

Black Diamond Mines Regional Preserve

Location	Antioch
GPS	37.965432608928275, -121.82194376057389
Phone	1-888-327-2757, option 3, extension 4506
Miles	5.2 miles
Elevation Gain	1,020 feet
Trails	Stewartville/Corcoran Mine/ Ridge Trail
Hours	8 a.m. to Sunset
Fees	None
Website	ebparks.org/parks/black-diamond

CHALLENGING HIKE



Park Features: The Black Diamond Mines Regional Preserve features relics of three mining towns, former coal and sand mines, and offers guided mine tours led from the Greathouse Visitor Center. The preserve contains 8,349 acres of land which offers over 60

miles of hiking trails, cultural history, and nature exploration. Several rare species of flora and fauna are found here.

Trail Highlights: The trail covers terrain from open pastureland with views of Mount Diablo to oak and buckeye woodlands to drier and rockier conditions with sandstone outcroppings. On a clear day the Ridge Trail offers great views of the Central Valley and the Sierras. This hike allows you to add an amazing stop at Prospect Tunnel on the west side of the preserve. The tunnel was driven in the 1860s by miners in search of commercial-quality coal. Two hundred feet of the 400-foot tunnel are open for exploration. Bring a flashlight.

Trail Directions: Begin at the Frederickson Lane staging area, at the curve in the road before the entrance to Contra Loma Regional Park. Take the Stewartville Trail from the parking area. Make a right on Corcoran Mine Trail, then another right on Ridge Trail. Take this trail to Stewartville Trail and retrace your steps back to where you began.

Driving Directions: To reach Contra Loma from Highway 4 in Antioch, exit on Lone Tree Way, go right on Golf Course Road, and right on Frederickson Lane to the park.



Briones Regional Park

Location	Lafayette
GPS	37.915488395065246, -122.12243489834944
Phone	1-888-327-2757, option 3, extension 4508
Miles	4.6 miles
Elevation Gain	1,132 feet
Trails	Springhill/Lafayette Ridge/ Briones Crest/Sunrise/ Buckeye Ranch
Hours	8 a.m. to Sunset Varies Seasonally
Fees	None
Website	ebparks.org/parks/briones

