

WELCOME BACK! Will Rogers' ranch became the place where the Hollywood star could relax with his family and friends, pursuing his favorite pastimes of riding and roping. At the time of his untimely death in a plane crash in 1935, the ranch consisted of a 31-room ranch house with neighboring guest housing, a stable, corrals, riding ring, roping arena, polo field, golf course and riding trails. His widow, Betty, donated the ranch to California State Parks in 1944 and it became a state historic park.



Will Rogers State Historic Park 1501 Will Rogers State Park Road Pacific Palisades, CA 90272



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



Distinguished Veteran, Explorer, Golden Poppy, Historian, State Library



Day-Use Parking: Hourly: \$3/vehicle All Day: \$12/vehicle Senior All Day: \$11/vehicle Bus 1-24 Passengers: \$50/bus Bus 25+ Passengers: \$125/bus



818-880-0363 711, TTY Relay Service parks.ca.gov/WillRogers



California State Parks supports equal access. For accommodation requests, including alternative formats, please contact **angelesinfo@parks.ca.gov**. For information about accessible features at this park, visit **parks.ca.gov**/**AccessibleFeatures**.

Palisades Fire—The Palisades Fire started January 7, 2025, and swept through the Santa Monica Mountains, impacting Will Rogers State Historic Park and Topanga State Park. At Will Rogers State Historic Park, flames destroyed the historic 31-room ranch house, horse stables and other historic and non-historic park facilities, while damaging approximately 300 historic trees, fencing and miles of trails. At Topanga State Park, 28 structures and more than 8,000 acres of natural resources were burned, including the historic Topanga Ranch Motel and sensitive habitats for monarch butterflies, steelhead trout and tidewater gobies. The fire was fully contained 24 days after it started, on January 31.

In the months after the fire, both parks played a critical role in the recovery of the Pacific Palisades. At Will Rogers State Historic Park, California State Parks entered into an agreement with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and their contractor, Environmental Contracting Corporation, to process non-hazardous concrete and vegetative debris onsite. This support operation resulted in 4,400 parcels cleared, 10,000 hazardous trees felled and 1.2 million tons of debris removed within the affected Palisades community.

What Was Saved—During the fire, State Parks staff acted courageously, even putting their lives at risk to safeguard the public, equestrian operations and park resources. They evacuated over 150 artifacts – including Will Rogers' typewriter, artwork and family heirlooms. The historic gatehouse, foreman's cottage (park offices) and polo field survived with minimal damage.

WHAT'S NEXT?

California State Parks is committed to restoring Will Rogers State Historic Park as a place of public benefit and community pride in the spirit of the resilience Will Rogers would have carried forward.

The future of the park will be planned in collaboration with the public, stakeholders and neighbors from fire-impacted communities. Beginning in 2026, California State Parks will launch a public engagement process to help shape the parks' future.

Direct questions or concerns to angelesinfo@parks.ca.gov.

