



SALT POINT STATE PARK

WELCOME! This Sonoma Coast park rests majestically on one of several jutting promontories off State Highway 1. The 6,000-acre park — which includes one of California's first marine protected areas — has breathtaking views of offshore rocks, a thundering, boisterous surf and unforgettable sunsets. The inland portion of the park features acres of grasslands and forest areas. At the park's highest point, a pygmy forest holds stands of smaller cypress, pine and redwoods, their growth stunted from the area's highly acidic, nutrient-poor soil. Bull kelp thrives along the coast. Visitors might be lucky enough to spot a great blue heron fishing from "rafts" of kelp at sea. From November to January, gray whales pass through the kelp forests as they migrate to breeding and calving areas farther south.



Salt Point State Park
25050 Coast Highway 1
Jenner, CA 95450



Day-Use Areas:
8 a.m. to sunset



Day-Use Parking:
\$10/day/vehicle



California State Parks Passes Accepted:

Disabled Discount, Explorer,
Golden Bear, Senior Golden
Bear, Golden Poppy, State
Library, Veteran



Park Kiosk: 707-847-3221
District Office: 707-937-5804
711, TTY Relay Service
parks.ca.gov/SaltPoint



California State Parks supports equal access. For accommodation requests, including alternative formats, please contact the park at 707-847-3221. For information about accessible features at this park, visit parks.ca.gov/AccessibleFeatures.

HIKING

Salt Point State Park offers over 20 miles of trails. Take the steep but short hike up to the park's pygmy forest of cypress and pine trees, or follow a bluff-top trail to explore the unspoiled natural environment.

Salt Point Trail to Stump Beach—

A moderate, 3.3-mile out-and-back trail offers scenic views and a paved section (for the first 750 feet). At the end of the pavement, hikers have a choice to head down to the beach or continue along the coastal trail. Bird-watching is popular here, especially from March until October.

Salt Point and North Trail Loop—

A moderate, 8-mile loop trail that features beautiful displays of wildflowers. The Salt Point Trail is ADA accessible for a tenth of a mile along the coastal bluffs.

KRUSE RHODODENDRON STATE NATURAL RESERVE

Once part of a large sheep ranch that was established in 1880 and owned by the Kruse family, the reserve adjoins Salt Point State Park. The ranch was donated to the people of California in 1933.

In late April, beautiful pink blossoms appear throughout the redwood forest. Three miles of hiking trails lead visitors through this tranquil, pristine area. Pets and bicycles are not permitted on the trails, and mushroom gathering is prohibited everywhere.

ACTIVITIES

Fishing—Salt Point State Park is a very good spot for surf fishing. In the Gerstle Cove State Marine Reserve and the Stewarts Point State Marine Reserve, marine life is completely protected.

Diving—The offshore section of the park is protected as the Salt Point State Marine Conservation Area, one of the first marine protected areas created in California. Keep in mind that the ocean at the park is often too dangerous for swimming or even wading. The waters at Salt Point State Park should only be entered by those who are very experienced and well trained.

Horses—Riders must stay on the trail.

SANDSTONE AND TAFONI

During the mid-1800s, sandstone from Salt Point played a vital role in the construction of the streets and buildings of San Francisco. Along the marine terrace north of Gerstle Cove, visitors can see enormous slabs of quarried sandstone, drill holes and scattered eye bolts left by long-ago stone workers.

Tafoni is a natural phenomenon common to the sandstone near the ocean's edge at Gerstle Cove and Fisk Mill Cove. An Italian word for "cavern," tafoni refers to a honeycomb-type erosion caused by seasonal wetting and drying of the sandstone, weakening it into pits, knobs, ribs and ridges.

PLEASE REMEMBER

- Dogs must be on maximum 6-foot leash at ALL times and physically under control. Dogs are allowed in the campground, on paved roads and on trails from campground to cove. Dogs are prohibited on hiking trails and beach areas.
- All natural and cultural features are protected by law and may not be disturbed.
- Mountain bikes are not allowed on single-track trails because they can damage wet trail surfaces.
- Please stay on trail to preserve the park's unspoiled qualities and avoid contact with ticks and poison oak.
- Motor vehicles are permitted only on paved roads.



STAY ALIVE! STAY ALERT!

- Stay back from bluff edges. Large rogue waves can sweep you out to sea during ALL seasons and ocean conditions. Bluff- and ocean-related deaths are common. The water is very cold, swift and unforgiving.
- The weather here can be a bit unpredictable because of the rugged ocean conditions and foggy predisposition (even in the summer), so come prepared with layered clothing during your visit.



STEWARTS
POINT STATE
MARINE
RESERVE

Sentinel Rock
Viewing
Platform



SALT POINT
STATE MARINE
CONSERVATION
AREA

Gerstle Cove
Day Use Area



GERSTLE
COVE STATE
MARINE
RESERVE



KRUSE
RHODODENDRON
STATE NATURAL
RESERVE

SALT POINT
STATE PARK

Park
Entrance

Woodside

Wildcat Creek
Walk-In Sites



- Major Road
- Paved Road
- Unpaved Road
- Trail: Accessible
- Trail: Hike
- Trail: Multiuse
Hike/Bike/Horse
- Marine Conservation Area
- Marine Reserve Area
- Locked Gate
- Accessible Feature
- Campground
- Campground: Hike & Bike
- Campground: Group
- Horse Staging Area
- Parking
- Picnic Area
- Restrooms
- Viewpoint
- Visitor Center

Are dogs allowed?

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