CHALLENGING HIKE



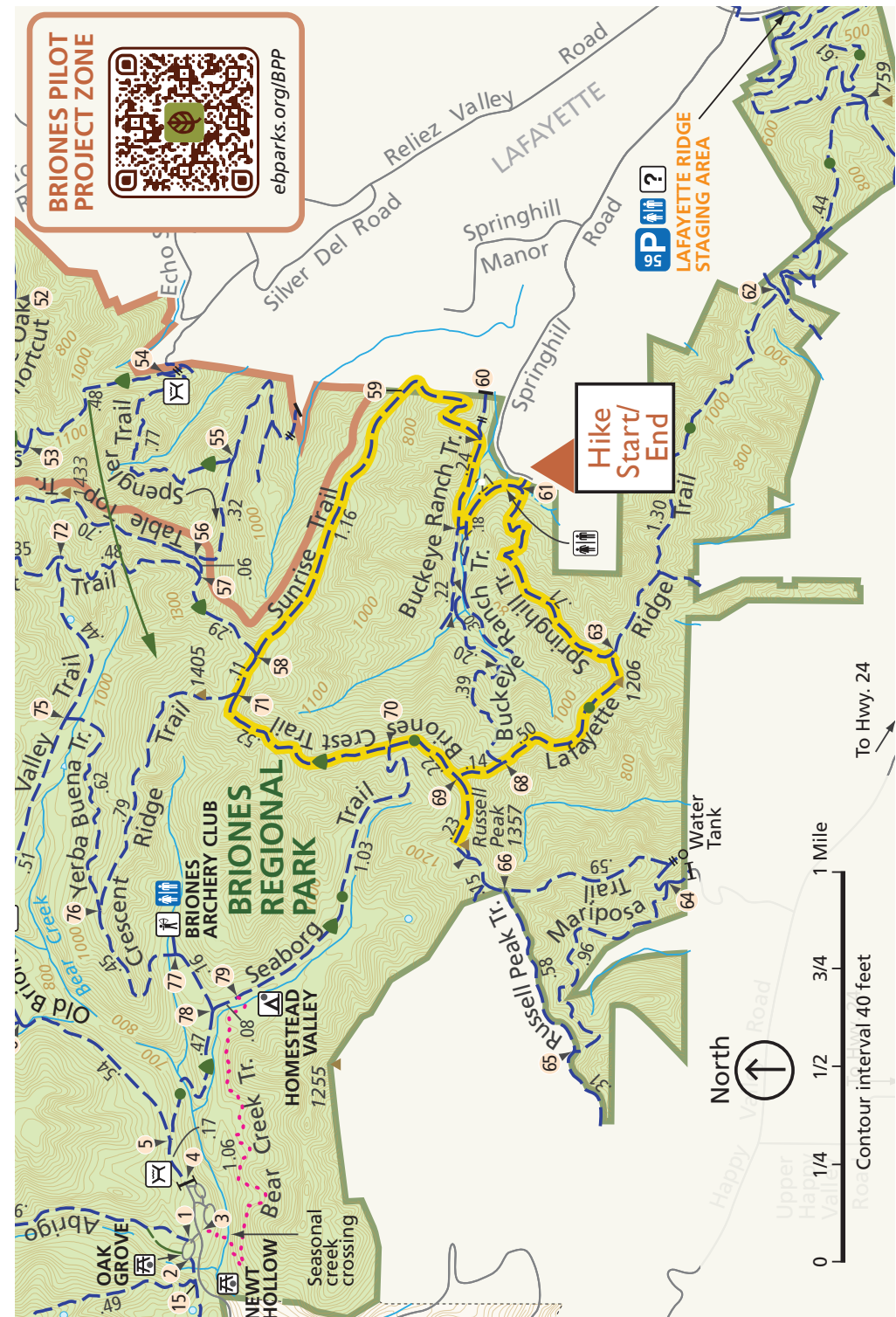
Park Features: Briones' 6,255 acres are home to many animals and birds, which forage on the grasslands or find shelter among the oaks and bays. You may see black-tailed deer, coyotes, squirrels, red-tailed hawks, turkey vultures, and if you are lucky, other more reclusive creatures. There are gorgeous seasonal wildflower displays. Park District naturalists often lead walks to view the park's natural and historic features.

Trail Highlights: Briones has thousands of acres of rolling hills full of amazing views and wildlife. With dozens of interlocking trails, you will find the scenic stretch of hills between the suburban centers of Lafayette, Orinda, Martinez, and Pleasant Hill.

Trail Directions: From the Springhill Road parking lot, head to the left following sign marker for Springhill Trail. Go right at the sign marker on Lafayette Ridge

Trail, then left at the trail marker onto Briones Crest Trail (trail turns into Russell Peak Trail). Stop and take in the view, then backtrack to Russell Peak/Briones Crest Trail. Go right at the trail marker onto Sunrise Trail, then right on Buckeye Ranch Trail and cross the creek, following Buckeye Ranch Trail to the parking lot.

Driving Directions: From Highway 24 head north on Pleasant Hill Road toward Acalanes Ave. Turn left onto Springhill Road. In about 1.4 miles start looking for the Briones Springhill Road Trailhead.



