

FREE GUIDED NATURE WALKS



CANYONEERS

CELEBRATING 40 YEARS OF NATURE OUTREACH

September 2014–June 2015

SAN DIEGO NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM

Funding for **Canyoneers** is generously provided by The Samuel I. and John Henry Fox Foundation, The Canyoneers, and SDG&E Environmental Champions. The San Diego Natural History Museum's education programs are funded in part by the City of San Diego Commission for Arts and Culture.



OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

NO RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED

619.232.3821 | www.sdnat.org

Canyoneers are San Diego Natural History Museum volunteers trained to inspire appreciation of plants and animals in southern California. If you are interested in volunteering as a Canyoneer visit www.sdnat.org/volunteer or call the director of volunteers at 619.255.0245.

These programs are **interpretive nature walks**, not endurance hikes, and Canyoneers try to accommodate the desires and abilities of all participants. However, some of the walks can be taxing, especially those in the desert or mountains. The walks are ranked as follows:

HIKES ARE RANKED USING THE FOLLOWING SYSTEM

Difficulty Level

E Easy **I** Intermediate **D** Difficult **X** Extra*

*boulder scrambling, rough trail, low light, etc.

Mileage (rounded to nearest mile)

Elevation Change (gain or loss)

a = up to 200 ft **b** = up to 500 ft **c** = up to 1000 ft

d = up to 1500 ft **e** = greater than 1500 ft

EXAMPLES

Using the system above, Florida Canyon is E2a (easy, 2 miles, up to 200 feet elevation change). Kate O. Sessions Memorial Park is IX2a (Intermediate, 2 miles, up to 200 feet elevation change with X for sometimes rough trail).

Cancellations

Check the online Museum calendar (www.sdnat.org/calendar) for **cancellations** due to park closures or emergencies, or call 619.232.3821; choose option 4 then option 1. In the case of inclement weather, Canyoneers still hike unless the trail is dangerous or impassable. Not all events are known before the start of the hike or the publication of the brochure. Barring unforeseen circumstance, a Canyoneer will always show up at the trailhead to inform potential hikers of cancellations.

Be prepared! Wear comfortable walking shoes and a hat. Hiking boots are recommended for desert and mountain hikes. Bring adequate water and food; even the short or easy hikes can demand liquid and energy resources. You may also wish to carry a jacket, binoculars, and field guides. Bring rain gear if rain is a possibility. If you would like to accompany a more leisurely group, alert the Canyoneer host when you sign in.

Please follow common rules of **courtesy and safety**. Do not litter the trail or smoke. Dogs or other pets are not permitted on the walks, as they interfere with observing wildlife. Please notify your guide if you decide to leave the group before a walk ends.

Group tours for scouts, senior citizen groups, clubs, and other organizations may be arranged by calling the Museum two weeks in advance at 619.255.0210. There is a nominal fee of \$2 per person. If your group of 10 or more plans to join a regularly scheduled Canyoneer walk on the weekend, please call 619.255.0210 at least two weeks ahead so arrangements can be made for sufficient guides. School group hikes are also available for a fee of \$2 per person. Call 619.255.0210 for information.

PARKING FEE INFORMATION

Parking fees have been instituted or increased at many hike locations. Such information, where available at the time this schedule was prepared, has been included. **Please check location websites or the phone numbers listed below for parking fee information as it is subject to change.**

County of San Diego

A \$40 annual parking pass waives the \$3 parking fee (per vehicle) in all San Diego County Regional Day-Use Parks (except for single park annual pass for \$25). Seniors (62+) and disabled persons park free if they have the free parking pass permit. Passes may be obtained at the County Parks and Recreation Office: 5500 Overland Ave., Suite 410, San Diego, CA 92123 or at the any of the County Parks where there is a ranger station. The office is open Monday–Friday, 8 AM–5 PM. You may purchase over the phone with a credit card by calling 858.565.3600. You may also purchase or obtain the free senior/disabled pass at all county parks.

