Briones Regional Park
Ivan Dickson Loop (Bear Creek Staging Area to Old Briones Road/Seaborg/Brones Crest/Spengler/Old Briones Road/Brones Crest/Deer Creek/Pereira/Ivan Dickson Point/Pereira/Deer Creek Trails)
Length: 12.1-mile loop Elevation Gain: Approx. 4,012 ft.
Location: Martinez
GPS Coordinates: 37.927146,-122.157782
Intensity: Challenging

Park Features: With its rolling, grassy hills and secluded, shady canyons, Briones is a secret wilderness surrounded by many towns. Briones’ rolling hills are home to diverse flora and fauna and gorgeous wildflower displays in season. Park District naturalists occasionally conduct guided walks to view the park’s natural and historic features; check District website for more information.

Trail Highlights: This steep and difficult route allows adventurers to explore the entire park, offering expansive views of Carquinez Strait, Mt. Diablo, and the Las Trampas ridge. Bring plenty of water – there is none along the way. Restrooms are located at the trailhead and near the Homestead Valley Group Camp.

Trail Directions: Begin at the east end of Bear Creek Staging Area. Pass through the gate onto Old Briones Road Trail. In .17 miles, turn right onto Seaborg Trail to begin the Ivan Dickson Loop. At trail post 78 turn right to follow the Seaborg Trail. Stay on Seaborg Trail for 1.5 miles, past the Homestead Valley Group Camp and up a hill, cross through a gate, then turn left onto Briones Crest Trail at trail post 70. Cross though another gate after .92 miles to continue straight to the Spengler Trail. At trail post 57 the Briones Crest Trail goes down to the left. Continue straight ahead and up a short hill. After passing another gate, make a right to stay on Spengler Trail at trail post 56, heading north and downhill. Hike .32 miles and turn left at the next junction to stay on Spengler. The turn is marked by a brown trail post with “Spengler Trail” and an arrow carved into it. Don’t miss the turn; the straight road dead ends at private property. Over the next 3.54 miles, follow signs to stay on Spengler Trail. Just after the Blue Oak Shortcut, at trail post 51, there is a road that leads up to the left. Don’t take it. Go straight ahead to stay on Spengler. After passing Alhambra Creek Trail to your right, hike .71 miles to Maricich Lagoons and bear left onto Old Briones Road Trail. Hike .30 miles and turn right onto Briones Crest Trail. Over the next 2.45 miles, follow signs for the Briones Crest Trail. Turn right onto Deer Creek Trail at trail post 13. At trail post 17, continue straight ahead and uphill to the Pereira Trail. Hike .20 miles to the ridge top and turn left on the Pereira Trail at trail post 18 towards the Ivan Dickson Memorial. Hike .11 miles and turn right at trail post 20. Hike .28 miles to see the Ivan Dickson Memorial bench. Retrace your steps to trail post 20 and go right on the Pereira Trail. Hike .52 miles and turn right onto Deer Creek Trail at trail post 16. Hike 1.04 miles, staying to the left, back to the staging area.

Driving Directions: To reach the Bear Creek Staging Area on Bear Creek Road, exit Highway 24 at the Orinda/Camino Pablo exit and head toward Richmond.

Hike Start / End

Featured Trail--Hiker, Horse, Bike
Parking
Equestrian Parking
Drinking Water
Restrooms
Information

Res. Camp
Archery
Picnic
Horse Water
Gate

Contour interval 40 feet
0 1/4 1/2 3/4 1 Mile

Turn right on Bear Creek Road and travel 5 miles to the staging area on the right.

Park Curfew/Hours: 8 a.m. to dusk; varies seasonally
Fees: $3 per vehicle; $2 dog fee
Website: www ebparks org/parks/briones

TRAILS CHALLENGE is a program of EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT in partnership with... KAUER PERMANENT, thrive