Diablo Foothills Regional Park

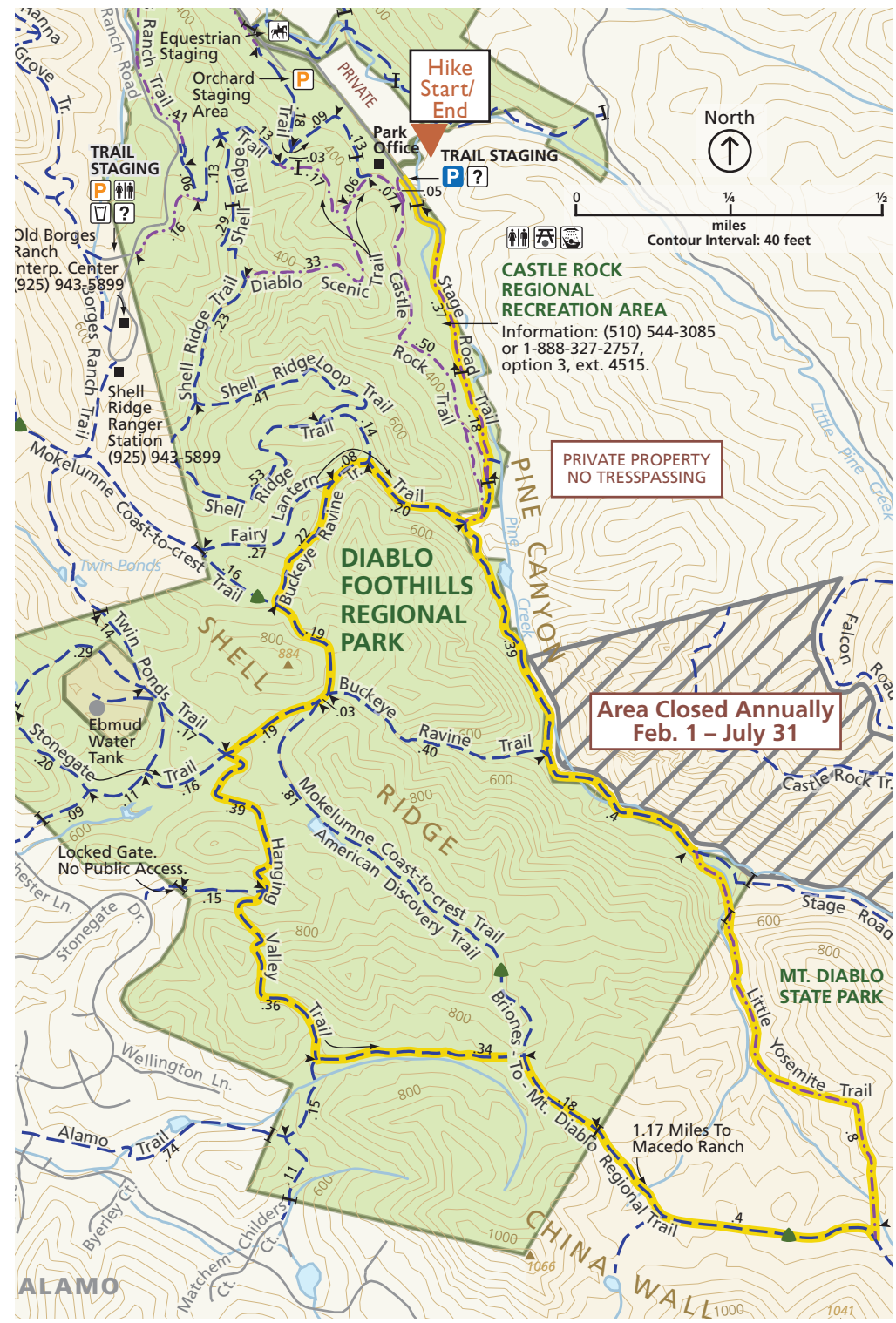
Location	Walnut Creek
GPS	37.891120, -121.993069
Phone	1-888-327-2757, option 3, extension 4526
Miles	5.7 miles
Elevation Gain	912 feet
Trails	Stage Road/Little Yosemite/Briones to Mount Diablo/Hanging Valley/Stonegate/Buckeye Ravine/Fairy Lantern
Hours	5 a.m. to 10 p.m.
Fees	None
Website	ebparks.org/parks/diablo-foothills

CHALLENGING HIKE

single-track Little Yosemite Trail features a waterfall in the rainy season and many bay and buckeye trees in the creek canyon. Wildflowers can be seen in the spring on the oak savannah and sunny open ridges.

