAL SP

Preserving an aquatic habitat of 258 acres of willows, oaks, and cottonwoods, this park shelters an abundance of wildlife. (209) 599-3810.

COLONEL ALLENSWORTH SHP

In 1908, a group of African-Americans, led by

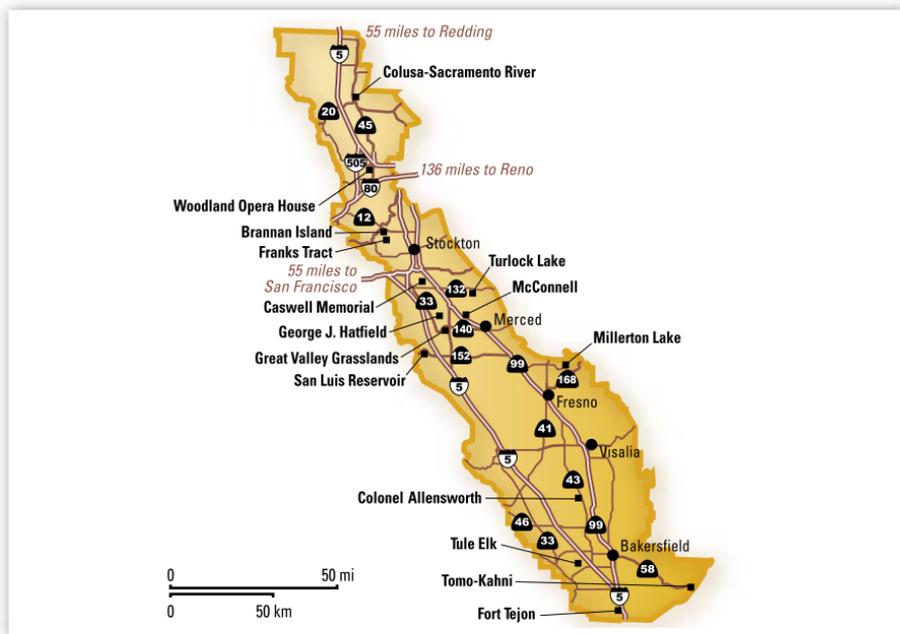
Colonel Allen Allensworth, established a small farming community in the San Joaquin Valley. Today, the town is coming back to life as a state historic park. (661) 849-3433.

COLUSA-SACRAMENTO RIVER SRA

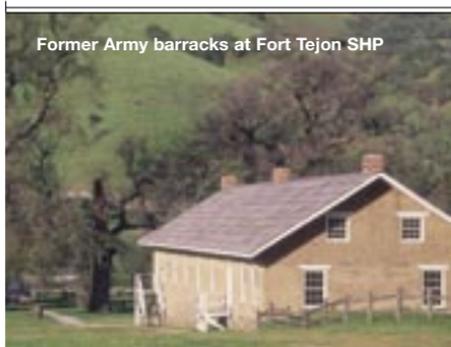
Visitors enjoy educational programs, picnic sites and a launch ramp for boats. Fishing and camping make it ideal for overnight anglers. (530) 458-4927.

FORT TEJON SHP

The Army's 1st U.S. Dragoons established a permanent fort here in 1854, to protect and control Native Americans living in the Sebastian



Former Army barracks at Fort Tejon SHP



Indian Reservation. (661) 248-6692.

FRANKS TRACT SRA

This Sacramento River Delta fishing area is accessed by boat. Call (916) 777-6671 or (916) 777-7701.

GEORGE J. HATFIELD SRA

Oak forests skirt the confluence of the Merced and San Joaquin rivers. (209) 632-1852.

GREAT VALLEY GRASSLANDS SP

This park offers anglers access to the San Joaquin River. (209) 826-1197.

McCONNELL SRA

This area showcases the Merced River's camping, fishing and swimming. (209) 394-7755.

MILLERTON LAKE SRA

In spring, wildflowers carpet the hills; in winter, bald eagles may be spotted from special tour boats. (559) 822-2332.

SAN LUIS RESERVOIR SRA

This area includes three reservoirs with world-class boardsailing, fishing, picnicking, camping and swimming; off-highway vehicle riding at Jasper Sears. Weather: (800) 805-4805; information hotline: (800) 346-2711; park: (209) 826-1196.

TOMO-KAHNI SHP

This 240-acre park offers (guided-only) walking tours of the Nuooah Native American Village Site on spring and fall weekends. Not recommended for small children. (661) 942-0662.

TULE ELK SR

The reserve hosts a herd of elk descended from the 28 introduced in 1895. (661) 764-6881.

TURLOCK LAKE SRA

This area offers campers fishing, boating and picnicking (all accessible) as well as waterskiing. (209) 874-2008 or (209) 874-2056.

WOODLAND OPERA HOUSE SHP

This is the last of the once-numerous opera houses of California's early small towns; open for tours and classes. (530) 666-9617.

