




WILDER RANCH STATE PARK

WELCOME! The Santa Cruz coastline and California’s ranch history awaits discovery on the 7,000 acres of Wilder Ranch State Park. With more than 30 miles of trail, you can adventure into the Santa Cruz Mountains or walk along the coastal bluffs. From the crest of Ben Lomond Mountain, the landscape rolls down ancient wave-cut terraces through the marshes of a nature preserve to the seashore.


Step back in time and experience a California 19-century dairy ranch, including Victorian homes, barns and a water-powered machine shop. Bring a picnic to enjoy on the front lawn, and visit the farm animals.



Wilder Ranch State Park
1401 Coast Road
Santa Cruz, CA 95060



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



Day-Use Parking:
\$10 vehicle day-use fee
\$9 senior (age 62 or older)
\$50 bus (10-24 passengers)
\$100 bus (25+ passengers)








**California State Parks
Passes Accepted:**
Disabled Discount, Explorer,
Golden Bear, Senior Golden
Bear, Golden Poppy, State
Library, Veteran



831-423-9703
711, TTY Relay Service
parks.ca.gov/WilderRanch

 California State Parks supports equal access. Prior to arrival, visitors with disabilities who need assistance should contact the park at 831-423-9703. If you need this publication in an alternate format, contact wilderranch@ports-ca.us.

ACTIVITIES

Experience History—Discover California’s early ranching history and experience what life was like more than a century ago on this innovative dairy ranch. Explore the 1897 Victorian home, 1859 Gothic Revival farmhouse, 1896 water-powered machine shop, rodeo arena, barns and other historic buildings on our-hour long tours on weekends at 1 p.m. (call the park to confirm).

Hiking and Biking—Explore our 33 miles of trail through scenic coastlines, redwood forests, peaceful meadows, and oak woodlands. See map for trails or contact us for recommendations. Biking is allowed on all trails and roads in the park. Please obey the 15-mph speed limit, stop when approaching a horseback rider, walk bicycles through the ranch complex and be respectful of hikers.

Horseback Riding—Equestrians are allowed on all park trails and unpaved roads except those on the ocean side of Highway 1. See map for trails.

Park Events—Free public, ADA accessible ranch tours are offered every Saturday and Sunday at 1 p.m. No reservation required, meet outside the visitor center.

Self-guided Tours—Pick up a self-guided tour brochure from the park kiosk near the main parking area or the visitor center at the Wilder Dairy Cultural Preserve. Explore the trails and historic dairy ranch.

THINGS TO DO

If you have an hour, picnic at the cultural preserve, explore the historic buildings and say hello to the chickens and goats.

If you have half a day, hike the coastal bluffs along the Old Cove Landing Trail and picnic at Fern Grotto Beach. It’s a world of spectacular views and wildlife, including pelicans, harbor seals, sea otters, dolphins and migrating whales.

If you have a full day, hike, bike, or ride your horse through the grassy wave-cut terraces north of Highway 1 to the lush Enchanted Loop and see some of the park’s hidden coast redwoods.

PLEASE REMEMBER

Dogs/Alcohol/Fire—Dogs are not allowed at Wilder Ranch (except for service animals). Alcoholic beverages and fires are prohibited.

Drones—Drones are not allowed in the park. To protect wildlife and cultural resources, and for the safety and welfare of visitors and staff, model aircraft, unmanned aircraft systems and gliders in flight are prohibited.

Events/Photos/Video—For more information call 831-400-8519 or email SCD.specialevents@parks.ca.gov.



Uypi Tribe

Wilder Ranch State Park lies within the unceded territory of the Uypi tribe who have stewarded this area since time immemorial. Colonial pressures severely impacted Indigenous peoples in this area and sought to remove them from their traditional lifeways and homelands. However, Native people persist in the region to this day and continue the legacy of Indigenous stewardship in honor of the Uypi.

Friends of Santa Cruz State Parks

Friends of Santa Cruz State Parks provides funds to support educational programs, visitor services, and capital projects at all parks in the greater Santa Cruz area. For more information, visit ThatsMyPark.org.





	Highway		Accessible Feature
	Paved Road		Campground: Horse
	Unpaved Service Road		Parking
	Trail: Hike		Picnic Area
	Trail: Multiuse		Restrooms
	Trail: Hike and Bike		Viewpoint
	Cultural Preserve		Visitor Center
	Area Closed to Public		
	Railroad		
	Locked Gate		
	Bridge		

Electric Bikes
 Only class 1 e-bikes are authorized at Wilder Ranch State Park.