

Vargas Plateau Regional Park

Golden Eagle Trail to View Point

Length: 2.5 miles **Elevation:** 390 feet

Location: Fremont

GPS: 37.5744761, -121.9323724

Intensity: Easy



Park Features: This stunning 1,249-acre regional park provides tremendous views from the tops of the East Bay hills. The plateau rises quickly and steeply from the bay plain and towers over one thousand feet above the cities below, overlooking Niles Canyon, Fremont, Union City, Newark and the San Francisco Bay beyond. Atop the plateau a pastoral landscape predominates, and golden eagles, hawks, deer, bobcats, frogs, snakes and a variety of other animals make their home in the open grasslands, ponds and steep wooded canyons. These characteristics make the park a great place for outdoor recreation and nature appreciation on the urban/wildland edge.

Trails Highlights: Vargas Plateau is one of the more recent District parks to open to the public. The scenic trail slowly wraps up to the top of a lookout point, offering panoramic views of the surrounding cities (San Jose and Loma Prieta to the south, Mission Peak, Mt Hamilton and Rose Peak to the southeast, Sunol ridge to the north and San Bruno Mt, Twin Peaks and San Francisco to the west). You will notice from the trail posts that the trail you are following is part of the Bay Area Ridge Trail. Vargas Plateau is an open range park so be watchful for roaming cows. Parking and rest rooms available at the Vargas Plateau Staging Area.

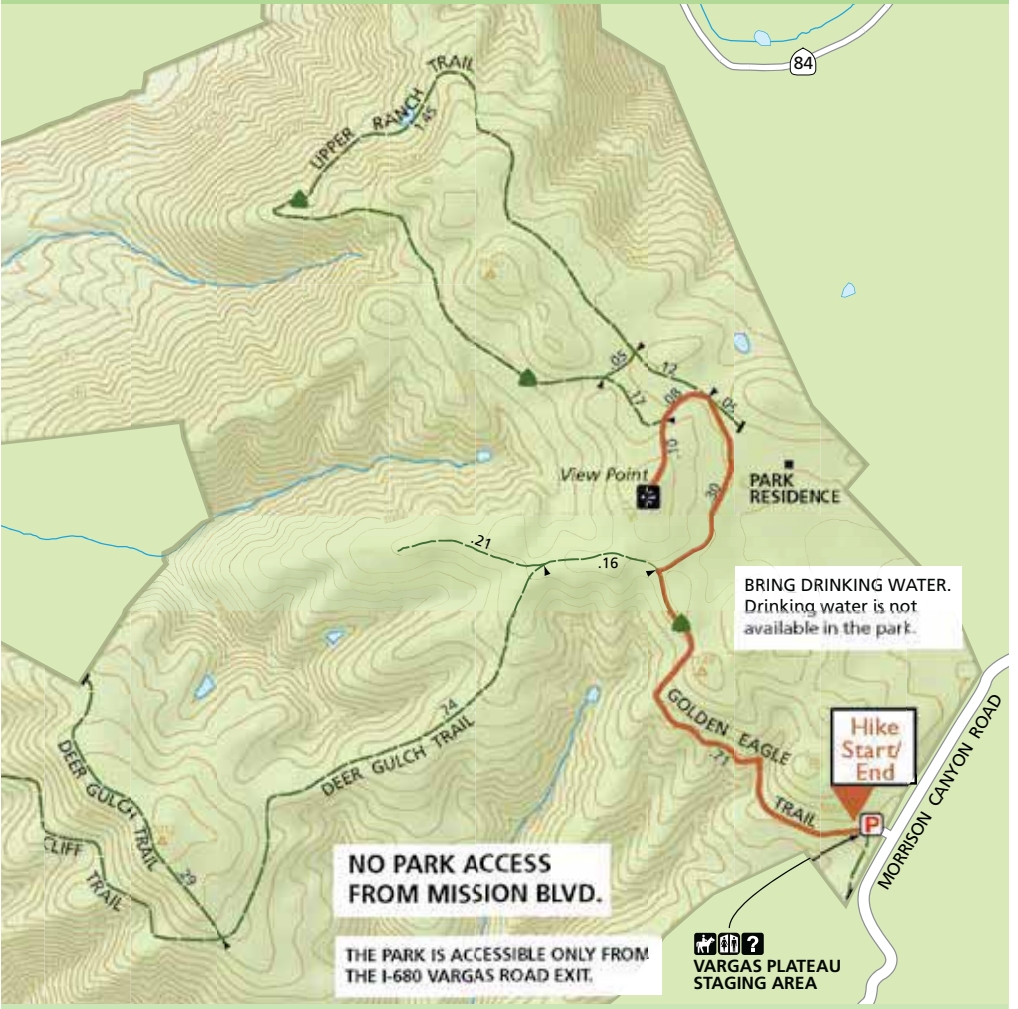
Trail Directions: Park at the Vargas Plateau Staging Area, and follow the trail past the restrooms, continuing through the gate. Keep going straight onto Golden Eagle Trail, past the next trail post. Golden Eagle Trail will contour around the hill and continue through another gate. At the second trail, pass through the gate to follow the Upper Ranch Trail. At the next trail post, stay to the left for the View Point Trail. The View Point Trail will ascend to the top of the hill. Take a break at the top of the plateau and enjoy the views. To return to the staging area, retrace your steps, turning right onto Golden Eagle Trail and following it back to the staging area.

Driving Directions: *From I-680 in Fremont*, exit at Vargas Rd. and go north. Drive about 1.6 miles to Morrison Canyon Rd. and turn right. The staging area is ahead on the left about 0.4 miles. Car-pooling is strongly recommended as staging area parking is limited. There is no street parking in the area.

Park Hours: 8am to sunset (varies seasonally)

Fees: No fees

Website: ebparks.org/parks/vargas



- Featured Trail--Hiker, Horse, Bike
- Hiker, Horse, Bike Trail
- Bay Area Ridge Trail
- Mileage Between Points

- Parking
- View Point
- Restrooms
- Equestrian Staging
- Information