Welcome to Tilden

Four opened: 1936. Acres: 2.079

Highlights: hiking, bicycling, equestrian, picnicking, group camping, public golf course, lake swimming, historic merry-go-round, steam trains, bonsai garden, Little Farm, Brazil Building.

Did you know? Boxing champion Joe Lewis played on Tilden’s golf course in the Annual Regional Golf Championship in 1945.

Boys and Girls Club of Berkeley and Oakland offers memberships to park users. Information: (510) 544-2220 or see www.regionalparks.org.

Benefits for a cause: Tilden Park Foundation offers memberships to park users. Information: (510) 544-2220 or see www.regionalparks.org.

LAKE ANZA
Enjoy beach sunbathing, swimming, picnicking, and free service (swim complex entrance may be arranged. The hall, patio, and commercial facilities. Reservations: (510) 848-7373.

Golf course, a driving range and practice green, the pro shop, and food service. Reservations: (510) 544-2220 or see www.tilden-golf.com. Daily fishing access: $5/day.


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Highlights

- The Jewel Lake Trail from the EEC, open Tues-Sun, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Guide hires are available. This trail is the first part of a loop circuit which includes the Oak Woodland Loop, the Happy Hollow Trail, and the West Meadow Trail. The loop is approximately 3.5 miles long and takes about 1.5 hours to complete.
- The Oak Woodland Loop is a 1-mile loop that takes about 30 minutes to complete. It is a gentle stroll through oak woodland.
- The Happy Hollow Trail is a 1.5-mile trail that takes about 45 minutes to complete. It is a moderate hike through open oak woodland.
- The West Meadow Trail is a 1-mile trail that takes about 30 minutes to complete. It is a moderate hike through open oak woodland.

PECAN CANYON TRAIL
This 740-acre preserve is a viable non-strenuous walk compared to Tilden’s more demanding trails.

BOTANIC GARDEN
The Regional Parks Botanic Garden specializes in the propagation of California native trees, shrubs, and flowers. Plants are segregated by type, native and introduced plant communities, including oak/oak, madrone, and eucalyptus forests. A 750-foot boardwalk leads to Jewel Lake, a historic reservoir and a peaceful place to watch wildlife. At the Environmental Education Center (EEC) you can explore Wildcat Creek watershed exhibits, learn about park activities, and purchase nature-related books and materials including a self-guided trail booklet. The EEC is open Tues-Sun, 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m. The nearby Little Farm (8:30 a.m.-6 p.m.) is home to farm animals, including cows, sheep, goats, rabbits, chickens, and pigs. Several heritage breeds are preserved, including Milking Shorthorn Cattle. Visitors are welcome to bring lunch or celery to feed the animals. Park naturalists offer interpretive programs about the area’s natural and cultural history for schools, organized groups, and the public. To make school or group program reservations, call the EEC at (510) 544-2223 or see www.eb-parks.org.

NATURAL AREA TRAILS
Tilden Nature Area’s trails, designated by symbols on trailside directional posts, vary in length and difficulty and traverse a variety of habitats. A self-guided trail booklet is available for the Jewel Lake Trail from the EEC, open Tues-Sun, 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m. The Short-Loop Trail offers a relatively flat 0.51 miles, moderate. jewel lake trail 0.91 mile long, gentle.

TRAIN RIDES
Since 1952, the Redwood Valley Railway has been offering scenic rides aboard miniature steam trains through the redwoods of Tilden Regional Park. For information, operating hours, and ticket prices, call (510) 548-4170. The Golden Gate Live Steamers (free) is open Sundays, noon-3 p.m. See www.goldengatetrs.org.

OTHER PARK FEATURES
Tilden Regional Park offers hiking and equestrian trails, picnic areas (some reservable), and the Rotary Peace Grove. The park’s Nimitz Way, accessible from Inspiration Point, is a paved, multi-use, ridgetop trail. It is a segment of the Bay Area Ridge Trail and the East Bay Skyline National Trail.

PICNIC AND CAMPING RESERVATIONS
For reservations or information see www.eb-parks.org or call 1-888-327-2757, option 2.

MEMBERSHIPS
The Regional Parks Foundation offers memberships to park users. Information: (510) 544-2220 or see www.regionalparks.org.