Anza-Borrego Desert State Park

Generally, there are no day-use parking fees in Anza Borrego Desert State Park with the exception of the designated campgrounds (Bow Willow, Tamarisk Grove, and Borrego Palm Canyon Campground. Fees vary from \$5–8). There is also an overnight camping fee at these campgrounds. For more information, call 760.767.5311.

Cleveland National Forest

California National Forests, including Cleveland National Forest, require visitors to display a National Forest Adventure Pass in their vehicles when parked in a national forest including trailheads in high use areas. A \$5 daily pass or a \$30 annual pass valid for 12 months from date of purchase is available at Forest Services offices and ranger stations, Adventure 16, and REI stores, and vendors within the forest. For more information on specific areas that require this pass, call the Descanso District, 619.445.6235, or the Palomar District, 760.788.0250, or visit www.fsadventurepass.org.

Cuyamaca Rancho State Park

A parking fee of \$8 is in effect for Paso Picacho and Green Valley campgrounds. A special California Experience annual day-use pass is available for \$75. This pass entitles you to park in Cuyamaca Rancho State Park and other designated parks. Parking is free in “turn-out” sites where not prohibited. For more information, call 760.765.3020 or visit www.parks.ca.gov.



CALENDAR OF WALKS

Date	Day	Time	Trail	Region/ Notes
September 2014				
7	Sun	9 AM–10:30 AM	Florida Canyon	I
14	Sun	9 AM–11 AM	Kate O. Sessions Memorial Park	I
20	Sat	9 AM–1 PM	Mission Trails Regional Park (Lake Murray - Kiowa)	I, W
21	Sun	8 AM–10 AM	Torrey Pines State Reserve Extension	C
28	Sun	8:30 AM–11 AM	Tijuana Estuary (North Beach Trail) New!	C
October 2014				
4	Sat	8 AM–10:30 AM	Batiquitos Lagoon	C
5	Sun	9 AM–11 AM or 9 AM–12:30 PM	Blue Sky Ecological Reserve New!	I
12	Sun	9:30 AM – 11:30 AM	Cabrillo National Monument (Bayside Trail)	I, \$P
19	Sun	3 PM–5 PM	Greenbelt (Shepard) Canyon	I
25	Sat	9 AM–11 AM	Famosa Slough New!	C
26	Sun	9 AM–12:30 PM	San Dieguito River Park (Del Dios Gorge Trail) New!	I
November 2014				
2	Sun	9 AM–NOON	William Heise County Park (Desert View)	M, \$P
8	Sat	1 PM–3 PM	Navajo Canyon Open Space Park	I
9	Sun	10 AM–NOON	Los Jilgueros Preserve	I

Note: bold indicates new hike locations

Regions Key:

C Coast D Desert
I Inland M Mountain

Code Legend:

\$P Parking W Wheelchair accesible

Date	Day	Time	Trail	Region/ Notes
15	Sat	10 AM–2 PM	SDSU Field Station (Sky Oaks)	I
16	Sun	9 AM–NOON	Mission Trails Regional Park (Oak Canyon)	I
22	Sat	1 PM–4 PM	Ruffin Canyon Open Space	I

December 2014

5	Fri	5 PM–9 PM	Balboa Park December Nights	
6	Sat	5 PM–9 PM	Balboa Park December Nights	
6	Sat	10 AM–2 PM	Mount Woodson (North) New!	I
7	Sun	9:30 AM–11:30 AM	San Elijo Lagoon County Ecological Preserve (Rios Ave.)	C
13	Sat	10 AM–3 PM	Anza-Borrego Desert State Park (Maidenhair Falls Aka Hellhole Canyon)	D
14	Sun	9 AM–1 PM	Anza-Borrego Desert State Park (Coyote Canyon - Lower Willows)	D
21	Sun	6 AM–7:30 AM	Mission Trails Regional Park (Cowles Mountain Winter Solstice)	I