Trail Directions: Begin at the Trail Staging area closest to Castle Rock Regional Recreation Area and the Stage Road trailhead. Go through a cattle gate and continue on Stage Road Trail. Make a right on Little Yosemite Trail. Bear right at the top of the trail onto Briones to Mount Diablo Regional Trail. The China Wall will come into view on your left. Stay on the main trail. Go left on Hanging Valley Trail, then make a right to stay on Hanging Valley Trail. Right onto Stonegate Trail, then left on Briones to Mount Diablo Regional Trail. Make a right on the Buckeye Ravine Trail. At the intersection continue right on Buckeye Ravine Trail. Bear right on Fairy Lantern Trail. At the bottom of the trail go left to Stage Road Trail to return to where you began.

Driving Directions: Exit I-680 at Ygnacio Valley Road in Walnut Creek and drive east. After about three miles turn right on Walnut Avenue. After about two miles turn right on Oak Grove Road, then bear right onto Castle Rock Road and follow it to the Orchard Staging Area on the right. Limited parking is available at the end of Castle Rock Road.



Iron Horse Regional Trail

Location	Pleasant Hill	CHALLENGING HIKE
GPS	37.928656225967295, -122.05524249210328	
Phone	188-327-2757, Option 3, Extension 4533	
Miles	19 miles	
Elevation Gain	115 feet	
Trails	Iron Horse Regional Trail	
Hours	5 a.m. to 10 p.m. unless otherwise posted or permitted	
Fees	None	     
Website	ebparks.org/parks/iron-horse	

Park Features: This multi-use, whole-access trail between the cities of Concord and Pleasanton follows the Southern Pacific Railroad right-of-way established in 1891 and abandoned in 1978. The Iron Horse Regional Trail spans a distance of 32 miles.

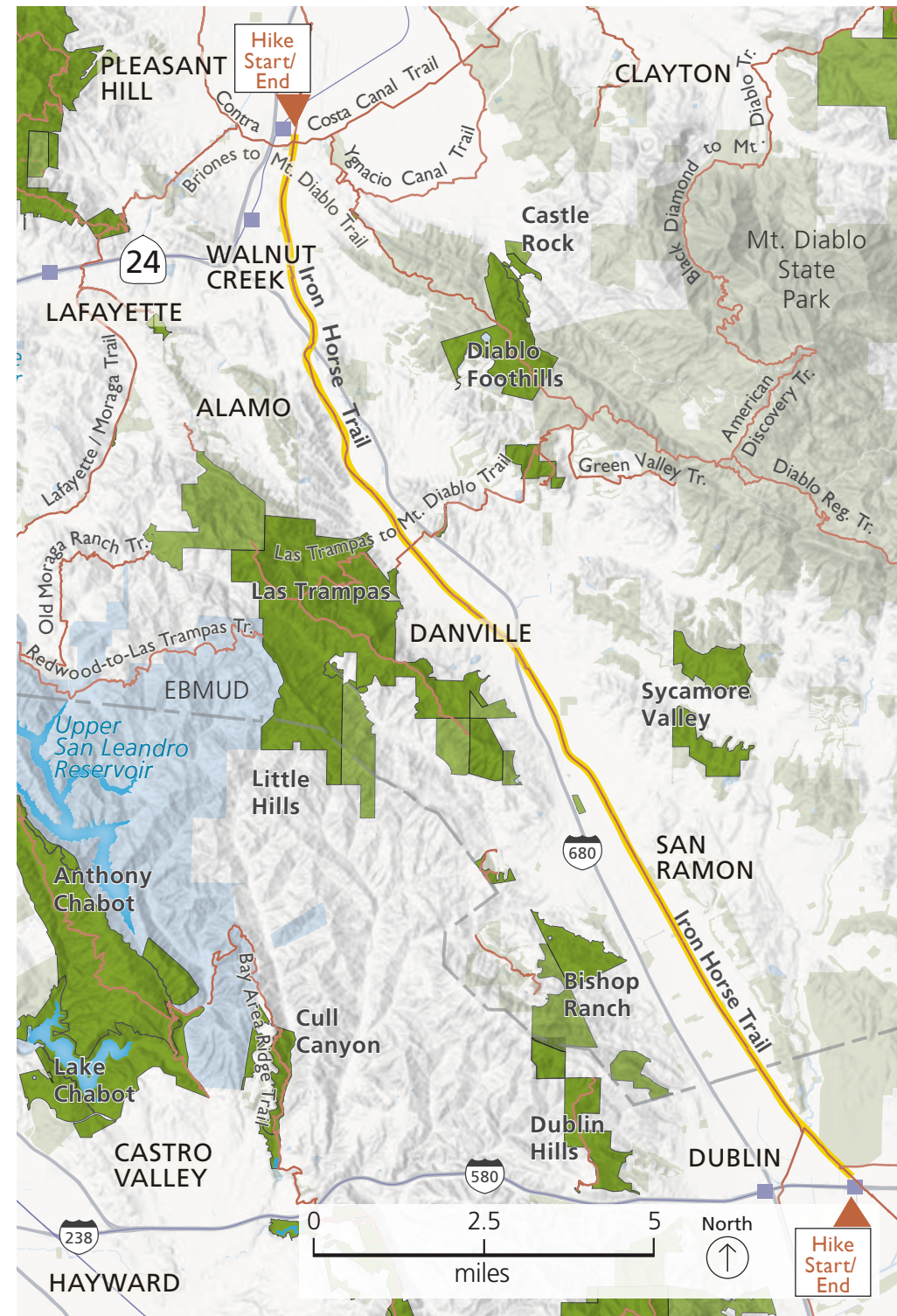
Trail Highlights: The Iron Horse Trail is a nearly-level, paved trail extending through the valley in both Contra Costa and Alameda counties. The trail connects directly to two BART stations, Pleasant Hill and Dublin/Pleasanton. Although the trail is suitable for all users, because of the distance this trail challenge is recommended for cyclists or perhaps strong, experienced inline skaters and hikers. Water fountains are available at several locations along the way.