REGION 7 CENTRAL VALLEY	FACILITIES										ACTIVITIES															
	Visitor center	Picnic areas	Food/liquor nearby	Museum	Lodging nearby	Campsites	Boating access	RV hookups	Trailer/sanitation station	Wi-Fi Access	Bike trails	Boating	Camping	Canoeing/kayaking	Family & children's programs	Educational exhibits & programs	Guided tours	Fishing	Hiking	Historic sites	Nature viewing	Horse trails	Rafting	Swimming	Windsurfing	
Brannan Island SRA																										
Caswell Memorial SP																										
Colonel Allensworth SHP																										
Colusa-Sacramento River SRA																										
Fort Tejon SHP																										
Franks Tract SRA																										
George J. Hatfield SRA																										
Great Valley Grasslands SP																										
McConnell SRA																										
Millerton Lake SRA																										
San Luis Reservoir SRA																										
Tomo-Kahni SHP																										
Tule Elk SR																										
Turlock Lake SRA																										
Woodland Opera House SHP																										

GARY CRABBE

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los angeles county



This area is rich in natural and cultural significance, from acres of high-desert wildflowers to museums devoted to local Native American cultures; from surfing beaches made famous in Hollywood movies to an adobe built by the last Mexican governor of California. Wild places and canyonlands abound within minutes of the homes of millions, and the climate invites outdoor adventure.

ANTELOPE VALLEY CALIFORNIA POPPY RESERVE SR

From mid-March to mid-May, fresh rains transform this 1,780-acre reserve from a parched, high-desert landscape to fields of golden poppies and other wildflowers. Accessible 200-foot pathway, exhibits, restrooms and picnicking. Located on Lancaster Road (Ave. I), 15 miles west of Hwy. 14 near Lancaster. (661) 724-1180 or (661) 942-0662.

A quiet strand at El Matador SB



ANTELOPE VALLEY INDIAN MUSEUM SHP

Built on the rocks of Piute Butte, this museum features California, Great Basin and Southwest American Indian cultures. Open weekends from mid-September through mid-June. Limited accessibility due to the historic construction at the museum. On East Avenue M, between 150th Street East and 170th Street East, about 20 miles east of Lancaster. (661) 942-0662.

ARTHUR B. RIPLEY DESERT WOODLAND SP

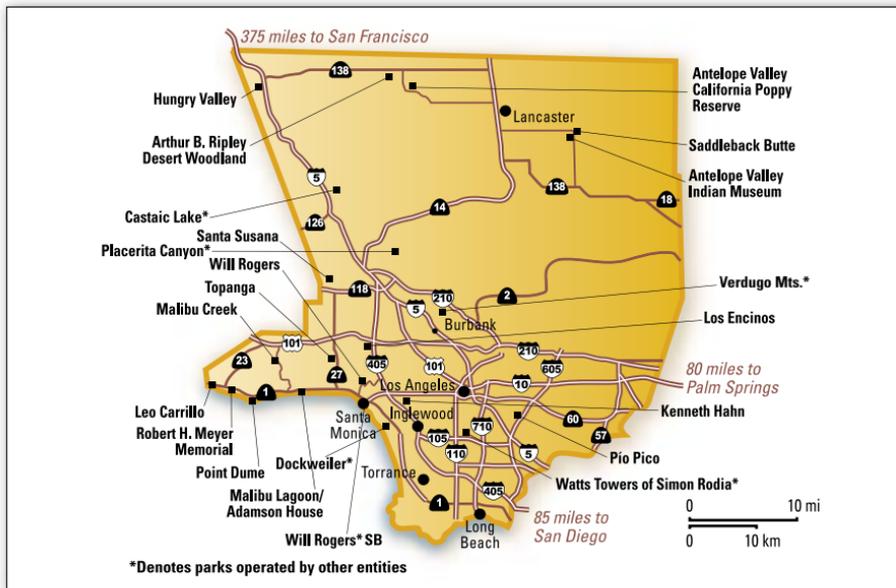
This 560-acre woodland preserves fine examples of California juniper and Joshua trees. On the north side of the park off Lancaster Road, visitors may take a self-guided walk on the nature trail. Located five miles west of the Antelope Valley California Poppy Reserve; access the park via Lancaster Road (Ave. I), 19 miles west of Lancaster. (661) 942-0662.

HUNGRY VALLEY SVRA

Hungry Valley includes more than 20,000 acres, with 2,000 acres of open riding area and 130 miles of trails. Enjoy the Quail Canyon motocross track, adjacent to the park and accessed by a separate entrance gate for an extra fee. Features include a four-wheel-drive obstacle course, a practice track for 90cc (or smaller) motorcycles and ATVs and a new mile-long motorcycle-only practice track. There are spectacular wildflower displays in spring with ranger-guided tours on weekends. The park is located off I-5 at Gorman, 60 miles north of Los Angeles. Open 24 hours a day, seven days a week. (661) 248-7007.

KENNETH HAHN SRA

This park offers picnic and play areas, two fishing lakes, a manmade stream and hiking trails.



Its Olympic Forest holds one tree for each of the 140 nations that participated in the 1984 games in Los Angeles. The area was also the site of the 1932 Olympic Village. Located at 4100 S. La Cienega Blvd. in Baldwin Hills. (323) 298-3660.