January 2015

10	Sat	9 AM–2 PM	Anza-Borrego Desert State Park (Indian Hill)	D
11	Sun	9 AM–1 PM	Anza-Borrego Desert State Park (Mountain Palm Springs - 5 Groves)	D
17	Sat	10 AM–1 PM	Daley Ranch (Boulder Loop)	I
18	Sun	8 AM–11:30 AM	Tecolote Canyon Natural Park (West)	I
24	Sat	8 AM–10 AM	Balboa Park Centennial Trail #2 New!	I
25	Sun	10 AM–NOON	Crest Canyon Open Space Park	C
31	Sat	2:30 PM–4 PM	Santee Lakes	I

February 2015

7	Sat	9 AM–3 PM	Anza-Borrego Desert State Park (Bow Willow - Rockhouse Canyon Loop)	D, \$P
8	Sun	9 AM–1 PM	El Monte Park (Flume Trail)	I
14	Sat	10 AM–1 PM	San Dieguito River Park (Coast To Crest Trail - Old Coach Staging Area To Raptor Ridge)	I

Date	Day	Time	Trail	Region/ Notes
15	Sun	9 AM–NOON	Gonzales Canyon (Torrey Pines Loop) New!	I
21	Sat	10 AM–3 PM	Anza-Borrego Desert State Park (Moonlight Canyon & Inner Pasture)	D
22	Sun	9 AM–3 PM	Anza-Borrego Desert State Park (Morteros & Ghost Mountain)	D
28	Sat	10 AM–1 PM	Oakooasis County Open Space Preserve	I

March 2015

1	Sun	8:30 AM – 11:30 AM	Black Mountain Open Space Park (Miner's Loop)	I
7	Sat	9 AM–NOON	San Dieguito River Park (Santa Fe Trail)	I
7	Sat	10 AM–2 PM	Anza-Borrego Desert State Park (Mine Canyon)	D
8	Sun	9:30 AM – 1:30 PM	Anza-Borrego Desert State Park (Sandstone Canyon)	D
14	Sat	9 AM–12:30 PM	Mount Gower County Open Space Preserve	I
14	Sat	4 PM–6 PM	Lopez Canyon Open Space Preserve (Sorrento Valley To Pacific Mesa)	I
15	Sun	9:30 AM–NOON	Silverwood Wildlife Sanctuary	I
21	Sat	9 AM–NOON	Sloan Canyon	I
22	Sun	8 AM–1 PM	Santa Rosa Plateau Ecological Reserve	I, \$P
28	Sat	9 AM–11 AM or 9 AM–2 PM	McGinty Mountain Ecological Reserve	I
29	Sun	7:30 AM–NOON or 7:30 AM – 1:30 PM	Iron Mountain (Ellie Lane Loop Trail)	I

April 2015

4	Sat	8 AM–11:30 AM	Cleveland National Forest (Kitchen Creek Falls)	M, \$P
5	Sun	9 AM–1 PM	Mission Trails Regional Park (Rim Trail)	I
11	Sat	8:30 AM–2 PM	Cuyamaca Rancho State Park (Juaquapin Creek Loop)	M, \$P
12	Sun	8:30 AM – 1:30 PM	Cuyamaca Rancho State Park (Green Valley Falls Loop)	M

Date	Day	Time	Trail	Region/ Notes
18	Sat	9 AM–1 PM	Eagle Peak	I
19	Sun	9 AM–1:30 PM	Lake Morena County Park	M
25	Sat	9 AM–2 PM	SDSU Field Station (Santa Margarita Ecological Reserve)	I
26	Sun	9 AM–1 PM	Hollenbeck Canyon	I