Trail Directions: This trail could be taken from either direction. We will start from the Pleasant Hill BART station at 1365 Treat Blvd, Walnut Creek, CA

94597. Head east through the parking lot to the paved trail and turn right, or south. Cross Treat Boulevard at the signal and continue south. The intersection with the Contra Costa Canal Trail is in less than ½ mile. Continue straight and stay on the Iron Horse Trail. The distinctive bridge over Ygnacio Valley Boulevard is a short distance, followed by the old railroad bridge, a reminder of the history of this corridor as a rail line. At the intersection of Newell and South Broadway, cross both streets to where the trail continues on the west side of the street. Continue south, under the I-680 Freeway, and across Rudgear Road into the staging area. Water is available here. The trail then leads toward Danville through several street crossings. At mile 8.6 is a small rest area with benches and a water fountain across from the Museum of the San Ramon Valley in Danville.



After a short break, cross the street and follow the trail around the parking lot to the right. On Saturdays fresh fruit may be available at the farmer's market. After leaving Danville, there will be longer stretches of trail between street crossings. Most of the streets are major roads with traffic signals. At mile 17.7 cross a short bridge where two creeks intersect. The trail turns left and then right after about 100 feet. Cross Dougherty Road at the signal, continue along the trail and look ahead for the distinctive roof of the Dublin Pleasanton BART station. After reaching the station, take a leisurely train ride back to Pleasant Hill.