LEO CARRILLO SP

Named for a state parks advocate and celebrity descended from the original Californians, this beach and canyon park offers such activities as tidepooling, swimming, windsurfing and hiking. Giant sycamores shade the campground. Accessible camping, picnicking, partial pathway, beach wheelchair and restrooms. Located about 25 miles west of Santa Monica on Hwy. 1. (310) 457-8143.

LOS ANGELES SHP

Formerly known as "The Cornfields," this inner-city rail yard of yesteryear has seen an amazing

transformation from an empty industrial lot to a vibrant park-in-the-making with community gatherings, special events and vast living art displays. Located next to Chinatown and Dodger Stadium, via Spring Street off the 100 Hwy., this open space will have ever developing displays and tours in the coming years.

LOS ENCINOS SHP

In 1769, Spanish explorer Captain Gaspar de Portolá stopped at a natural spring that had attracted Native Californians to the San Fernando Valley for centuries. De La Ossa Adobe, which dates from 1849, is the centerpiece of the park, as it was for the 4,460-acre Rancho El Encino. Basque rancher Eugene Ganier made other major improvements to the ranch, including the construction of the two-story limestone structure in the late 1800s. Living history days occur every third Sunday of the month, except in December. Accessible picnicking and restrooms. The park is located at 16756 Moorpark St. in Encino. (818) 784-4849.

MALIBU CREEK SP

This 8,000-acre park in the Santa Monica Mountains includes land once owned by 20th Century Fox; TV and movie productions such as *M*A*S*H* and *Planet of the Apes* were filmed here. The park offers hiking, equestrian and mountain biking trails. Tapia Park, a



ATV riding at Hungry Valley SVRA



A Joshua tree at Saddleback Butte SP

recent addition, is ideal for day use. There are 60 campsites and one group site. Accessible camping, restrooms and a visitor center. The entrance is at 1925 Las Virgenes Rd., south of Hwy. 101 in Calabasas. (818) 880-0367.

MALIBU LAGOON SB & ADAMSON HOUSE

Museum exhibits cover the Native American period through the mid-20th century, when Rancho Malibu was a 22-mile-long private coastal domain. The 1930 Adamson House has tours available Wednesday through Saturday 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Call (310) 456-8432. Enjoy nature trails, bird-watching, tide pools, surfing and picnicking on the west side of Malibu Creek Bridge. From Santa Monica, follow the Coastal Hwy. west to 23200 Pacific Coast Hwy. (818) 880-0367.

PÍO PICO SHP

Pío Pico was the last governor of Mexican California, and the adobe home he built on what was El Ranchito, his 8,894-acre ranch, is now

the focus of this five-acre state park. Located in Whittier, west of I-605 at Pioneer and Whittier boulevards. (562) 695-1217.

POINT DUME SB

This undeveloped 32-acre beach and natural preserve is a small park with significant resources. It is the southern limit for a rare flowering plant, the giant coreopsis, and has an excellent view of the annual gray whale migration. Two miles of scenic trails traverse grasslands, southern coastal bluff scrub and sand dune/coastal strand communities. Shuttle service available from Westward Beach Road. An accessible pay parking lot at Westward Beach just off Hwy. 1 gives access to a trail to the top of the bluff. (310) 454-8212.

ROBERT H. MEYER MEMORIAL SBs

The incredibly scenic “pocket” beaches of **El Matador**, **La Piedra** and **El Pescador** are great for sunbathing, photography, surfing, swimming and diving. Parking is on the bluff, and the beaches are accessed by long descending staircases and trails. Located about 22 miles west of Santa Monica on Hwy.1, these beaches are within one mile of each other. Call (818) 880-0367.

SADDLEBACK BUTTE SP

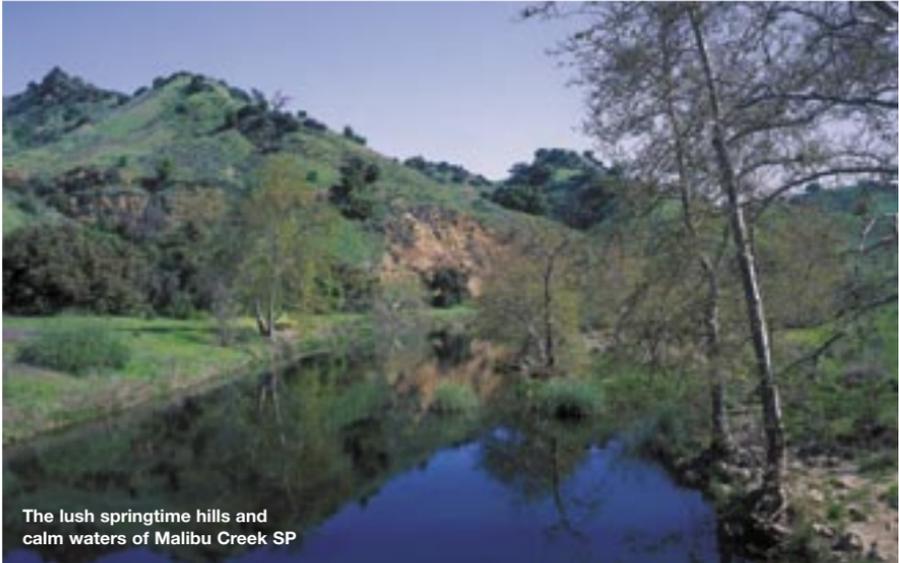
This 3,651-foot-high butte, standing 1,000 feet above the valley floor, offers spectacular views. The primitive campground at this 3,000-acre park has limited accessibility. The park offers camping, picnicking and hiking in a unique botanical Joshua tree plant community. The park entrance is on East Ave. J and 170th St., 17 miles east of Lancaster. (661) 942-0662.

