

BEAUTY AND THE BEACH

Robert W. Crown Memorial State Beach in Alameda offers exciting opportunities for understanding the forms of life in and around San Francisco Bay.

Beachcombing or a leisurely stroll along the 2.5-mile shoreline will help you to appreciate the importance of this urban beach. From the shore you can see across the Bay to San Francisco.

The beach is enjoyed by school groups, joggers, runners, swimmers, sunbathers, fishing enthusiasts, birdwatchers, sand castle architects and other lovers of the outdoors.

BEFORE CROWN BEACH Shoreline recreation was thriving on Alameda Island as early as 1878. Establishments such as Neptune and Croll's Gardens, Terrace Baths, Sunset Beach and Green Arbor were among the amusing ancestors of Crown Beach.

Thousands came to Neptune Beach to enjoy the roller coaster, merry-go-round and other "thrill" rides. A large swimming pool was also available for those who dared not risk the waters of the Bay. The park served as a training site for such famous boxers as "Gentleman Jim" Corbett and Bob Fitzsimmons. During World War II the federal government purchased the land and developed it into a training facility for maritime officers.

In 1959 the beach became a state park. It was dedicated in 1967 as Alameda Memorial State and Regional Beaches, and later renamed to honor the late California Assemblyman Robert W. Crown. Crown Beach is now operated by the East Bay Regional Park District.

GO WITH THE TIDE Beach activities are influenced by the tides. During the fall and winter months, high tide is the best time to observe sea birds like loons, grebes and various ducks close to shore. Low tides are best for observing shorebirds and intertidal organisms that live in the rocky and mudflat areas. At low tide their habitat is exposed. Tide tables are available at the Crab Cove Visitor Center at the northwest end of the shoreline park, or search online for "tide tables, Alameda California".

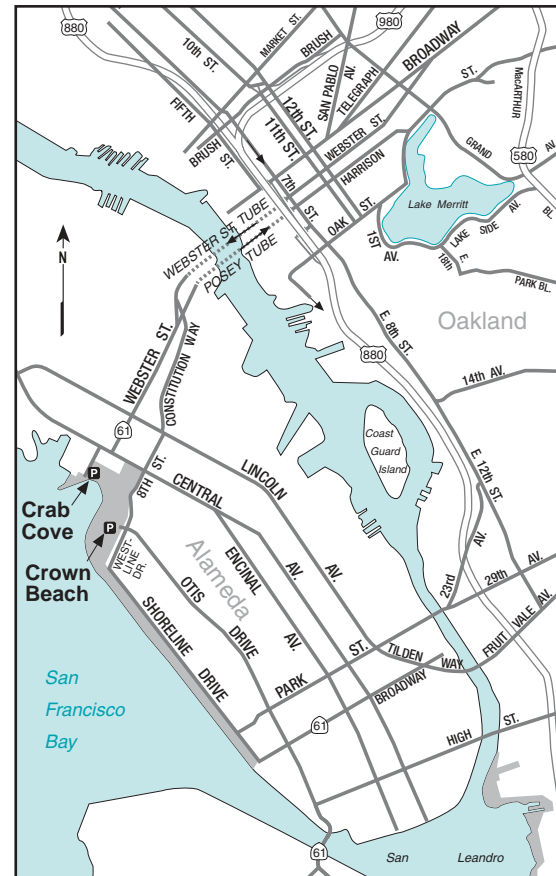
HELP PROTECT THE "LOCALS" Help us to protect the creatures of Crown Beach and San Francisco Bay for all those who will follow you. All along the coast of California, once-flourishing tidepool areas are suffering extensive damage at the hands of collectors. Please leave behind the things you see along the shoreline and in the sea. The beach is host to a diverse array of life forms. While they may seem to be attractive additions to your aquarium, these creatures will die a short time after capture.

CRAB COVE VISITOR CENTER The Visitor Center opened in 1980. It is open to the public from March through November, Wednesdays through Sundays, from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The center, which contains the Old Wharf Classroom, interprets the history of Crown Beach and offers an introduction to Bay ecology. Interpretive programs, led by Park District naturalists, are featured for the public on weekends, and on weekdays by reservation.

Crown Beach is also the home of the Park District's Exhibit Lab, where interpretive displays are prepared for Visitor Centers throughout the two-county park district. The displays housed in Crab Cove Visitor Center are fine examples of the work of the Exhibit Lab staff.

BRINGING A SCHOOL GROUP TO THE BEACH?

Interpretive programs for school groups are offered by reservation. For information, phone (510) 521-6887. Most weekend programs do require reservations. An *Educator's Guide* will help you to prepare your class for an enjoyable and educational day at Crown Beach. The guide is available at Crab Cove Visitor Center.



East Bay Regional Park District
2950 Peralta Oaks Court, P.O. Box 5381
Oakland, CA 94605-0381 (510) 562-PARK

Alameda Creek Quarries Regional Recreation Area
 Alameda Creek Regional Trail
 Anthony Chabot Regional Park
 Antioch Regional Shoreline
 Ardenwood Regional Preserve
 Bishop Ranch Regional Open Space
 Black Diamond Mines Regional Preserve
 Black Diamond-to-Mt. Diablo Trail
 Briones Regional Park
 Briones-to-Las Trampas Regional Trail
 Briones-to-Mt. Diablo Regional Trail
 Brooks Island Regional Shoreline
 Browns Island Regional Shoreline
 California Hiking and Riding Trail
 Carquinez Strait Regional Shoreline
 Claremont Canyon Regional Preserve
 Contra Costa Canal Regional Trail
 Contra Loma Regional Park
 Coyote Hills Regional Park
 Crown Memorial State Beach
 Cull Canyon Regional Recreation Area
 Del Valle Regional Park
 Delta de Anza Regional Trail
 Diablo Foothills Regional Park/Castle Rock Regional Recreation Area
 Don Castro Regional Recreation Area
 Dry Creek Pioneer Regional Park
 East Bay Skyline National Recreation Trail
 Garin Regional Park
 Hayward Regional Shoreline
 Huckleberry Botanic Regional Preserve
 Kennedy Grove Regional Recreation Area
 Lafayette-Moraga Regional Trail
 Lake Chabot Regional Park
 Las Trampas Regional Wilderness/Little Hills Regional Recreation Area
 Las Trampas-to-Mt. Diablo Regional Trail
 Leona Heights Regional Open Space
 Marsh Creek Regional Trail
 Martin Luther King Jr. Regional Shoreline
 Martinez Regional Shoreline
 Miller/Knox Regional Shoreline
 Mission Peak Regional Preserve
 Morgan Territory Regional Preserve
 Ohlone Wilderness Regional Trail
 Ohlone Regional Wilderness
 Old Moraga Ranch Regional Trail
 Oyster Bay Regional Shoreline
 Pleasanton Ridge Regional Park
 Point Isabel Regional Shoreline
 Point Pinole Regional Shoreline
 Redwood-to-Las Trampas Regional Trail
 Redwood Regional Park/Roberts Regional Recreation Area
 Round Valley Regional Preserve
 San Pablo Bay Regional Shoreline
 San Ramon Valley Iron Horse Regional Trail
 Shadow Cliffs Regional Recreation Area
 Sibley Volcanic Regional Preserve
 Sobrante Ridge Regional Preserve
 Sunol Regional Wilderness
 Tassajara Creek Regional Park
 Temescal Regional Recreation Area
 Tilden Regional Park
 Tilden-to-Briones Regional Trail
 Wildcat Canyon Regional Park
 Waterbird Regional Preserve

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CROWN

MEMORIAL STATE BEACH



EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT