San Mateo County Parks

Reservations 650-363-4021
General information 650-363-4020
www.SMCoParks.org

The Department manages parks, trails, and historic sites to preserve public lands and provide opportunities for education and recreation. The system’s properties include parks, preserves, trails, and historic sites located throughout the County and encompassing more than 1,000 acres.

The parks represent our region’s wondrously diverse natural settings, from rugged tidepools, lush mountain forests, and remote campites to Bayfront shoreline, sunny picnic areas, and popular playgrounds.

The Department sells annual passes, offering unlimited entrances to all County Parks for a year.

Support your parks
You can volunteer to help rangers protect and improve parks and serve park visitors. The San Mateo County Parks Foundation raises funds to improve the quality of County Parks for our community. For information, visit www.SupportParks.org.
San Bruno Mountain Watch (415-467-6631) promotes the protection and enjoyment of this park. For information, visit www.MountainWatch.org.

San Bruno Mountain State and County Park

555 Guadalupe Canyon Parkway, Brisbane, CA 94005
Park Headquarters 650-589-5708
Police, Fire, or Medical Emergency 911

San Bruno Mountain
A San Mateo County Park

At the northern end of the Santa Cruz Mountain range, this rugged 2,416-acre park is a popular hiking destination. Its steep slopes and deep valleys provide habitat for an incredibly diverse array of plants and wildlife.

The area was for decades the focus of battles between developers who wished to build housing on the mountain and environmentalists who recognized the area’s biological significance.

Jointly purchased by the County and the State, the Park is managed by the San Mateo County Department of Parks.
San Bruno Mountain borders Daly City, Brisbane, South San Francisco, and Colma, and is easily accessible from highways 280 and 101.

Activities and facilities

HIking
Lot, and the summit. The Park includes approximately 12 miles of trails. Some trails are open to cyclists and equestrians; check the map for trail use.

Views
From the Park are stunning. By driving to the summit on Radio Road, you can look north to Mount Tamalpais, east to Mount Diablo, and west to the Farallon Islands.

Restrooms. The nearby meadow is popular for volleyball and kite-flying.

Near the park entrance are a number of drop-in picnic sites and kite-flying.

The Edward Bacciocco, Jr. Youth Camp area, reserved for groups of up to 200 people.

To make reservations call 650-363-4021.

Wild places & friendly spaces

San Bruno Mountain State and County Park

Visible for miles, the Park’s namesake summit is an iconic part of the peninsula’s horizon. The 1,314’-high peak can be reached by foot or by vehicle, and visitors enjoy sweeping 360° panoramic views of the entire Bay Area.

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Natural features

The Mountain’s east-west ridgeline creates many steep slopes, some exceeding 50%. Winds along the ridge often reach 30 miles per hour. Temperatures are moderate and variable, and fog is possible year-round. San Bruno Mountain is composed primarily of coastal scrub, and also includes coastal strand, oak woodland, chaparral, and riparian habitats. Springtime visitors will enjoy magnificent wildflowers. Birds are quite common, especially raptors. The relative isolation of the Mountain has resulted in unique biotic conditions that make the Park a delight for botanists. San Bruno Mountain hosts 14 species of rare or endangered plants. The Park provides habitat for several endangered butterflies found in only a few other places in the world. The San Bruno Elfin, Mission Blue, Callippe Silverspot and Bay Checkerspot, all now protected in part by the world’s first Habitat Conservation Plan, authored in 1983 by the US Fish and Wildlife Service.

Activities and facilities

Hiking is the most popular activity in the Park. Primary trailheads are at the park entrance, trailhead parking lot, and the summit. The Park includes approximately 12 miles of trails. Some trails are open to cyclists and equestrians; check the map for trail use. Views from the Park are stunning. By driving to the summit on Radio Road, you can look north to Mount Tamalpais, east to Mount Diablo, and west to the Farallon Islands. Near the park entrance are a number of drop-in picnic sites with tables, barbeque pits, drinking water, and restrooms. The nearby meadow is popular for volleyball and kite-flying. The Edward Bacciocco, Jr. Youth Camp area may be reserved for groups of up to 200 people. To make reservations, visit www.SMCoParks.org or call 650-363-4021.