

Welcome to Point Pinole Regional Shoreline

Year opened: 1973 Acres: 2,432
 Highlights: Hiking, biking, fishing, camping, picnicking, volleyball, horseshoes, children's play area.



The fishing pier is about 0.6 miles from the Atlas Bridge parking lot. It used to have a single railroad track on it for loading barges bound for freighters sailing to the Philippines, Central and South America, and Alaska.

Point Pinole in Richmond, designated a state historic landmark, offers a variety of scenic trails leading through marshlands, eucalyptus woods, and beaches on San Pablo Bay. Along the bay trails are spectacular views of Mt. Tamalpais and the Marin shoreline. The climate at Point Pinole is influenced by breezes and fog from the bay and offers a cool alternative to the hot inland weather.

The park includes several picnic areas, a shuttle service to access the fishing pier, a group campsite, a children's playground, and a volleyball area. In 2017, the East Bay Regional Park District completed major marshland restoration and public access enhancements:



For nearly 80 years, this once-isolated peninsula was home to a series of "powder" companies that manufactured explosives used to help build the West.

- The Dotson Family Marsh habitat restoration project was funded by more than 10 agencies to mitigate sea level rise and coastal and inland flooding. The restored marsh was renamed in honor of the Dotson family, longtime residents of adjacent Parchester Village, for their environmental legacy to save the Richmond shoreline from industrial development. Please note: **horses are not allowed in Dotson Family Marsh.**
- The Atlas Road Bridge provides access to the park via a bridge over the railroad tracks. The new vehicle and ADA pedestrian bridge leads to a new parking area, picnic sites and restrooms.
- The San Francisco Bay Trail project added 1.5-miles of new trail, extending the existing 4.5 miles of Bay Trail within the park. The SF Bay Trail is a 500-mile pedestrian and bicycle trail that allows continuous travel around the SF Bay.



Eucalyptus trees provide shade for park visitors as well as habitat for birds and Monarch butterflies.

HISTORY

The Huchiun-Aguasto, an Ohlone-speaking tribe, thrived in this area for countless generations, in part due to their ability to both manage and harvest shellfish by the bluffs in a manner that increased shellfish abundance. After 1823, local Native people became the primary labor force on a 17,939-acre, Mexican-era cattle ranch in the area. Today's Huchiun continue to think of this land as "home."

Following California statehood in 1850, Point Pinole was the site of Chinese and Croatian fishing villages and small, American-owned ranches and farms. From 1881 to 1960, the point was the site of four dynamite companies, including the Giant Powder Company, which added "Giant" to local place names. In 1963, Bethlehem Steel bought the land and later sold it to the Park District, which opened the park to the public in 1973.



The workers at Giant Powder included many ethnic groups: Portuguese, Italian, Slavic, Chinese, Anglo-Irish, Scottish, Scandinavian, and German.

ACTIVITIES

From the main staging area, Park visitors can travel south along the Bay Trail towards the Dotson Family Marsh and visit the beautiful, lone tree located off the China Clipper Trail; or venture north, among eucalyptus groves, toward the children's playground and enjoy a game of horseshoes. Highlights include:

Fishing

The 1,250-foot pier at the north-west point of the park was jointly built in 1977 by the Park District and the California Department of Fish and Game. Although a California state fishing license is required to fish along the 5.5-mile shoreline, visitors do not need one to fish from the pier at the end of the point. California Fish and Wildlife regulations apply for the number and size of fish that may be taken. Please review current regulations and check signs posted at the pier. Sturgeon, striped bass, bat rays, leopard sharks, perch, kingfish, and flounders are among the catches of the day. Gaffing is not allowed. Please note: **dogs and horses are not allowed on the pier.**

Camping

The group campsite located south of the pier is a sheltered, cozy site that includes basic amenities such as water, bathrooms, cooking grills and storage for gear. A shade structure provides coverage for the picnic area.

Picnicking

There are picnic areas near the fishing pier, the kid's playground, as well as in the Dotson Family Marsh and the Atlas parking lot.

Flora and Fauna

Attention birdwatchers! The varied habitats in the park attract over 100 species of bird such as egrets, herons, hummingbirds, the rare salt marsh song sparrow, and many types of hawks. Thanks to staff and volunteer restoration efforts, the marsh is home to several protected species including the California Black Rail and the California Clapper Rail. Other species here are the salt marsh harvest mouse, black-tailed deer and non-poisonous snakes. The eucalyptus woodlands offer shelter for many forms of wildlife, such as deer, owls, and Monarch butterflies. Point Pinole is also home to many native plant species, including the abundant Purple Needle Grass (*stipa pulkra*).

WELCOME!

Please enjoy the Regional Parks safely, and help protect and preserve your parklands by complying with park rules and regulations.

SAFETY AND ETIQUETTE

- Keep the parks beautiful. Please pack out what you pack in.
- Stay on trails. Taking shortcuts can be dangerous and causes erosion.
- Bicycles are permitted on designated trails only. There are bike rails at the Dotson Family Marsh staging area and Atlas parking lot.
- Horses have the right-of-way on trails. Horses are not allowed in the Dotson Family Marsh Area.
- State law requires that bicyclists under age 18 wear an approved helmet, and the Park District strongly recommends that all bicyclists and equestrians wear helmets at all times.
- Carry and drink plenty of water. Dehydration is a leading cause of injuries on the trail.
- Wildlife may be present on the trails at any time. Feeding or approaching wildlife is dangerous and illegal.



A sheltered campsite near the pier provides a convenient and accessible getaway.

Parkland Rules

RULES

- Visitors are responsible for knowing and complying with park rules (Ordinance 38), available at www.ebparks.org/rules.
- Dogs must be leashed 200 feet from any trail or park entrance, in parking lots, picnic areas, developed areas such as lawns and play fields and on some trails. They may be off leash (under voice control) in open areas. They are not permitted at all on the pier or in the marshes or pond. Dogs must always be on leash in the Dotson Family Marsh Area.
- Parking and dog fees are enforced when the entry kiosk is attended on weekends and holidays. Service dogs are free.
- No motorized vehicles are allowed in the park without a permit.
- Drones are prohibited.
- Collecting plants, seeds, rocks etc. is prohibited.

SHUTTLE SERVICE

Shuttle van service is available daily (unless otherwise posted) to carry park visitors to the pier or picnic areas. The shuttle stops at the Atlas Bridge and the Giant Highway parking lots and the fishing pier. Service includes a trailer to carry large gear. Dogs are not permitted on the shuttle. Look for posted signage for pickup locations and shuttle times.

** Per person fees: Ages 12-61 (\$1 each way); Ages 6-11 (50 cents each way); Seniors, persons with disabilities, and kids under 6 ride free. Fees subject to change.

| Atlas Bridge Parking Lot | Giant Highway Parking Lot | Fishing Pier |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|------------------|
| 7:20am | 7:30am | |
| 8:20am | 8:30am | |
| 9:20am | 9:30am | 9:45am |
| 10:20am | 10:30am | 10:45am |
| 11:20am | 11:30am | 11:45am |
| 12:20pm | 12:30am | 12:45pm |
| 1:20pm | 1:30pm | 1:45pm |
| 2:20pm | 2:30pm | 2:45pm 3:15pm |