Pleasanton Ridge Regional Park

Location	Sunol
GPS	37.5953312952162, -121.89527693190176
Phone	1-888-327-2757, option 3, extension 3033
Miles	7.8 miles
Elevation Gain	2,016 feet
Trails	Tyler Ranch Trail/Sunol Ridge Trail/Woodside Spring/Niles Canyon Overlook
Hours	8 a.m. to Sunset Varies Seasonally
Fees	None
Website	ebparks.org/parks/ pleasanton-ridge

CHALLENGING HIKE



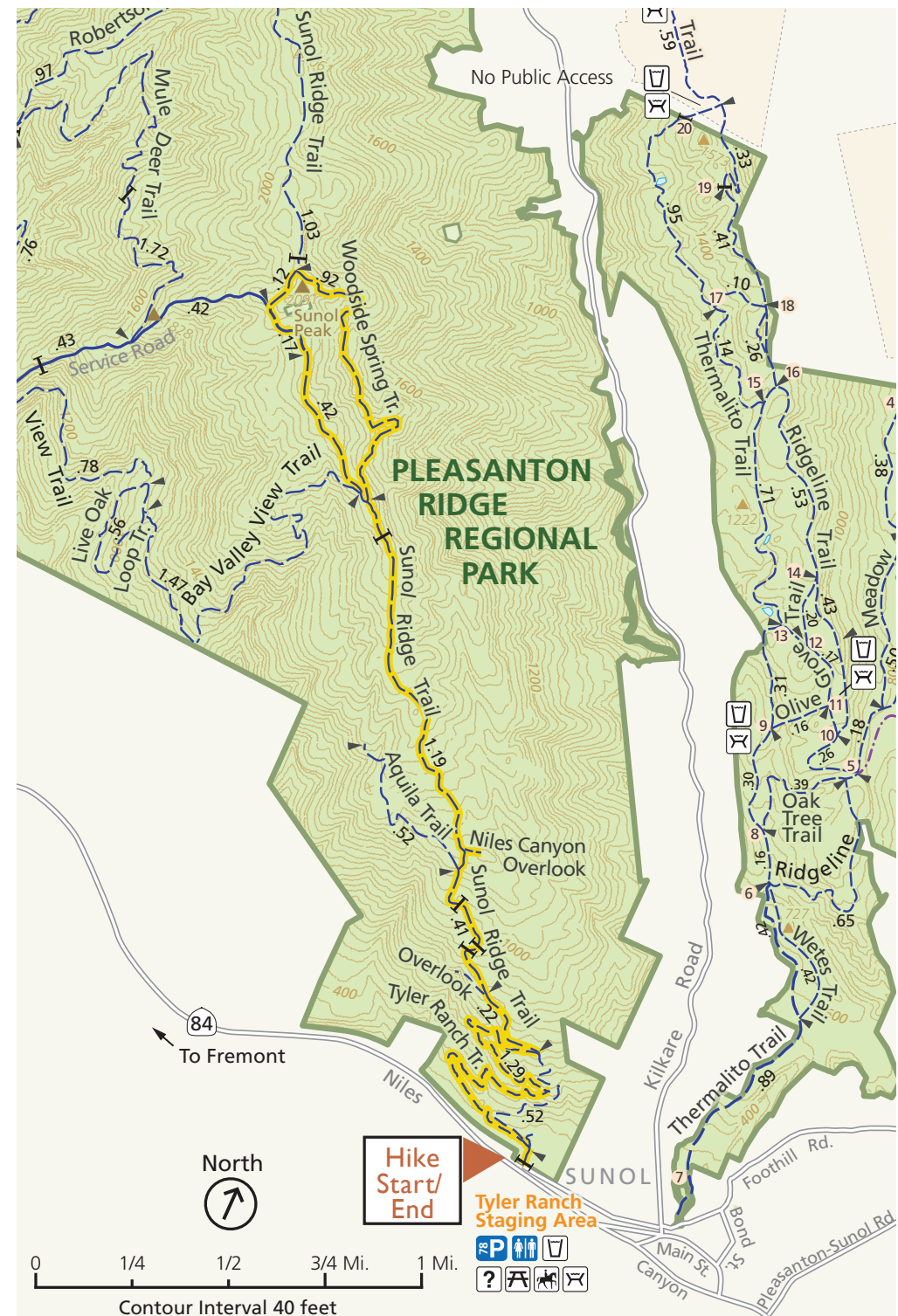
Park Features: Tyler Ranch is the newest addition to Pleasanton Ridge Regional Park, adding 2,844 acres to the park and over 18 miles of new trails for hiking, biking, equestrians, and dog walking. The park contains a variety of landscapes and ecosystems, with expansive grasslands, shady woodland forests, and deep canyon riparian areas. Each ecosystem is home to a variety of native plants and animals, which makes this park a great location for observing wildlife and viewing wildflower blooms in late winter and early spring. Visitors can enjoy numerous panoramic views from ridgeline trails, scenic overlooks, and Sunol Peak, the highest peak in the park at 2,191 feet.