May 2015

2	Sat	9 AM–NOON	Boulder Mountain Road Private Nature Trail	I
3	Sun	8:30 AM–4 PM	Cleveland National Forest (Noble Canyon)	M, \$P
9	Sat	9 AM–1 PM	Cleveland National Forest (Horsethief Canyon)	M, \$P
10	Sun	9 AM–2 PM	Cleveland National Forest (Secret Canyon Trail)	M, \$P
16	Sat	10 AM–NOON	San Diego River (Hazard Center Trolley Stop)	I, W
17	Sun	9 AM–NOON	Santa Margarita River Trail	I
30	Sat	9 AM–2 PM	Volcan Mountain County Open Space Preserve	M
31	Sun	4:30 PM – 6:30 PM	San Elijo Lagoon County Ecological Preserve (Rios Ave.)	C

June 2015

6	Sat	9 AM–1 PM	Cuyamaca Rancho State Park (Airplane Monument)	M
6	Sat	5 PM–7 PM	Rose Canyon Open Space Park	I
7	Sun	8:30 AM – 2:30 PM	Cleveland National Forest (Agua Dulce-Chico Spur Loop) New!	M, \$P
13	Sat	8 AM–12:30 PM	San Dieguito River Park (Coast To Crest Trail – Del Mar) New!	C
14	Sun	9 AM–2 PM	Cleveland National Forest (Sunset Trail)	M, \$P
20	Sat	9 AM–NOON	Cleveland National Forest (Love Valley Meadow)	M, \$P
21	Sun	10 AM–2:30 PM	Palomar Mountain State Park (Thunder Spring/Chimney Flats)	M, \$P
27	Sat	8 AM–1 PM	Cuyamaca Rancho State Park (Oakzanita Peak)	M
28	Sun	4 PM–7:30 PM	Cuyamaca Rancho State Park (Stonewall Peak)	M, \$P



CANYONEER WALKS

Descriptions and Directions to Canyoneer Walks

Map references refer to the 2008 Thomas Guide (Map page-section).

Other editions may be similar. GPS coordinates are given in decimal degrees (hddd. dddddd). You may need to convert to another format for your particular application. Hiking difficulty E(ASY), I(INTERMEDIATE), D(DIFFICULT), distance, and elevation change listed for each hike. The key can be found on the first pages of this brochure.

Driving times are approximated from Balboa Park.

Florida Canyon

E2a

Sunday, September 7, 2014

9 AM–10:30 AM

Explore this Balboa Park canyon preserved by Helen Witham Chamlee. Together with Docents of the San Diego Natural History Museum, Chamlee founded the Canyoneers in 1973 as the "Florida Canyoneers."

(Balboa Park) From Park Blvd., take Morley Field Dr. east, crossing Florida Dr. at the top of the hill, turn right twice into the parking lot next to the lawn. Facilities at tennis courts. (Map 1269-C7; GPS N32.739718, W117.142435)

Kate O. Sessions Memorial Park

IX2a

Sunday, September 14, 2014

9 AM–11 AM

Enjoy one of the most beautiful spots in San Diego, overlooking Mission Bay, and explore its natural charm on a sometimes-rough trail in a scrub-covered section of the park.

(Pacific Beach) From I-5, exit west on Garnet Ave., then turn right (north) onto Lamont St. Turn right on Park Dr. into the parking lot. Meet near the playground. Facilities and water. Allow 20 minutes driving time. (Map 1248-A4; GPS N32.811210, W117.237245)

Mission Trails Regional Park

E6a

(LAKE MURRAY - KIOWA)

Saturday, September 20, 2014

9 AM–1 PM

Look for seasonal wildflowers and water birds on this out-and-back walk to the west side of the lake as you make your way toward the dam that was built in 1918. This area is wheelchair accessible.

(Mission Trails Regional Park, San Diego) From I-8, exit north on Lake Murray Blvd., then left at Kiowa Dr. Go through the gate and drive to the lake. Turn into the right hand parking lot. Meet the Canyoneer host past the picnic tables at the start of the trail. Wheelchair accessible. Facilities and water. Allow 30 minutes driving time. (Map 1270-F1; GPS N32.785757, W117.039050)

Torrey Pines State Reserve Extension

I2a

Sunday, September 21, 2014 8 AM–10 AM

See Torrey pines, native chaparral, and seasonal wildflowers on this easy walk to a vista point overlooking Peñasquitos Lagoon and the ocean.