SANTA SUSANA PASS SHP

This 670-acre historic park offers panoramic views of the rugged natural landscape as a striking contrast to the communities nearby from its networking trails. The park is approximately one mile south of Hwy. 118. Follow Topanga Canyon Boulevard south and turn right on Devonshire to park entrance. (818) 784-4849.

TOPANGA SP

More than 11,000 acres of the Santa Monica Mountains are preserved in this park. Hikers enjoy 36 miles of trails; mountain bikers are restricted to fire roads. The vast majority of the park is located entirely within the boundaries of the city of Los Angeles. Accessible parking. The park’s entrance is on Entrada Road, off of



The lush springtime hills and calm waters of Malibu Creek SP

Topanga Canyon Boulevard, eight miles south of U.S. 101. (310) 455-4196.

WILL ROGERS SHP

Humorist Will Rogers made his home here in the 1920s and '30s. His love of horses shows in

the park's stables, riding and roping rings and polo field (weekend matches still take place). Accessible visitor center. The park sits on 186 acres in Pacific Palisades, at 1501 Will Rogers State Park Rd. (310) 454-8212.

REGION 8 LOS ANGELES COUNTY		Visitor center	Picnic areas	Food/dining nearby	Museum	Lodging nearby	Campsites	Boating access	RV hookups	OHV access	Trailer sanitation station	WiFi Access	Bike trails	Boating	Camping	Canoeing/kayaking	Educational exhibits & programs	Family & childrens programs	Guided tours	Fishing	Hiking	Historic sites	Horse trails	Nature viewing	Rafting	Swimming	Windsurfing	
		FACILITIES											ACTIVITIES															
PARKS																												
Antelope Valley CA Poppy Res.			•	•																		•	•			•		
Antelope Valley Indian Mus. SHP			•	•	•																	•	•			•		
Arthur B. Ripley Desert Wood. SP				•																			•				•	
Hungry Valley SVRA			•	•			•	•	•		•											•						
Kenneth Hahn SRA			•	•			•	•																•				
Leo Carrillo SP			•	•				•	•			•	•									•	•				•	•
Los Angeles SHP				•			•	•														•						
Los Encinos SHP			•	•			•	•														•						
Malibu Creek SP			•	•	•	•	•	•	•				•	•								•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Malibu Lagoon SB/Adanson Hse.			•	•	•	•	•	•					•	•								•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Pio Pico SHP				•																		•						
Point Dume SB							•	•														•	•					
Robert H. Meyer Memorial SBs				•																			•	•				•
Saddleback Butte SP			•	•			•	•	•			•											•	•				
Santa Susana Pass SHP							•	•														•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Topanga SP			•	•			•	•														•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Will Rogers SHP			•	•	•	•	•	•					•									•	•	•	•	•	•	•

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FRANK S. BALTHIS

orange county



Broad, level expanses of sand make this part of California a beach-lover's paradise. Dramatic cliffs frame the antics of swimmers, divers and beachcombers, while nature preserves draw those who enjoy watching birds. Visitors flock here for wooded canyons threaded by bike trails and a small beach community established in the 1920s.

CRYSTAL COVE SP

This 2,800-acre park has wooded canyons, open bluffs and more than three miles of Pacific coastline. Swimmers, surfers and sunbathers congregate on the beach. Accessible picnicking, restrooms, paved pathway, a boardwalk, overnight beach cottage rentals and environmental/primitive campsites. The park is located off Route 73 or Pacific Coast Hwy. between Corona del Mar and Laguna Beach. (949) 494-3539.

DOHENY SB

This 62-acre park has 120 developed campsites, some only steps from the beach. Many campsites (some accessible) are within walking distance of picturesque Dana Point Harbor and only four miles from San Juan Capistrano Mission. The south day-use area is popular for beach parties and campfires, and large groups