Trail Highlights: This route takes you up to Sunol Peak by way of the Tyler Ranch and Sunol Ridge Trails. This is a strenuous hike, as you are climbing uphill all the way to the highest point in the park. You will

be rewarded with magnificent views of the valley and neighboring ridges as well as Mount Diablo, Brushy Peak, San Antonio Reservoir, Mission Peak, Vargas Plateau, and Niles Canyon. The return trip from the peak ventures into a shady woodland until meeting back up with the trails that descend along the exposed ridge and back down to the Tyler Ranch area.

Trail Directions: Begin at the Tyler Ranch Staging Area at the end of Foothill Road. Take Tyler Ranch Trail from the parking lot. Bear left. Stay on the trail as you continue uphill. Turn left on to Sunol Ridge Trail. Continue all the way up to the ridge top. Make a right on Woodside Spring Trail, then left on Sunol Ridge Trail. Go left on to the Niles Canyon Overlook Trail for incredible views. Turn back and head left onto Sunol Ridge Trail. Then take Tyler Ranch Trail to retrace your route to the staging area

Driving Directions: From I-680 in Pleasanton, exit at Sunol and go west. Turn right onto Koopmann Road and then immediately turn left onto Pleasanton-Sunol Road, towards the town of Sunol. Turn right onto Niles Canyon Road, then make a right onto Main Street. Turn right on Killkare Road and cross the railroad tracks, then make a left onto Foothill Road. The Tyler Ranch Staging Area is at the end of Foothill Road, on the right.



Reinhardt Redwood Regional Park

Location	Oakland
GPS	37.806973076868545, -122.14833756552869
Phone	1-888-327-2757, option 3, extension 4553
Miles	6.2 miles
Elevation Gain	1,027 feet
Trails	Stream/Tres Sendas/West Ridge/ Fern
Hours	5 a.m. to 10 p.m.
Fees	\$5 when kiosk is staffed
Website	ebparks.org/parks/ reinhardt-redwood

CHALLENGING HIKE



understory here is a lush and shady landscape of ferns and huckleberry, along with bay and madrone. The West Ridge portion is more exposed and open, passing through the Redwood Bowl and Roberts Regional Recreation Area. There are many amenities to enjoy in the Canyon Meadow area.

Accessible Park Features: Canyon Meadow area, and only some portions of the Stream Trail. There is one accessible restroom, two parking spaces, and one picnic bench.

Trail Directions: Starting at the Canyon Meadow Staging Area at the end of the main Redwood Gate entrance, take the Stream Trail heading north. At the Stream/Mill Trail junction at 1.45 miles go right to cross the bridge, then bear left to stay on Stream Trail. Take a left on Tres Sendas Trail. Continue all the way up to the West Ridge Trail and go left. You'll pass Chabot Space and Science Center. Bear left to stay on West Ridge at the Redwood Bowl. Left on Fern Trail and right on Stream Trail at the bottom. Take this trail back to the staging area.

Driving Directions: From Hwy. 13 north: Take exit 1 for Carson St. toward Redwood Rd. and go straight at the stop sign onto Mountain Blvd. At the light, make a sharp right onto Redwood Rd. and continue for three miles before turning left into the park. From Hwy 13 south: Take exit 1 for Redwood Rd. toward Carson St.; turn left onto Redwood Rd. and follow for three miles before turning left into the park.

