



# Portola Redwoods State Park

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9000 Portola State Park Road, #F, La Honda, CA 94020 • (650) 948-9098 www.santacruzstateparks.org

Here the rugged terrain of the Santa Cruz Mountains forms a deep canyon providing a natural stream basin of mixed evergreen forest, featuring old and second growth redwoods. Popular activities include hiking, picnicking, exploring, camping and backpacking.

#### PARK INFORMATION

**Please recycle:** Recycling stations for aluminum cans, as well as plastic and glass bottles, are located throughout the park.

**Trails:** Trail maps can be purchased at the park office or by mail. To purchase by mail, please send \$2.00 (make check payable to Portola and Castle Rock Foundation) and a stamped (2 oz. = 2 stamps), self-addressed #10 envelope (9 1/2" x 4 1/8") to the park at the address above.

**Day use and picnics:** Picnic sites and day-use parking are available year round, first-come, first-served. Picnic tables and barbecue grills are provided. There is a daily parking fee per vehicle.

### No day-use parking in campground areas.

**Special Events:** Weddings, family reunions, company picnics and other group activities require a special permit. The Ramada Group Day-Use Area and the Campfire Center can be reserved for these events. Groups are limited to 75 people and 25 vehicles. Call (831) 335-3455.

## Additional park information:

- Be aware that the last six miles of road to the park are steep, narrow and winding.
- Fill up the gas tank of your vehicle before driving to this area. The nearest gas station is 14 miles away in Sky Londa (the intersection of Hwys. 84 and 35).
   No gas is available in the park.
- The nearest grocery store is nine miles away in La Honda (on Hwy. 84)
- There is a pay phone outside the visitor center.

wildlife: Raccoons are very active even during the day! Keep your car doors closed while unloading.

Always secure all food and ice chests in vehicles. Food is not safe in wooden lockers or tents. Do not leave food out for any wildlife, including squirrels and birds. It can be very unhealthy and even fatal to the animals.

**Warning:** Be aware of the presence of poison oak, stinging nettles, ticks and yellow jackets.









Poison Oak Stinging Nettle

Tick

Yellow Jacket



Banana Slug



## **RULES AND REGULATIONS**

Because of the many visitors to this fragile area, the cooperation of everyone is needed to preserve the qualities that make Portola Redwoods State Park a very special place. Please remember to follow these rules and regulations.



Hours: The park is open at 6:00 a.m. for hiking and picnicking and closes at sunset (including all trails). Only registered campers in designated campsites may remain overnight.

Quiet time: Quiet hours are 10:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m.—radios off, voices lowered to a whisper. Voices carry at night and sound seems to be magnified in the still of the forest. Generators may operate from 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. only. During the day, outside of "quiet hours," electronic

equipment, machinery or other devices must be used at a low enough volume that the sound does not extend beyond your campsite or picnic area.



**Dogs:** Dogs must be on leash (maximum 6 feet length) at all times and kept inside your tent or vehicle at night. Dogs are allowed on paved roads (campgound roads, the park

entrance road, the service road between the Campfire Center and the Pescadero Bridge and on Upper and Lower Escape Roads). Dogs are not allowed on trails, at any of the creeks, or in the county parks.



Fires: Fires must be completely out when not being personally tended.

**Wood:** Wood collecting, including leaves and twigs, is not allowed. This material protects the soil, decaying over time and forming the natural mulch necessary for the health of the forest.



Vehicles: The wheels of all vehicles must stay on pavement. Park in designated spots only. No parking

along the roads or in any dirt area. Day users park in Madrone or Tan Oak picnic areas.

Scooters, skates and skateboards are prohibited.

**Fishing:** All of Portola's streams are closed to fishing. All stream life, including crayfish, is protected.

**Weapons:** Firearms, spears, bows and arrows and slingshots are prohibited.

Hammocks or other lines may not be hung from trees less than 12 inches in diameter.



Games: Ball games, Frisbee, badminton and similar activites must be safe and not damage or impact natural resources. No bats, hardballs, nets, airsoft

weapons, paint ball guns or horseshoes. If in doubt, please ask staff.



Bicycling: Bicycles are restricted to the paved roads and are not allowed on Portola's trails. Riders under 18

years of age must wear a helmet. Helmets are recommended for adults.

Old Haul Road for Bicycling: Access to the Old Haul Road in Pescadero County Park is via the Service Road (one mile). Turn right (west) for a five-mile ride through the redwoods to Memorial

County Park. Return by the same route (10-mile round-trip dirt road).

There are also trails open to bicycles in Mid-Peninsula Regional Open Space District located along Skyline Blvd.



Check-in time is 2:00 p.m.

Check-out time is noon.



Pay showers are located in the Main Campground. The rate is 25 cents for two minutes.



Family drive-in campsites: Family drive-in campsites are in the Main

Campground (limit 8 people per site, including children). The fee includes your first vehicle. There is a fee for additional vehicles. Campgrounds are closed in

December, January, February and March.



**Group Camps:** All group camps are for tents only—no RVs, motor homes or trailers—and require a 50- to 200yard walk from their parking areas.

Reservations are required. Reserve group camps by calling (800) 444-7275. Limits on the number of persons, including children, are strictly enforced.

- The Point and Circle Group Campgrounds each have a 50-person and 12-car limit. Circle and Point are adjacent to each other.
- Ravine Group Campground has a 25-person and six-car limit.
- Hillside Group Campground has a 50-person and 12-car limit. Ravine and Hillside are adjacent to each other.



**Trail camps:** Six campsites are available at Slate Creek Trail Campground, a three-mile hike from park headquarters. Trail

camps can be reserved by calling the trail camp reservation number at Big Basin Redwoods State Park, (831) 338-8861, during regular business hours. Fires are prohibited, but backpack stoves are allowed. Water must be packed in or purified from nearby Slate Creek about 1/4-mile from camp. No dogs allowed at trail camps.



## ADDITIONAL CAMPGROUND **RULES**

From April 1 to mid-May, and Labor Day to November 30, family campsites are first-come, firstserved. When you have registered and paid for one or more campsites, you must occupy them by setting up equipment in each one so others will know the sites have been claimed. Failure to do this may result in your having to pick a different site when others claim a site left vacant.

There are no RV hookups. The maximum length is 21 feet for trailers and 24 feet for motor homes. RV Sites are numbers 1, 4, 7, 8, 9 and 19.

**Juveniles:** Juveniles (under 18 years of age) not camping with a parent or legal guardian must have written permission to camp here. Permission forms must include the park name, name of the juvenile, dates they are staying, and the name, address, phone number and signature of parent. Children under 15 years of age may not camp without a parent present.

## **Reservations for Camping**

Between mid-May and Labor Day family campsites are subject to "site-specific" reservations.

You may make camping reservations up to seven months and no less than 48 hours in advance by calling (800) 444-7275. Reservations may be charged to your VISA®, Discover® or MasterCard®. To make online reservations, visit www.parks.ca.gov.

If you do not have a reservation, check at the park office for a list of available sites. You may register for only one night at a time for a listed available site. You may not register for a site reserved by someone else.

Accessibility is continually improving. For current accessibility details call the park, or visit http://access.parks.ca.gov.