(Del Mar) From I-5, exit west on Carmel Valley Rd. Turn right (north) onto Del Mar Scenic Pkwy. Go to the end of the road and park. No facilities. Allow 30 minutes driving time. (Map 1207-H1; GPS N32.938257, W117.252752)

Tijuana Estuary New!

E2a

(NORTH BEACH TRAIL)

Sunday, September 28, 2014

8:30 AM–11 AM

Revel in one of the few remaining salt marshes in Southern California as we walk along the coastal side of the reserve and then onto the North Beach Trail. Endangered bird species, including the Ridgway's (Clapper) Rail, Belding's Savannah Sparrow, and the California Least Tern may be seen.

(Imperial Beach) From I-5, exit west on Coronado Ave. (Coronado Ave. becomes Imperial Beach Ave.). Park between 3rd and 2nd Streets. Facilities and water are available at the Tijuana Estuary Interpretive Center, 301 Caspian Way. Allow 30 minutes driving time. (Map 1349-F1; GPS N32.576557, W117.128017)

Batiquitos Lagoon

E3a

Saturday, October 4, 2014

8 AM–10:30 AM

A pleasant walk on level terrain provides ample opportunity to enjoy lagoon plants and shorebirds. Along the way is a native plant garden.

(Carlsbad) From I-5, exit east on Poinsettia Lane. Turn right onto Batiquitos Dr., with another right on Gabbiano Lane. Park at the end of the road. No facilities. Allow 40 minutes driving time. (Map 1127-A7; GPS N33.093746, W117.301354)

Blue Sky Ecological Reserve New!

E3a or D5c

Sunday, October 5, 2014

9 AM–11 AM or 9 AM–12:30 PM

This easy walk just north of Lake Poway follows along a stream and a woodland canyon of large oaks. The tracks of wild animals—including coyotes, mountain lions, and bobcats—attest to the habitats protected by the reserve. The new longer hike option will climb to an overlook of Lake Poway.

(Poway) From I-15, exit east on Rancho Bernardo Rd., which becomes Espola Rd. (S5). The entrance to the reserve is 0.25 miles east of the intersection of Old Coach Rd./Bridlewood Rd. Facilities. Allow 40 minutes driving time. (Map 1170-G3; GPS N33.017394, W117.024871)



Cabrillo National Monument

12b

(BAYSIDE TRAIL)

Sunday, October 12, 2014

9:30 AM–11:30 AM

Encounter windswept vegetation and chaparral scrub forests on cliffs overlooking San Diego harbor on this 2-mile round-trip hike. Remnants of WWII defense installations are visible. The return walk at your own pace is all uphill.

(Cabrillo National Monument, Point Loma) From I-8, exit on Rosecrans St. Turn right on Cañon St. and continue 1 mile to the traffic signal at Catalina Blvd. Turn left (south) and follow the road to Cabrillo National Monument and park. Meet on the sidewalk to the lighthouse (next to the road). Parking is \$5 per car. Water and facilities at the Visitor Center. Allow 30 minutes driving time. (Map 1308-A2; GPS N32.673922, W117.240193)

Greenbelt (Shepard) Canyon

E3a

Sunday, October 19, 2014 3 PM–5 PM

Take a stroll through the canyon toward a small reservoir that attracts birds and other animals. This is part of a greenbelt area that sustains native vegetation in the area formerly known as Camp Elliott.

(Tierrasanta) From I-15, exit east on Clairemont Mesa Blvd. then turn left (north) on Santo Rd. for 0.25 miles to the greenbelt and park on Antigua Blvd. west of Santo Rd. No facilities. Allow 20 minutes driving time. (Map 1229-H7; GPS N32.833780, W117.101357)

Famosa Slough New!