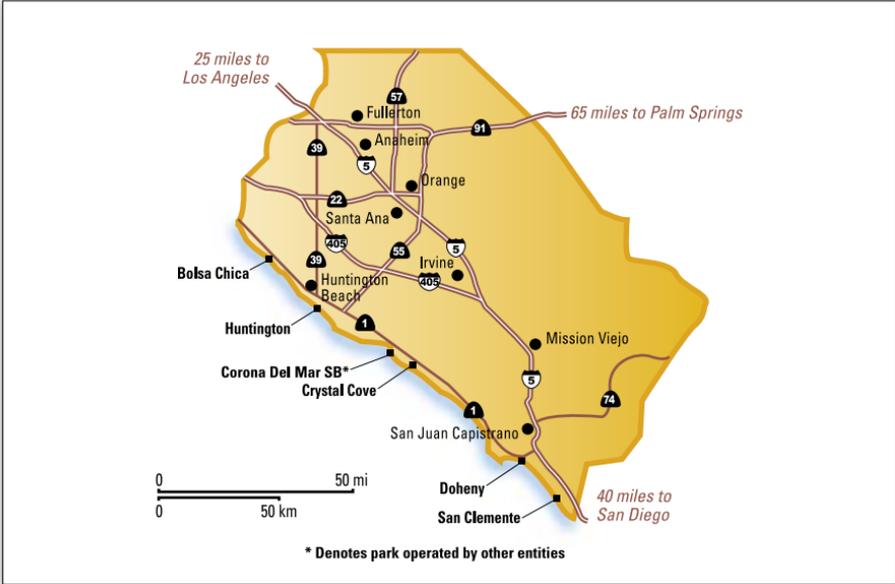
can enjoy the shaded beach areas of the north day-use area. Accessible picnicking, visitor center, indoor tidepool, aquariums, food service and beach wheelchair. The entrance is on Dana Point Harbor Dr., off Pacific Coast Hwy. in Dana Point. (949) 496-6171 or (949) 492-0802.

HUNTINGTON AND BOLSA CHICA SBs

These wheelchair-accessible beaches (call ahead to use the wheelchairs) are connected by a bike trail. Together, they form five miles of sandy beach. Bolsa Chica, off Pacific Coast Hwy., about one mile south of Warner Avenue, has camping for self-contained vehicles only; picnicking, restrooms and food service are accessible at both of the beaches. (714) 846-3460. Huntington, opposite Magnolia Avenue on the PCH, contains a 7.5-acre preserve for the least tern and snowy plover. (714) 536-1454.

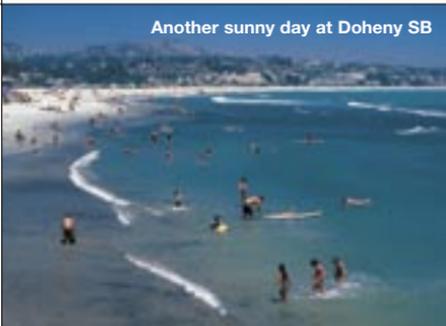


Cottages at Crystal Cove SP Historic District are ready for guests this summer.



SAN CLEMENTE SB

San Clemente is a camping park along a scenic stretch of California coast that evokes the Golden Era of the 1920s. There are 157 campsites, of which 72 offer RV hookups. Trails lead to a mile of beach that is popular with surfers, bodysurfers and swimmers. Accessible camping, restrooms, picnicking, trail and exhibits. Call ahead to use the beach wheelchair. Entrance via the Avenida Calafia exit off I-5 near the south end of San Clemente. (949) 492-3156.



Another sunny day at Doheny SB

REGION 9 ORANGE COUNTY	Visitor Center	Picnic areas	Food dining	Museum	Lodging nearby	Campsites	Boating access	RV hookups	WiFi Access	Bike trails	Boating	Canoeing/kayaking	Camping	Guided tours	Fishing	Historic sites	Hiking	Nature viewing	Horse trails	Rafting	Swimming	Windsurfing	
	PARKS											FACILITIES						ACTIVITIES					
Bolsa Chica SB																							
Crystal Cove SP																							
Doheny SB																							
Huntington SB																							
San Clemente SB																							

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san diego county



The sandstone bluffs, gentle surf and wide sandy beaches of this region offer great recreation—swimming, surfing, surf fishing and strolling on the beach. This is also a place of historic battlefields, lively celebrations of the Mexican and Californian era, important natural preserves and access to a world-class observatory at Palomar Mountain.

BORDER FIELD SP

At this beach, an obelisk set into the fence marks the international boundary between Mexico and the U.S. that was established in 1848. Accessible picnicking, parking and restrooms. The visitor center is located three miles north in Imperial Beach. (619) 575-3613.

CARDIFF SB

This mile-long stretch of beach has some of the most popular surfing breaks in the United States including the famous Cardiff Reef and the popular tidepools of Seaside Reef to explore at low tide. Accessible restrooms are available and beachgoers will appreciate the convenient, accessible parking. The park is located at the

south end of the city of Encinitas on South Coast Highway 101, south of Chesterfield Ave. (760) 753-5091.

CARLSBAD SB

This 14-acre, 1.5-mile beach is located at the foot of coastal bluffs at the north end of the city of Carlsbad. The beach is popular with swimmers, surfers, kayakers, skin divers, anglers and picnickers. Carlsbad SB includes Tamarack Surf Park, a popular "surfing only" beach 1/4 of a mile long that is closed to swimming from June 15 through Labor Day. Accessible picnicking. From I-5, exit Tamarack Ave., west to the beach. For camping, however, go a few miles to South Carlsbad. (760) 438-3143.



The Broken Hill Trail
at Torrey Pines SR



CUYAMACA RANCHO SP

This inland park covers 24,577 acres of meadows and woodlands at elevations ranging from 3,000 feet to over 6,000 feet. Cuyamaca Rancho offers some of the best equestrian, mountain biking and hiking opportunities in the entire state of California. Green Valley Campground has a creek running through it, and Paso Picacho Campground is only two miles from Lake Cuyamaca. The park is located on Hwy. 79, approximately 50 miles east of San Diego. (760) 765-0755.

