Laguna Coast Wilderness Park

18751 Laguna Canyon Roa Laguna Beach, CA 92651 949-923-2235

DAY USE: 7:00 A.M. - SUNSET | PARKING: 8:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M. | TRAILS: MAY BE CLOSED FOR UP TO THREE DAYS FOLLOWING RAIN

VILDERNESS

Some of the last remaining coastal canyons in Southern California lie within the 7,000-acre Laguna Coast Wilderness Park. Lush, sycamore-shaded canyons and high ridges that offer views of the Pacific Ocean create a spectacular environment for hiking, mountain biking and horseback riding. The park ecosystem is primarily coastal sage scrub, with maritime chaparral, oak woodlands, riparian habitats and includes the only natural lake in Orange County. Be sure to bring your sense of adventure.

WHAT THERE IS AT LAGUNA COAST WILDERNESS PARK.



A BRIEF HISTORY.

The land that comprises Laguna Coast Wilderness Park was part of Rancho San Joaquin, a Mexican land grant of the 1840s. Originally controlled by Jose Sepulveda, the land was purchased by James Irvine in the 1860s to become part of the Irvine Ranch.



The Irvine Ranch, stretching from the central Orange County coast to the Santa Ana Mountains, was principally a farm and ranch operation until after World War II when suburban growth fueled development in Orange County. In the 1960s, the Irvine Company, owner of the Ranch, became a leader in developing masterplanned communities with its creation of the City of Irvine, located just north of the future Laguna Coast Wilderness Park.

In the late 1980s, the Irvine Company – in conjunction with the Orange County Board of Supervisors' approval of its Newport Coast development – agreed to dedicate over 3,500 acres of land to the County to establish the coastal section of Laguna Coast Wilderness Park. In the early 1990s, the Irvine Company agreed to sell 2,150 inland acres, slated for its Laguna Laurel development, for inclusion in the park. The purchase was funded by the City of Laguna Beach, the County of Orange, the State of California and the Laguna Canyon Foundation.

Laguna Coast Wilderness Park was officially opened to the public on April 10, 1993.

JUNIOR RANGERS WANTED.

Maybe your little one would like to become a Junior Ranger. We'd love to deputize him or her. Our Junior Ranger Program will teach children ages 7 – 9 about wilderness plants and animals, as well as the skills needed to become Park Rangers.



RANGER'S RECOMMENDATION

"Hike 1 mile up Laurel Canyon during the winter months, and after the third crossing, you'll see a spectacular 75-foot waterfall."



DIFFERENT TYPES OF HIKES.

For a change of pace, participate in one of our guided hikes. We offer Fitness Hikes, Elder Treks, Full Moon Hikes, Interpretive Mountain Bike Rides, Family Hikes, Tot Walks, Cultural Resource Hikes and Birding Hikes. Try something new this month, and join us. Call the park office for information.



LITTLE HIKES FOR LITTLE ONES.

Take your kids on a hike. For a good beginner's trail, try Mary's Trail from the Nature Center.



BIRDS YOU NEVER KNEW EXISTED, BUT THANKFULLY STILL DO.



Laguna Coast Wilderness Park is part of the Natural Community Conservation Planning (NCCP) Program, which is designed to protect various endangered species by preserving large tracts of the rapidly diminishing coastal sage ecosystem. Among the species we protect are the Cactus Wren, the California Gnatcatcher and the Orange-Throated Whiptail.

MANY WAYS TO EXPLORE.

Whether you prefer to experience nature on foot, by saddle or by bike, you'll find plenty of trails to explore in Laguna Coast Wilderness Park.

WANT TO HELP US PRESERVE AND PROTECT?

We can always use another hand or two. If you'd like to pitch in, contact the Laguna Canyon Foundation at 949-497-8324.

SORRY BOY, NOT TODAY.

We're dog lovers too, but wilderness parks just aren't the right parks for dogs. When marking their territory, dogs signal the native population that there's a predator in the area, which affects feeding and even breeding patterns. We know your dog is part of the family, but please, leave him or her at home.



To schedule guided hikes, contact the Park Ranger at 949-923-2235. 866-OCPARKS | lagunacoast@ocparks.com • www.ocparks.com/lagunacoast

LIKE LAGUNA COAST WILDERNESS PARK? YOU'LL LIKE THESE PARKS, TOO.

ALISO AND WOOD CANYONS WILDERNESS PARK • CASPERS WILDERNESS PARK • LIMESTONE CANYON AND WHITING RANCH WILDERNESS PARK • PETERS CANYON REGIONAL PARK • RILEY WILDERNESS PARK • TALBERT NATURE PRESERVE

OC Parks has been entrusted with the care and protection of this park. Help us preserve our county's natural and cultural resources for your and your fellow guests' future enjoyment. Please check with your Park Ranger for this park's specific rules, or see them online at www.ocparks.com.

ON THORSE

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