

Discover Pacifica's Beaches, Trails and Parks

Pacifica's coastline and peaked trails have beckoned visitors since the Spanish exhibition of 1769. Framed by the eastern ridge of the coastal range and the Pacific Ocean on the west, its thriving communities dot its seven miles of sandy waterfront. More than half the land in this small city is protected open space with 1,000 acres belonging to the Golden Gate National Recreation Area. Numerous city, county and state parks provide panoramic views of this ethereal town and a feeling of spaciousness rarely found in suburban areas. This natural connecting point of beaches, headlands and hills provides a wide range of recreational opportunities from surfing, boating, scuba, fishing and paragliding, to hiking, birding, cycling and horseback riding. According to the National Marine Sanctuaries of the West Coast Pacifica is known to be the fourth richest area in the world for marine mammal life. Pacifica also offers golf, tennis, bowling, archery and loads of team sports. Several miles of coastal and ridge top trails tie Pacifica to neighboring communities. Watch the sunset from our expansive beaches, or a breath of fresh air from our hilltop peaks. Here are some of our favorites:



Sharp Park Beach is the location of the famous Pacifica Pier, the only pier in the Bay Area open for crabbing during Dungeness crab season. Its picnic facilities, walking promenade and vistas from Mori Point Headlands above make it a great "one-stop" destination to see the beauty of the area from low and high. Sharp Park Road, Pacifica CA 94044



Our Trails

Milagra Ridge offers 239 acres of open space in Pacifica and became a part of the 119 square-mile Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GGNRA) in 1984. It is considered an island ecosystem area that is exceptionally sensitive to human disturbance. Widespread growth of non-native, invasive plants, urban encroachment in such a small area, and stresses on endangered wildlife have led to the federal protection of two endangered butterflies here: the Mission Blue Butterfly, the San Bruno Elfyn Butterfly. Milagra Ridge can be reached from Highway One or Highway 35, located just off Sharp Park Road at College Drive. Turn north on College Drive and go 1,000 feet to parking adjacent to the Milagra Ridge gate. Hiking is mostly level and mostly paved. Dogs are welcome on a leash. Volunteers interested in keeping this area vibrant can call the Site Stewardship Program **415.561.3034, ext. 3437**.

Mori Point Headlands

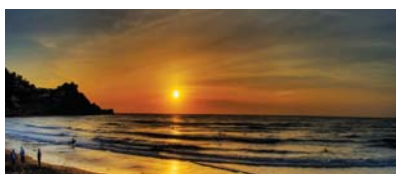
Originally part of the Spanish San Pedro Land Grant, Mori Point's site has seen many enterprises over the past 120 years. The Mori Point Inn, built in the 1870s, was the last structure on the site. Its colorful history includes ranch house, hotel, speakeasy, restaurant and dancehall. It mysteriously burned to the ground in 1966. The land itself has been of interest to real estate developers since the early 1900s. The effort to preserve Mori Point is a success story of community involvement. Through the efforts of the Pacifica Land Trust, the California Coastal Conservancy and the

Our Beaches

Rockaway Beach is located immediately south of the Pacifica Pier along the Pacific Coast Highway. Its narrow strand, crashing surf and dramatic headlands makes it a popular walking, dining and hotel destination. Offering the only beachfront hotels between Pacifica and San Francisco, the sound of the ocean's rolling waves adds a serene feel for overnight guests to rest easily. Rockaway Beach offers restaurants, quaint shops, and artwork from local artisans. It is near the mouth of many scenic walking trails and houses the Pacifica Visitor Information Center, which provides maps, directions, brochures and postcards-everything needed for an enjoyable stay in Pacifica. Rockaway Beach Ave., Pacifica, CA 94044



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Linda Mar Beach is also known as Pacifica State Beach. Located at the southern end of Pacifica, this crescent shaped beach is one of the most popular surfing spots in the Bay Area. Offering showers, bathrooms and a large paved parking lot, it is extremely convenient. The oceanfront Taco Bell at Linda Mar Beach is a popular place to grab a casual bite amid a million dollar view. The facilities at San Pedro Valley Park are for day use only. Linda Mar Beach/Pacifica State Beach CA-1 and Crespi Dr., Pacifica, CA, 94044