OLD TOWN SAN DIEGO SHP

This historic park pays tribute to the converging cultures that transformed San Diego from a Mexican pueblo into a frontier American town. Restored and reconstructed buildings line a central plaza and are utilized as museums, exhibits, shops and restaurants capturing the energy of Old Town between the years of 1821 and 1872. The park offers a glimpse into the lifestyles, economy and architecture of early California. Accessible restrooms are located within the park and accessible parking along the perimeter of the park. Parking available

off Pacific Highway near Taylor St., and walk through the tunnel to the park. (619) 220-5422.

PALOMAR MOUNTAIN SP

This 1,897-acre park has spectacular views of the Pacific Ocean from its forested vantage point. Visitors can enjoy picnicking, hiking and fishing here as well as accessible camping, restrooms, parking and a campfire center.



Sunset surf on the La Jolla Coastline

Located off Hwy. 76, up Hwy. S6, then left on Hwy. S7 State Park Road at the junction near the peak. (760) 742-3462.

SAN ELIJO SB

San Elijo is a prime camping location, with excellent surfing breaks and 1.5-mile long beach with numerous tidepools accessible at low tide. Accessible camping and restrooms. From I-5, take Encinitas Blvd. west, then south on South Coast Highway, about three miles. (760) 753-5091.

SAN ONOFRE SB

San Onofre is a 3,000-acre park with two campgrounds, The Bluffs and San Mateo. The Bluffs campground is located on Basilone Road and has 173 campsites, with beach access to threemiles of unspoiled coastline popular with those who wish to surf and sunbathe. Dogs allowed in certain areas; there are no hot showers. The San Mateo Campground is located one mile east of I-5 on Cristianitos Road and has 65 campsites that offer water and electric hookups, showers, campfires and 90 campsites. There is a 1.5-mile trail that leads to Trestles Beach, one of the most well-known surf breaks in Southern California. Accessible camping, parking and restrooms. (949) 492-4872.

SAN PASQUAL BATTLEFIELD SHP

This site commemorates the bloodiest battle fought in California, during the Mexican war.



An evening paddle at Carlsbad SB

REGION 10 SAN DIEGO COUNTY	Visitor center	Picnic areas	Food/dining	Museum	Lodging nearby	Campsites	Camping nearby	Boating access	Boating	Trailer sanitation station	RV hookups	OHV access	Wi-Fi access	Bike trails	Canoeing/kayaking	Camping	Boating	Family & childrens programs	Educational exhibits & programs	Guided tours	Fishing	Hiking	Historic sites	Horse trails	Nature viewing	Rafting	Surfing	Windsurfing	
	PARKS			FACILITIES										ACTIVITIES															
Border Field SP																													
Cardiff SB																													
Carlsbad SB																													
Cuyamaca Rancho SP																													
Old Town San Diego SHP																													
Palomar Mountain SP																													
San Elijo SB																													
San Onofre SB																													
San Pasqual Battlefield SHP																													
Silver Strand SB																													
South Carlsbad SB																													
Torrey Pines SB																													
Torrey Pines SR																													

For detailed current information about parks, including reservations, fees and accessibility, visit the website www.parks.ca.gov. For general park information, call (800) 777-0369; campsite reservations (800) 444-7275; OHV operations (916) 324-4442. Other parks in this region may be owned by California State Parks but operated by local authorities.

SP = State Park; SHP = State Historic Park; SR = State Reserve; SRA = State Recreation Area; SB = State Beach; SVRA = State Vehicular Recreation Area.

On December 6, 1846, the Army of the West, led by General Stephen Watts Kearny, engaged Mexican soldiers led by Major Andres Pico. The battle took place in the San Pasqual Valley, now the site of the park museum and home of San Diego Archeology Center. Park facilities include a historic museum, trails, parking, picnic tables and an amphitheater. The park is located on Highway 78, at 15808 San Pasqual Valley Rd. in Escondido, 1.25 miles east of San Diego Wild Animal Park. Limited hours; call for availability. (760) 737-2201.

SILVER STRAND SB

This stretch of sandy beach separates the San Diego Bay from the Pacific Ocean. Nestled between natural dunes, surrounded by endangered plants and wildlife species, enjoy swimming, surfing, windsurfing, fishing, hiking, picnicking or just building a sandcastle. There are nature trails, an overnight campground for recreational vehicles (self-contained motorhome or trailer only), and a new Aquatics Center specializing in instructional classes for select water sports. (619) 435-5184.

SOUTH CARLSBAD SB

Staircases lead down to the beach at this 110-acre park located at the south end of the city

of Carlsbad. Visitors can swim, fish, picnic, skin-dive and surf. Its 222 developed, bluff-top campsites (some accessible) are busy year round. Beach access from the campground via accessible stairs or a 220-ft. paved path. The south end of the beach includes a stretch dubbed "South Ponto Beach," which is a popular surfing break and the location of the very popular summertime Junior Lifeguard Program. From I-5, take the Palomar Airport Road exit west to Carlsbad Blvd. south. (760) 438-3143.