E2a

Saturday, October 25, 2014 9 AM–11 AM

Observe plants and birds on a short 2-mile walk in this 37-acre natural wetland preserve.

(Pt. Loma) Take I-8 west to the end; follow the signs toward Nimitz Blvd. Turn left at West Point Loma Blvd. After crossing Famosa Blvd., park on the right. Facilities. Allow 20 minutes driving time. (Map 1268-B5; GPS N32.752639, W117.228644)

San Dieguito River Park New!

E5b

(DEL DIOS GORGE TRAIL)

Sunday, October 26, 2014 9 AM–12:30 PM

Admire the steeply rising granitic walls of the Del Dios Gorge and the scattered willows and oaks along the San Dieguito riverbed on this 5-mile round-trip hike. We will view the 1918 Lake Hodges Dam from the Rattlesnake Viewing Platform.

(Rancho Santa Fe) From I-5, exit east on Lomas Santa Fe Dr. Continue on Linea del Cielo, which turns into Paseo Delicias and then Del Dios Hwy. Turn right after passing Calle Ambiente and turn in at the fruit stand on the right. There is a road marked with an "SDRP" sign that leads to the parking area where you'll meet the Canyoneer host. No facilities. Allow 1 hour driving time. (Map 1148-J7; GPS N33.039975, W117.156780)

William Heise County Park

I5c

(DESERT VIEW)

Sunday, November 2, 2014 9 AM–NOON

Forests of oak, pine, and cedar are found in this 929-acre park that is one of the few county-run parks to have snowfall each year. Be prepared for temperature changes.

(Julian) From the junction of Hwy. 79 & Pine Hills Rd., (1 mile west of Julian), turn south on Pine Hills Rd. Go east on Frisius Rd. Parking fee is \$3. Facilities and water. Allow 1.5 hours driving time. (Map 1156-C5; GPS N33.039624, W116.592220)



Navajo Canyon Open Space Park

E2a

Saturday, November 8, 2014 1 PM–3 PM

As we walk along the streambed part way up Navajo Canyon, which cuts narrowly into the communities of Del Cerro and Allied Gardens, many native plant species, including teasel, gooseberry, and scrub oak can be seen.

(San Diego) From I-8, exit north on Waring Rd. then right at Adobe Falls Rd. Park on the street. No facilities. Allow 20 minutes driving time. (Map 1250-A7; GPS N32.782915, W117.086372)

Los Jilgueros Preserve

E2a

Sunday, November 9, 2014 10 AM–NOON

Follow a looping path over a plank footbridge to view ponds and a freshwater marsh. Visit the firescape garden to learn about fire-resistant plants.

(Fallbrook) From I-15, exit west at Hwy. 76 (Pala Rd.). Go 4.5 miles then right (north) on South Mission Rd. Just past Sterling Bridge Lane, turn right into the Los Jilgueros Preserve driveway. No facilities. Allow 1 hour driving time. (Map 1027-G6; GPS N33.352804, W117.245813)

SDSU Field Station

I4b

(SKY OAKS)

Saturday, November 15, 2014 10 AM–2 PM

Don't miss this special opportunity! Canyoneers have permission to guide at this SDSU field station for this date only. We will make a loop through open chaparral and lunch under oak trees.

(Chihuahua Valley) From Hwy. 67, continue east on Hwy. 78, then left (north) on Hwy. 79 in Santa Ysabel to Chihuahua Valley Rd. Turn right (east) and continue 6.5 miles. When the road makes a sharp right turn (indicated by a sign with a black arrow on a yellow background), drive straight ahead and cross the road. Take the road to the right marked as "Lost Valley Rd./Lost Valley Scout Camp, 11 miles." Travel 2.9 miles to the field station on the left. Facilities. Allow 2 hours driving time. (Map 409-K5; GPS N33.374875, W116.621615)

Mission Trails Regional Park

E4b

(OAK CANYON)

Sunday, November 16, 2014 9 AM–NOON

The walk starts past the Old Mission Dam (a nationally registered historic landmark) and follows a streambed rimmed by Coast Live Oaks.

