

Cull Canyon Regional Recreation Area

*Chabot to Garin Regional Trail/Cull Canyon Road/Heyer Road/Service Road/
Lake View Trail/Columbia Drive*

Length: 2.25-mile loop **Elevation:** 350 feet

Location: Castro Valley

GPS: 37.710479, -122.055430

Intensity: Easy



Park Features: Home to shaded trails, shallow creek crossings, ridge-top breezes, and a 1.5-acre white sand swimming lagoon, Cull Canyon Regional Recreation Area is an award winning East Bay playground. The lagoon itself was the first of its kind. When it was made, a secondary dam was constructed to provide an inner swimming area complete with a sandy beach. Never previously tried, this innovation made the swim area independent of what was then a water reservoir. The park won the 1966 Governor's Award for Exceptional Distinction for Recreational Development. The park is also home to many picnic areas, grassy play areas, and a newly restored seasonal creek adjacent to the main dam.

Trails Highlights: Take a break from the heavy I-580 traffic and enjoy a short but serene hike around Cull Canyon. The trails begins in a dense, shaded woodland, and then leads up to the main road. It passes the small dam before ascending, and then hugs the ridgeline, looking down on the swim lagoon and seasonal creek below.

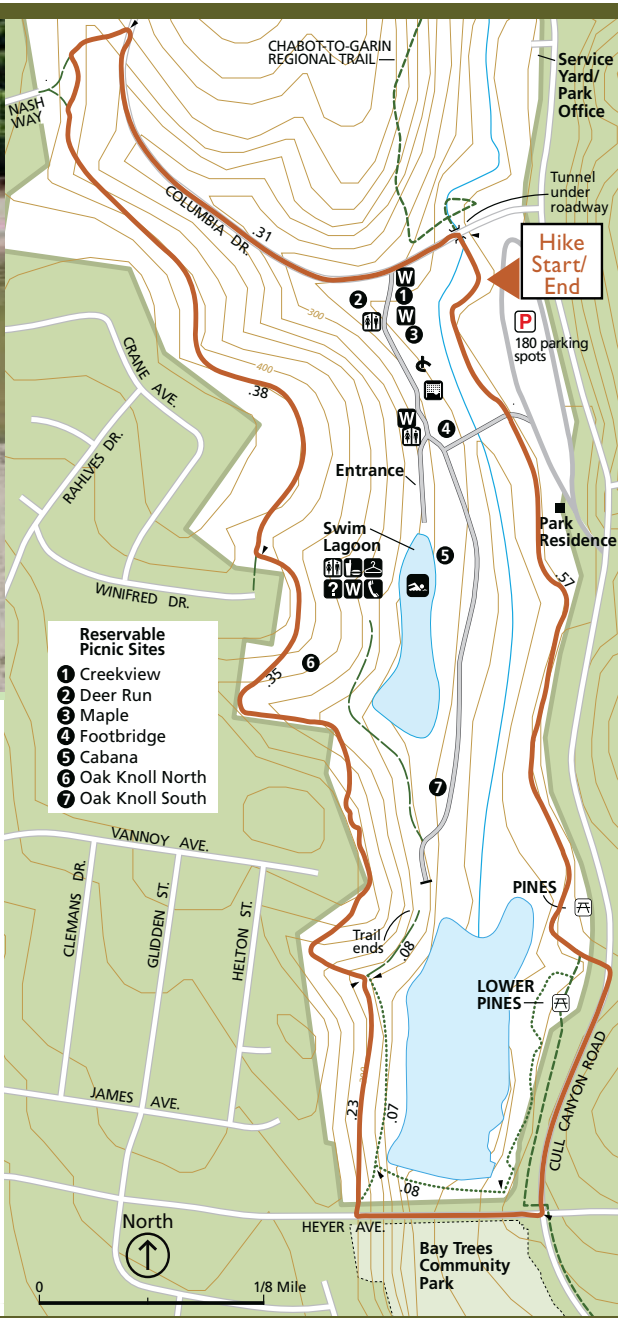
Trail Directions: Park in the main lot and head towards the footbridge that leads into the park. Instead of crossing the bridge, turn left on the Chabot to Garin Regional Trail. Follow the trail past the park residence on your left. After .38 miles you will come to a fork. Take the path heading uphill to Cull Canyon Road. Make a right and walk beside Cull Canyon Road until you pass the dam. At the dam, turn right on Heyer Road and follow the sidewalk until reaching the gravel service road. The service road has a brown wood gate. Follow the service road. When you reach the trail post that marks Lake View Trail, turn left to go up the hill. Follow Lake View Trail as it hugs the fence line of the houses. When you reach the fork, turn right at the sign panels. Follow the trail for another .36 miles. When the trail crosses a creek, follow it around to Columbia Drive. Turn right on Columbia Drive. Columbia Drive will lead you back to the parking lot.

Driving Directions: From I-580 eastbound in Castro Valley, take the Grove Way exit. Turn to the north (left) on Grove Way. Turn left onto Cull Canyon Rd. and continue to the park entrance on the left-hand side.

From I-580 westbound, take the Castro Valley exit and continue west (left) on Castro Valley Blvd. to Crow Canyon Rd. Turn right on Crow Canyon, then left on Cull Canyon Rd. and continue to the park entrance on the left.



Photo: Hillary Van Austen



Park Hours: 5am to 10pm
Fees: No fee
Website: ebparks.org/parks/cull_canyon