TORREY PINES SR & SB

These adjacent park units cover over 1,700 acres of beach, marsh and coastal bluffs. Hiking trails take in the picturesque pine trees (which grow only here and on Santa Rosa Island, off Santa Barbara), eroded bluffs and a gloriously undeveloped set of sandy beaches. Torrey Pines State Beach itself is over four miles long. The north end of this beach is very accessible with two large parking lots and is extremely popular for those that wish to surf, swim, picnic and sunbathe. Accessible parking, restrooms and visitor center (at reserve). Reserve entrance on North Torrey Pines Road (Hwy. S21) as it parallels I-5, south of Del Mar. (858) 755-2063.

Early morning calm in
Old Town San Diego SHP



inland empire



Majestic mountains and rugged desert-like hillsides surround this region. Four granite-bound peaks more than 10,000 feet high and two lakes are home to a great diversity of plant and animal life, including both bald and golden eagles. Miles of hiking, mountain biking and equestrian trails wind through this area of abundant recreational opportunities.

CALIFORNIA CITRUS SHP

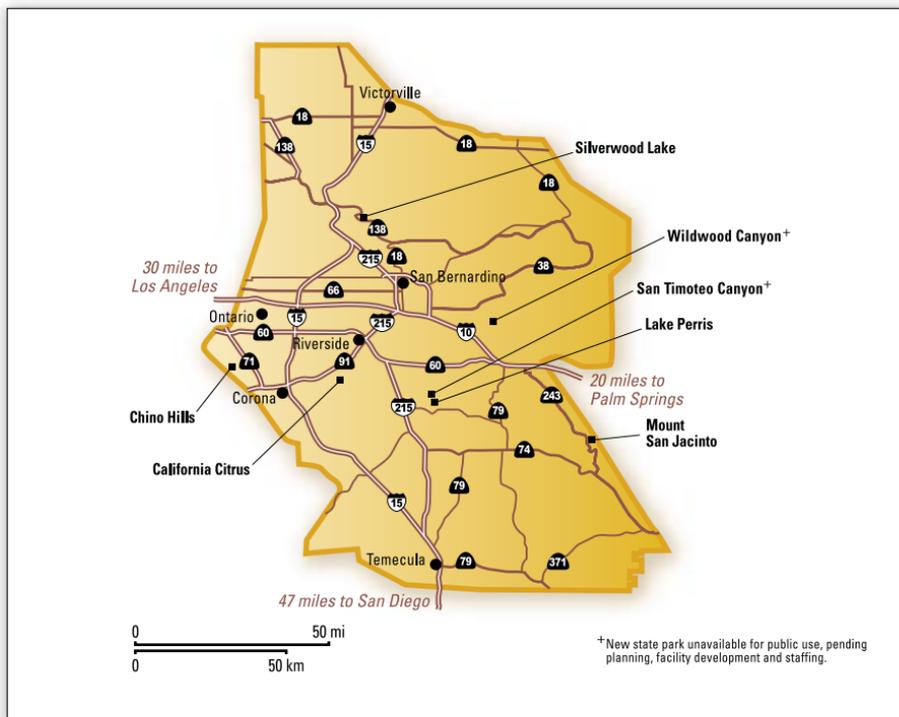
Patterned after an early 1900s city park, this 400-acre historic site evokes the days when the word "California" meant oranges (and other easy-to-grow produce) to the rest of the world. The importance of the citrus industry is recognized here with an amphitheater, a visitor center and interpretative groves. Accessible restrooms, picnicking and visitor center. Guided tours are also offered. Located in Riverside, one mile east of Hwy. 91. (951) 780-6222.

CHINO HILLS SP

In the golden hills north of Santa Ana Canyon near Riverside lies an undeveloped, 12,000-acre park. Its 55 miles of trails running through stands of oaks and sycamores and its rolling grasslands welcome hikers, mountain bikers and equestrians alike. (951) 780-6222.

LAKE PERRIS SRA

This 8,800-acre park has a stunning lake amid imposing rock formations. Recreational activities include, but are not limited to, boating, camping,



fishing, swimming, hiking, rock-climbing and picnicking. In addition, Lake Perris offers a variety of interpretive programs from May through September and hosts the “Lights on the Lake” Christmas boat parade in December. Visitors can enjoy 167 tent campsites and 265 paved sites with RV hookups. Located 11 miles east of Riverside via Hwy. 60, or I-215. (951) 657-0676.

MOUNT SAN JACINTO SP

Hikers and backpackers may roam this vast and rugged 13,700-acre park, which boasts four mountain peaks above 10,000 feet. Wildlife abounds, including lizards, birds, deer and coyotes. ADA campsites are available in both campgrounds. There are 32 developed campsites in the Idyllwild Campground, with hot showers and flush toilets. Stone Creek Campground has 50 developed sites, vault toilets and fresh drinking water. All sites have picnic tables and fire rings. In this state wilderness, the 48 campsites in four primitive camping areas are not reachable by car. Wilderness permits are required for day hikers, and camping permits are required for backpackers. The park can be reached from the mountains via Hwy. 243 or from the desert side via the Palm Springs Aerial Tramway (fee), which takes visitors to the Mountain Station at 8,500 feet. (951) 659-2607 or (760) 327-0222.

