



BIG BASIN REDWOODS STATE PARK

WELCOME! Established in 1902, Big Basin Redwoods State Park (SP) is California's oldest state park. In the heart of the Santa Cruz Mountains, its biggest attractions—literally—are its ancient coast redwoods. The park also offers spectacular views of the Pacific Ocean, many babbling brooks, and a fascinating natural and cultural history.

A new chapter in Big Basin's story began in the summer of 2020, when the CZU Lightning Complex Fire swept through 97% of the park's property. The fire destroyed all historic structures and radically changed the landscape. The park now looks very different from how generations of visitors experienced it, but most of the old-growth redwood trees survived, new plant life is vigorously growing, and many animals have returned to the area. The Reimagining Big Basin project is managing the multi-year process of rebuilding park facilities and infrastructure. Learn more at ReimaginingBigBasin.org.



Big Basin Redwoods State Park
21600 Big Basin Way
Boulder Creek, CA 95006



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



Day-Use Parking:

\$8 for reserved spot,
\$10 first come, first served.
Reserve online at
bit.ly/BigBasinParking



California State Parks Passes Accepted: Adventure, Disabled Discount, Explorer, Golden Bear, Golden Poppy, Senior Golden Bear, State Library, Veteran



(831) 338-8860
711, TTY Relay Service
parks.ca.gov/BigBasin



California State Parks supports equal access. Prior to arrival, visitors with disabilities who need assistance should contact the park at (831) 338-8860. If you need this publication in an alternate format, contact BigBasin@ports-ca.us.

GETTING TO THE PARK

Parking Reservations—Recommended on summer and holiday weekends. Guaranteed entry by reservation only at bit.ly/BigBasinParking.

Park Shuttle—A free hourly shuttle is available in summer (Memorial Day-Labor Day) on holidays and weekends from the Saddle Mountain overflow parking lot to the main day-use area and back. Visitors must still pay parking fee.

Santa Cruz Metro—Bus Route 35B provides weekend service to the park's main day-use area during summer.

PLEASE REMEMBER

Park Access—Due to damage from the 2020 CZU Lightning Complex Fire, the park is only partially open and may close during adverse weather events.

Trail Closures—There are currently no trails open to waterfalls in the park or the West Waddell Creek Wilderness. View the map for open trails.

Dogs—Allowed on 6-foot leashes in paved areas only. Dogs are prohibited from all trails and unpaved roads.

Heat Safety—Temperatures can easily break 100°F on hot days. Bring plenty of drinking water, sun protection, and know the signs of heat illness.

Water—No drinking water in the park.

Connectivity—No electricity or cell service in the park. Limited Wi-Fi.

Crumb Clean Park—Help us protect endangered Marbled Murrelets by cleaning up all food and trash properly.

ACTIVITIES

Visitor Center—Stop by and chat with friendly park staff or volunteers and view exhibits about the park. Located at 21600 Big Basin Way.

Guided Walks—Guided Redwood Loop Trail hikes on Saturdays and Sunday by request (inquire at the visitor center).

Kids' Activities—Self-guided Junior Rangers program and Litter Getters materials available at visitor center. Earn prizes for learning about the park and helping Keep It Crumb Clean!

Rancho del Oso—Visit the park's coastal area by driving north on Highway 1 from Santa Cruz. There is no trail or road access to the Rancho del Oso area from the main day-use area of Big Basin SP. Rancho del Oso can only be accessed via Highway 1. Hiking trails, walk-in campsites, and ocean activities are available there, as well as a Welcome Center and Nature and History Center.

THINGS TO DO

If you have one hour, visit the ADA-accessible visitor center. Explore the paved North Escape Road to walk your dog on leash or take a quick bike ride (1.5 miles one-way) and look for banana slugs!

If you have half a day, hike a longer trail, such as the trail to Ocean View Summit (4.2 miles total), Mount McAbee Overlook (5.7 miles total), or the Dool-Middle Ridge-Meteor Trail Loop (5.5 miles total). Enjoy a picnic afterwards at the picnic area in the main day-use area.

If you have a full day, explore the fire roads by foot, bike, or horseback—follow Gazos Creek Fire Road to Sandy Point to Johansen Fire Road to Middle Ridge Fire Road (12 miles total).

Thank you to our partners!



Land Acknowledgment

Quiroste and Achistaca tribes stewarded this area since time immemorial until colonial pressures forced them out of their homelands. Today, the Amah Mutsun Tribal Band continues the legacy of Indigenous stewardship in honor of the Quiroste and Achistaca.

Highway

Paved Road

Unpaved Fire Road:
Hike/Bike/Horse

Trail: Hike

Trail: Hike & Horse

Area Closed to Public

Locked Gate

No Public Access
Beyond Gate

Accessible Feature

Campground: Hike & Bike

Parking

Park Shuttle Stop/Metro Bus Stop
(seasonal, summer holidays/weekends only)

Picnic Area

Restroom

Viewpoint

Visitor Center

Wi-Fi



PORTOLA
REDWOODS
STATE PARK

BUTANO
STATE PARK

WEST WADDELL
CREEK STATE
WILDERNESS

BIG BASIN
REDWOODS
STATE PARK

AREA CLOSED
TO PUBLIC.
NO ACCESS TO
WATERFALLS.

Closures

Please respect park and trail closures as we allow the forest to heal from the 2020 CZU Lightning Complex Fire.

Welcome Center and
Walk-In Campground



THEODORE
J. HOOVER
NATURAL
PRESERVE

Marsh Trail
Seasonal Bridge
(May-Oct)

Rancho del Oso
Nature and
History Center



Waddell Beach



Hoover Trail

to Santa
Cruz



0 1/4 1/2 3/4 1 Mile

MAIN DAY-USE
AREA