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Trust for Public Land, Mori Point was purchased and protected from development. Congress enacted legislation to add Mori Point to the GGNRA in 2000. Today it is a scenic and natural gem and a key link to the National Park lands of Sweeney Ridge and Milagra Ridge. Mori Point can be accessed from the Rockaway Beach Quarry trail, or along the levee at Clarendon and Beach Blvd. The endangered San Francisco garter snake and the threatened red-legged frog are two protected species on Mori Point. Dogs on leash are welcome on trails. Disabled access: call **415.556.8371**. To volunteer to help keep this area pristine, call the Site Stewardship Program **415.561.3034, ext. 3437**



Sweeney Ridge

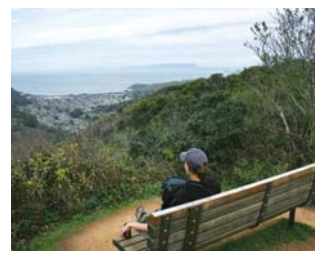
The scouting party led by Gaspar de Portola became the first Europeans to see San Francisco Bay from this ridge in 1769. A monument marks the approximate location.

This federally protected, captivating hiking area of ridges and ravines between San Bruno and Pacifica offers steep and rolling coastal hills overlooking the San Francisco peninsula, San Andreas Lake and the Pacific Ocean. The ridge's 1,200-foot-high summit slopes down to the bay on one side and to the Pacific on the other. Hawks, deer and spring wildflowers inhabit the area. On a clear day, the City of Pacifica and the shimmering Pacific Ocean can be viewed from the scenic San Francisco Bay Discovery Site along with the Farallon Islands, Mt. Tamalpais, Point Reyes, Mt. Diablo, Montara Mountain and San Pedro Point. The trail is open to hikers, equestrians and bicyclists from 8 a.m. to

dusk. The driveway leading up to the trailhead in the Sheldance Nursery parking lot is a bit obscure. Follow it to the large gravel parking where a large Golden Gate National Recreation Area sign resides in the northwest corner, announcing the area as Sweeney Ridge.

Our Parks

San Pedro Valley Park. This vast area embraces the middle and south forks of San Pedro Creek's Steelhead spawning grounds, nestled within the Santa Cruz Mountain range and the foothills of Pacifica. Offering group picnic areas with barbecue pits, a self-guided nature trail, hiking trails, a visitor center and views of the picturesque Brooks Waterfall, San Pedro Valley Park is a walker's paradise. Trails for all ages and fitness levels range from the Valley



View Trail to the wide vistas of San Pedro Valley and the Pacific Ocean from the top of Montara Mountain. The facilities at San Pedro Valley are for day use only. Two picnic areas are available by reservation. The center is open weekends and holidays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. No dogs are

allowed in the park. Bicycles are allowed only on Weiler Ranch Road. The park is open from 8:00 a.m. until dusk. Take the Pacific Coast Highway to Linda Mar Blvd, then head east on Linda Mar Blvd. until it dead-ends at Oddstad Blvd. Turn right on Oddstad, go about 100 feet and turn left into the park entrance at Rosita Road. Entrance fees are \$5.00 per car **650.355.8289**, 600 Oddstad Blvd., Pacifica 94044

Frontierland Park, tucked away on a hillside in Park Pacifica, is one a true Bay Area gem. It sports a massive sloping lawn, well-kept amenities and one of the nicest children's playgrounds in the Bay Area. The park is extensive with forest, open space, a horseshoe area and a barbecue picnic area. Group picnic sites are also available. This park is known for its lively, annual Fourth of July celebration, hosted by the City of Pacifica that includes face painting, tug-o-war, water balloons, races, great food and great fun for all. To access the park, turn right off Oddstad, onto Yosemite Dr. Go all the way to the top of the hill. The Park is on your left. Free Parking. **650.738.7381**, www.CityofPacifica.com, Yosemite Dr. and Humboldt Ct., Pacifica, CA 94044



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