SILVERWOOD LAKE SRA

The lake is the highest reservoir in the California State Water Project and offers boating, water-skiing, fishing, swimming and a full service marina to include slip rentals as well as rental fishing



The entrance to California Citrus SHP

boats, personal watercraft, kayaks and paddle boats. The surrounding park has several miles of hiking and biking trails. Numerous picnic areas and a visitor center are available. There are 136 sites in the developed campground, with accessible showers and restrooms. Bald eagles winter in the park, giving visitors the rare opportunity to see this national symbol in its natural environment. Guided eagle tours are offered (reservations are recommended). Other animal sightings may include coyotes, black bears, bobcats and deer. Call the park for more information. (760) 389-2303 or (760) 389-2281.

REGION 11 INLAND EMPIRE	FACILITIES															ACTIVITIES													
	Visitor center	Plastic tables	Food/drink nearby	Museum	Lodging nearby	Campsites	Boating	Boating supplies	OHV access	RV hookups	Trailer sanitation station	WiFi Access	Bike trails	Boating	Camping	Canoeing/kayaking	Educational exhibits & programs	Family & childrens programs	Guided tours	Fishing	Historic sites	Hiking	Nature viewing	Horse trails	Rafting	Swimming	Windsurfing		
California Citrus SHP																													
Chino Hills SP																													
Lake Perris SRA																													
Mount San Jacinto SP																													
Silverwood Lake SRA																													

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deserts



More than just a hot, arid environment, this region is rich with colorful geological formations, badlands, fan-palm oases, hardy flora and fauna, riparian wetlands toward the eastern Sierra, spring wildflowers, mile-high peaks, spectacular limestone caverns and an “accidental” saltwater lake. Here, rare and endangered species get a chance at survival, and visitors learn about the desert’s fragility.

ANZA-BORREGO DESERT SP®

At 600,000 acres, Anza-Borrego is the state’s largest and oldest desert park. Assistive listening devices are available at the visitor center only. Accessible camping, picnicking and nature trail. The park is reached via Hwys. 78 and 79 from the east and west, and by I-8 from the south. (760) 767-5311.

HEBER DUNES SVRA

This area has 343 acres of land that was part of the Imperial County park system. It is primarily used for off-road recreation. Restrooms with showers and camping ramadas are available. The park’s most prominent features are sand dunes and tamarisk trees. (760) 767-5391.



INDIO HILLS PALMS SP

The harsh, beautiful life of the desert is on display here; a concessionaire offers lively covered wagon tours of oases. (760) 393-3059.

OCOTILLO WELLS SVRA

More than 82,000 acres of desert are available for off-highway exploration and recreation. Located in east San Diego County and west Imperial County, Ocotillo Wells is accessible via Hwy. 86. Ocotillo Wells is open to the public 24 hours a day, seven days a week. (760) 767-5391.

PICACHO SRA

This park lies near the remains of a former Colorado River gold-mining town. There's boating, hiking, fishing and primitive camping as well as accessible camping. Take the six-mile paved road, followed by 18 miles of unpaved road north from Winterhaven. (760) 393-3052.

PROVIDENCE MOUNTAINS SRA

Mitchell Caverns are the draw at this 5,500-acre park. Cavern tours take place daily (on weekends only during summer months). Activities include accessible camping, picnicking and hiking. Located 100 miles east of Barstow, 17 miles from I-40 on Essex Road. (760) 928-2586.

RED ROCK CANYON SP

The colorful rock formations of this 27,000-acre park were a landmark for 19th-century stagecoaches. Many major movies and television shows have been filmed here. There are 50 primitive campsites; two are accessible to the

disabled. Pit toilets, running water, tables and fire rings are provided. An accessible visitor center is located in the campground area. The park is located 25 miles northeast of Mojave on Hwy. 14. (661) 942-0662.

SALTON SEA SRA

An accidental break in a hastily constructed dike supplying Colorado River water to the Imperial Valley created one of the world's largest inland seas here. There are 150 developed campsites (some accessible), and three primitive campgrounds, plus fishing, boating and water-skiing. Accessible picnicking and visitor center. The visitor center is 25 miles southeast of Indio via Hwy. 111. (760) 393-3052.



Crossing over at Anza-Borrego Desert SP

REGION 12 DESERTS	FACILITIES															ACTIVITIES												
	Visitor center	Picnic areas	Food/dining nearby	Museum	Lodging nearby	Campsites	Boating access	Supplies	OHV access	RV hookups	Trailer sanitation station	Wi-Fi Access	Bike trails	Boating	Camping	Canoeing/kayaking	Educational exhibits & programs	Family & childrens programs	Guided tours	Fishing	Historic sites	Hiking	Nature viewing	Horse trails	Rafting	Swimming	Wind surfing	
Anza-Borrego Desert SP®	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Heber Dunes SVRA																												
Indio Hills Palms SP																												
Ocotillo Wells SVRA																												
Picacho SRA																												
Providence Mountains SRA																												
Red Rock Canyon SP																												
Salton Sea SRA																												

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