(Mission Trails Regional Park, Santee) From I-8, exit north on Mission Gorge Rd. Continue about 4 miles, then turn left onto Father Junipero Serra Trail. Drive past the Visitor Center through the gated road for 1.8 miles to the parking lot at the dam, or park along the road at the dam. Alternate route: From Santee take Mission Gorge Rd. west and turn right onto Father Junipero Serra Trail to the parking lot. Meet in the lot and we will walk together to the trailhead. Facilities and water. Allow 30 minutes driving time. (Map 1230-F6; GPS N32.839722, W117.041389)



Ruffin Canyon Open Space

I3c

Saturday, November 22, 2014 1 PM–4 PM

Please join us on this rocky trail through an urban canyon, which is part of the San Diego River watershed.

(Serra Mesa) From I-15, exit west on Aero Dr. then go south on Ruffin Rd. Cross Gramercy Dr. and meet the Canyoneer host at the east side of Taft Middle School. No facilities. Allow 20 minutes driving time. (Map 1249-E5; GPS N32.801658, W117.129044)

Balboa Park December Nights

E1a

Friday, December 5, 2014 5 PM–9 PM

Saturday, December 6, 2014 5 PM–9 PM

In this annual event, Canyoneers will be selling locally gathered mistletoe to benefit the San Diego Natural History Museum.

(Balboa Park) The Museum is located south of the zoo at Park Blvd. and Village Pl. Wheelchair accessible. Facilities. (Map 1269-C7) Check www.balboapark.org/ decembernights for parking information.

Mount Woodson (North) New!

I6c

Saturday, December 6, 2014 10 AM–2 PM

Hike the more gentle side of Mt. Woodson on the less-traveled Fry-Koegel trail.

Enjoy cool oak-covered sections of the trail before moving into wide open hillsides of chaparral and coastal sage scrub. Many native plants and birds should be found along the northern side of Mt. Woodson.

(Ramona) From I-15, take either Poway Rd. (S4) or Scripps-Poway Parkway east to Hwy. 67. Go north about 3 or 4.5 miles respectively to Mt. Woodson. Alternate route: From I-8 east, take Hwy. 67 north to Mt. Woodson. Park on the west (left) shoulder of Hwy. 67, avoiding the Forest Service fire station. Or, if you park on the east (right) shoulder of Hwy. 67, use extreme caution when crossing Hwy. 67 on foot. No facilities. Allow 1 hour driving time. (Map 1171-F4; GPS N33.008048, W116.955388)

San Elijo Lagoon County Ecological Preserve (RIOS AVE.)

E2a

Sunday, December 7, 2014 9:30 AM–11:30 AM

The preserve has more than 250 species of shore and water birds in multiple plant communities that include marsh, sage scrub, and chaparral. Bring your binoculars!

(Solana Beach) From I-5, exit west on Lomas Santa Fe Dr. Turn right (north) onto Rios Ave. Go to the end of the road and park. No facilities. Allow 30 minutes driving time. (Map 1167-E6; GPS N33.003597, W117.272490)

Anza-Borrego Desert State Park (MAIDENHAIR FALLS AKA HELLHOLE CANYON)

IX6c

Saturday, December 13, 2014 10 AM–3 PM

Explore an ideal desert canyon fed by a year-round spring on this challenging hike. See vegetation not generally found in the desert—sycamore trees, palms, maidenhair ferns, and even a sighting of orchids. The higher portion of this canyon trek does involve some boulder scrambling.

