San Mateo County Parks

San Mateo County Parks, Historic Sites, and Regional Trails
Our parks and historic sites offer you opportunities to experience the County’s diverse natural settings through hiking, bicycling, horseback riding, picnicking, camping, learning, and sport activities.

From the tidepools at the coast and a beach along San Francisco Bay, from ancient redwood forests to distinctive native grasslands, San Mateo County Parks has outdoor experiences for you.

Hike & Ride
Find trails to hike and ride at www.SMCoParks.org. Here you will find detailed information, routes, and photos. Brochures with trail maps are available in the parks.

Play!
Enjoy the parks – they’re yours. Each park offers a unique experience, from playgrounds to volleyball courts and horseshoe pits.

Park hours & use
The parks open at 8am. Closing times change seasonally, and are posted in the parks and on the website. It is each visitor’s responsibility to protect the parks’ natural environment. Do not disturb or remove any plants or animals. Smoking is not allowed in the parks.

Picnic & Camp
Drop-in picnic sites are available in most parks. Many parks also have reservable sites for picnic groups larger than 20.

Explore & Learn
Visitors of all ages can learn in our Visitor Centers, at the County’s two historic sites, on nature trails, and through docent and ranger programs.

San Mateo County Parks
Wild places & friendly spaces

Hike...Ride...Explore...
Play...Camp...Picnic...
Learn...

San Mateo County Parks

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 17,000 acres.

The parks represent our region’s wondrously diverse natural settings, from rugged tidepools, lush mountain forests, and remote campuses 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 parklands 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 Mateo County Parks, Trails, and Historic Sites

Sanchez Adobe Historic Site
Once the home of Don Francisco Sanchez, this restored adobe is the County’s second-oldest building, built on the site of a Mission outpost. You can explore on your own or book a docent-led tour for your school group.

Devil’s Slide Trail
Built on what was once a treacherous stretch of Highway 1, this 1.3-mile-long paved trail opened for dog walkers, strollers, and cyclists in 2014, offering spectacular ocean views and unparalleled wildlife viewing.

San Pedro Valley County Park
This sunny outpost in Pacifica’s coastal fog includes popular trails ranging from easy strolls to challenging climbs. The 1,000-acre park has stunning views of the Pacific Ocean.

Moss Beach Park
A favorite with Midcoast families, this park’s playful playground features a pirate boat, a miniature lighthouse, dolphin slides, swings and a tot area.

Fitzgerald Marine Reserve
The inter-tidal zone at the Reserve is one of the best tidepooling spots on the San Mateo County coast. Visit at low tide and observe the many habitats and creatures on the edge of the Pacific Ocean. You can reserve a docent-led tour for your group of 10 or more.

Pillar Point Bluff
On the bluff just south of Fitzgerald Marine Reserve, Pillar Point gives hikers, joggers, bicyclists, and dog walkers a chance to take in the sights and sounds of the Pacific Ocean.

Quarry Park
Families love this coastside park. A large meadow includes picnic tables, barbecue pits, and a play area. A trail leads up to the quarry floor and a view of Princeton Harbor.

Mirada Surf County Park
Hike, bike ride, or skate along this paved section of the Coast Trail in Miramar to Surfer’s Beach, enjoying views of the ocean and hills from this pristine coastal bluff.

Tunitas Creek Beach
This broad, sandy beach lies where the waters from Tunitas Creek reach the Pacific Ocean. This property currently has no facilities.

San Bruno Mountain
Drive to the summit and you’ll see sweeping panoramas to Mount Tamalpais, Mount Diablo, and the Farallon Islands. Hikers can enjoy the diverse habitats found in the 974-acre park, including several endangered plant and animal species. This park’s rugged beauty is enjoyable no matter the weather.

Juniper Serra County Park
Whether you’re hiking, picnicking, or frolicking at the playgrounds and meadows, you’ll enjoy stunning views of the Bay from Juniper Serra. The park offers a unique and gorgeous outdoor location for your special events and features the tallest uncovered slide in Northern California.

Coyote Point Recreation Area & Marina
The County’s most-visited park is right on San Francisco Bay. Popular spots include the Magic Mountain Playground, small and large group picnic sites, the CunOdysey natural history museum, and a 545-slip marina. The many walking trails include a segment of the San Francisco Bay Trail. The beach promenade is a great place for jogging, birdwatching, and windsurfing.

Crystal Springs Regional Trail
Walk, run, hike, bike, and horseback ride for 15 miles along this network of trails that runs along the beautiful Crystal Springs watershed. You can access this regional trail – and its gorgeous views – at several points, including many connections to a network of recreational trails.

Friendship Park
Located in the Fair Oaks neighborhood, Friendship Park includes a community garden with 31 raised beds and a colorful playground with climbing structures.

Flood County Park
There’s a game for everyone at Flood. This park has places for tennis, baseball, and volleyball – and an accessible playground. The stunning canopy of heritage oaks is a great spot for play and large or small group picnics.

Edgewood County Park and Natural Preserve
Edgewood is famous for its stunning spring wildflower displays, and views from the park’s high points are stunning year-round. You can learn more about the preserve’s serpentine soils and rare species with interactive exhibits at the Bill and Jean Lane Education Center.

Huddart County Park
Hike or horseback ride on many miles of gorgeous trails passing through redwood and fir forests. Huddart’s stunning rural setting also offers pretty places to picnic and play. Youth groups can reserve camp sites for overnight adventures.

Woodside Store Historic Site
Explore this old-time store filled with items reflecting its bustling business in the mid-1800s serving loggers, farmers, and blacksmiths. Learn about this important period – and maybe even find a few goodies to purchase.

San Bruno Mountain
Memorial County Park
Pescadero Creek County Park
Enjoy and explore some of the Santa Cruz Mountain’s most stunning redwood forests in the three parks found in the Pescadero Creek Park Complex, totalling more than 7,600 acres. Wonder at the magnificent forests as you make your way on foot or horse in Sam McDonald Park, which includes Heritage Grove. Create memories of a lifetime camping at Memorial Park. Find true escape in the rugged wilderness of the County’s largest park, Pescadero Creek Park.

San Bruno Mountain Memorial County Park
Pescadero Creek County Park
Wunderlich County Park
The rustic serenity of Wunderlich County Park and the restored historic Folger Stable are reminiscent of an earlier era. The Park’s largely undeveloped forests and hillsides are crossed with trails for you to hike and horseback ride.