

State of California – Natural Resources Agency  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION



California State Parks  
Distinguished Veteran Pass

Terms and Conditions

*California's State Park System is the largest in the country, offering some of the world's most varied natural wonders. No matter where you are headed, there are exciting activities to choose from. We hope you enjoy your upcoming visits and state park adventures!*

*California State Parks has rules and regulations to protect park areas for the enjoyment of future generations as well as for the convenience and safety of the park visitors. Please observe the terms and conditions listed below that apply to this pass and its use. Violation of the terms and conditions could result in pass revocation.*

**Duration**

- This is a lifetime discount pass. Although the benefits are lifetime, the pass must be renewed every five years.
- Information relating to the 5-year renewal process for the pass is available on the California State Parks webpage.

**Applicable Benefits**

- This pass provides free vehicle day-use, camping, and boat-use fees at any eligible California state park unit operated by the California Department of Parks and Recreation. There are no restricted dates in the use of pass benefits.
- This pass is issued as a personal benefit to the pass holder only. A person may hold only one lifetime discount pass issued by California State Parks. Pass holders cannot claim multiple state residency for the purposes of this pass and associated benefits.
- When a park unit requires "ticket per person" admittance such as for museums, swimming pools, etc., the discount will apply to the pass holder only.

**Using the Pass**

- The pass holder must follow all reservation policies set by the California Department of Parks and Recreation. These policies can be reviewed at [www.parks.ca.gov/reservationpolicies](http://www.parks.ca.gov/reservationpolicies).
- The pass holder is required to present the physical Distinguished Veteran pass (photocopies not accepted), valid California driver's license or identification card (interim/temporary not accepted) to receive applicable program discounts, even when reserved in advance.
- To receive program discounts at self-pay locations, clearly display the pass and self-pay receipt (where available) on the vehicle's dashboard where it is visible through the windshield.

**Vehicle Day Use and Boat Use**

- This pass may be used for one passenger vehicle with a capacity of nine persons or less or highway licensed motorcycle, occupied by the pass holder where a vehicle day-use fee is collected.
- This pass may be used for one motorized boating vessel, sailboat over eight feet or personal watercraft (PWC) where a boat-use fee is collected.

## Camping

- This pass may be used for camping (sites for eight people or less). Camping reservations must be made by an active pass holder to receive the eligible discount. Other accommodation types such as group campsites or lodging (cabins, cottages, floating campsites, tent cabins, and yurts) may not be discounted.
- The discount is applicable to one campsite and must be occupied by the pass holder for the duration of the stay. Additional campsites reserved containing overlapping dates for an existing discounted reservation will be charged full price.
- All campers are subject to the California State Parks camping rules and regulations. Campers may stay in the same park up to 30 nights in a calendar year. Each campground has a limit on the consecutive number of nights a camper may stay. Once this consecutive night limit has been reached, the person(s), equipment, and/or vehicle(s) must vacate the campground for a period set by the park unit before returning for another stay.
- For more information on California State Parks camping rules and information, please visit [www.parks.ca.gov/reservationpolicies](http://www.parks.ca.gov/reservationpolicies).

## Accessible Campsites

- If an ADA accessible site is needed for the stay, the pass holder must specify at the time of reservation booking.
- At reservation check-in, in order to access an ADA site, pass holders must present the required identification for pass use and a valid Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) disabled person placard, disabled person license plate, or disabled veteran license plate.

## Booking Reservations

- Camping and tour reservations can be made through the Reserve California at <https://reservecalifornia.com/Web/> or by calling toll-free at (800) 444-7275 (TDD (800) 274-7275)), or for Hearst Castle/Año Nuevo tours at toll free (800) 444-4445. When making reservations over the phone, Distinguished Veteran pass holders must identify themselves to receive their benefits for reservation bookings.
- Reservations must be made in the name of the active pass holder to receive the camping discount. Associated reservations must have the discount applied at the time they are made, as no retroactive refunds will be given.
- The pass holder is responsible for cancelling reservations when unable to attend. Reservation no-shows, where the discount is applied, may jeopardize future pass benefit eligibility.

## Restrictions

- Pass holders must abide by any and all rules and regulations applicable to California State Parks or to the use of this pass, as amended from time to time.
- No priority will be given to pass holders. The use of facilities is on a “first- come, first-served” basis as space is not assured. Camping reservations should be made in advance when possible.
- The pass holder may not lend, loan, reassign, or resell any State Park pass or the associated privileges to anyone.
- The pass’s benefits may not be valid at state park units operated by federal or local governments, private agencies, or concessionaires.
- This pass is not valid for group use or alternative campsites, reservation transaction fees, special

events, tour ticket fees, additional/extra vehicle fees, sanitation disposal use, or supplemental fees.

- This pass is not valid for commercial, industrial, or business use, including, but not limited to, fleet use or pooling.
- This pass cannot be used in conjunction with any other pass and/or discount.
- This pass, and associated benefits, will be cancelled if the pass holder is found not to meet the program qualifications.
- Pass is subject to revocation for misconduct, including, but not limited to, dishonoring pass guidelines or abusing pass privileges.

### **Pass Purchase and Replacement Details**

- All sales are final. No refunds will be made for any reason including, but not limited to loss, theft, park closures or environmental conditions such as low water levels, fire, or inclement weather.
- A lost or stolen pass can be replaced through reapplication.

For questions about the Distinguished Veteran Pass Program, please contact the California State Parks Pass Sales Office at (800) 777-0369 ext. 2 or (916) 653-8280. Pass holders should notify the Park Pass Sales office of any change of name, address, email address, or telephone.

### ***Our Mission***

*The mission of the California Department of Parks and Recreation is to provide for the health, inspiration and education of the people of California by helping to preserve the state's extraordinary biological diversity, protecting its most valued natural and cultural resources, and creating opportunities for high-quality outdoor recreation.*