Here the rugged terrain of the Santa Cruz Mountains forms a deep canyon with a natural stream basin of mixed evergreen forest, featuring old- and second-growth redwoods. Popular activities include hiking, picnicking, exploring, camping, and backpacking.

PLEASE RECYCLE: The park generates a large amount of trash. Please help reduce waste by recycling at the provided containers.

TRAILS: The park has 18 miles of trails. Free maps are available at the visitor center. More detailed maps are available for purchase.

DAY USE AND PICNICS: Picnic sites and day-use parking are available year round first-come, first-served. Picnic tables and barbecue grills are provided. There is a daily parking fee per vehicle.

No day-use parking in campground areas.

SPECIAL EVENTS: The Ramada Group Day-Use Area, campfire center, and group camps are perfect locations for weddings, family reunions, company picnics, and other group activities. Please call (831) 335-6325 to book your special event.

ADDITIONAL PARK INFORMATION:
• Be aware that the last 6 miles of road to the park are steep, narrow, and winding.
• Fill up the gas tank of your vehicle before driving to this area. The nearest gas station is 14 miles away in Sky Londa (the intersection of Hwys. 84 and 35). No gas is available in the park.
• The nearest grocery store is 9 miles away in La Honda (on Hwy. 84).

WARNING: Be aware of the presence of poison oak, stinging nettle, ticks, and yellow jackets.

WILDLIFE: This is a CRUMB-CLEAN park. Portola is home to the endangered marbled murrelet, a seabird that nests in old-growth forests. The wildlife that is attracted to your food also preys on the marbled murrelet. Do not feed the wildlife. Leave no trace, ... to stay within arm’s reach of all food, trash, and any other food items (dirty dishes). This rule is strictly enforced.
CAMPGROUND INFORMATION:

CHECK-OUT time is noon. Please vacate your site by that time. Check-in time is 2 p.m.

PAY SHOWERS are located in the Main Campground.

FAMILY DRIVE-IN CAMPSITES: Family drive-in campsites are NOT in the Main Campground (limit eight people per site, including children). The fee includes your first vehicle. There is a fee for additional vehicles. Campgrounds are closed November through March.

GROUP CAMPS: All group camps are for tents only, no RVs, motorhomes, or trailers. Group camps require a 50- to 200-yard walk from their parking areas.

- The Point and Circle Group Campgrounds each have a 50-person and 12-car limit. Circle and Point are adjacent to each other.
- Ravine Group Campground has a 25-person and 6-car limit.
- Hillside Group Campground has a 50-person and 12-car limit. Ravine and Hillside are adjacent to each other.

TRAIL CAMPS: Six campsites are available at Slate Creek Trail Campground, a 3-mile hike from park headquarters. Trail camps can be reserved by visiting www.parks.ca.gov/scmtrailcamps. Fires are prohibited, but backpack stoves are allowed. Water must be packed in or purified from nearby Slate Creek, about 1/4 mile from camp. Except for service dogs, no dogs are allowed at trail camps.

RV INFORMATION: There are no RV hookups. The maximum length is 21 feet for trailers and 24 feet for motorhomes. RV sites are 4, 7, 8, 9, and 19.

JUVENILES: Juveniles (under 18 years of age) not camping with a parent or legal guardian must have written permission to camp here. The parent or legal guardian must provide a phone number, and signature of parent or guardian. Children under 15 years of age may not camp without a parent present.

For Emergencies, Dial 911.