(Anza-Borrego Desert State Park) From I-8 east, take Hwy. 79 to Santa Ysabel. Continue north out of Santa Ysabel on Hwy. 79 to S2 (San Felipe Rd.). Turn east (right) on S2 to S22 (Montezuma Valley Rd.) and make a left turn. Continue on Montezuma Valley Rd. and park at the bottom of the grade in the lot on the west side of the road. Meet the Canyoneer host here. (If you reach Palm Canyon Dr., you have gone too far). Alternate route: From I-8 east take Hwy. 67 north to Hwy. 78 via Ramona to Santa Ysabel. Take Hwy. 79 out of Santa Ysabel and follow directions above. Facilities. Allow 2 hours driving time. (Map 1058/1078-F3; GPS N33.248402, W116.405711)

Anza-Borrego Desert State Park (COYOTE CANYON - LOWER WILLOWS)

I4a

Sunday, December 14, 2014 9 AM–1 PM

Hike to the largest year-round spring in San Diego County. Dense willows provide habitat for birds and insects. Wading through water may be necessary. High-clearance vehicles are needed for the off-road portion of this trip. For those who are reluctant to drive off-road, shared rides will be arranged to caravan from the meeting place.

(Anza-Borrego Desert State Park) From Christmas Circle in Borrego Springs, take Palm Canyon Dr. (S22) east to Di Giorgio Rd. Continue north to the end of the pavement, where you will meet your Canyoneer host. No facilities. Allow 2 hours driving time. (Map 1058-1065/1059-A1; GPS N33.325078, W116.367493)

Mission Trails Regional Park (COWLES MOUNTAIN WINTER SOLSTICE)

DX3c

Sunday, December 21, 2014 6 AM–7:30 AM

Ascend Cowles Mountain in near-darkness to watch the sunrise on the first day of winter. Our viewing spot is a Kumeyaay solstice observatory, about halfway up the mountain.

(Mission Trails Regional Park, San Carlos) From I-8, exit north on College Ave. then turn right (east) onto Navajo Rd. Drive 2.5 miles to Golfcrest Dr. Turn left on Golfcrest Dr. and park. Meet near the northeast corner of Golfcrest Dr. and Navajo Rd. Water and facilities. Allow 30 minutes driving time. (Map 1250-F4; GPS N32.805212, W117.037727)

Anza-Borrego Desert State Park

IX6c

(INDIAN HILL)

Saturday, January 10, 2015 9 AM–2 PM

Hike through hillsides of teddy bear cholla and barrel cactus to the remains of a primitive 1912 railroad camp.

(Anza-Borrego Desert State Park) From I-8, exit on S2 (Imperial Hwy.) at Ocotillo. Go northwest (left) on S2 for 8.7 miles, turning left onto Mortero Wash. Meet the Canyoneer host there. We will consolidate into 4WD or high-clearance vehicles to reach the trailhead. No facilities. Allow 2 hours driving time. (Map 430-F6; GPS N32.792889, W116.107661)

Anza-Borrego Desert State Park

I3b

(MOUNTAIN PALM SPRINGS - 5 GROVES)

Sunday, January 11, 2015 9 AM–1 PM

Explore the vegetation, bird, and animal life of the five palm groves, two of which have spring-fed surface water. Look for the unique Torote tree, also called the Elephant tree.

(Anza-Borrego Desert State Park) From I-8, exit on S2 (Imperial Hwy.) at Ocotillo. Go northwest (west) on S2 for about 17 miles to about 0.1 miles before mile marker 47 (decreasing numbers). Turn west (left) at the signed Mountain Palm Springs Campground entrance and follow a short dirt road to the campground. Facilities are available at the campground. Allow 2 hours driving time. (Map 430-E5; GPS N32.86255, W116.21879)

Daley Ranch

I4c

(BOULDER LOOP)

Saturday, January 17, 2015 10 AM–1 PM

Daley Ranch has habitats that support a variety of plant and animal species. Enjoy spectacular views of the surrounding area along the trail.

(Escondido) From I-15, exit east on El Norte Pkwy. Turn left (north) on La Honda Dr. Parking area for Daley Ranch is on the left. To the right is Dixon Lake with facilities, water, and picnic areas. Allow 45 minutes driving time. (Map 1110-C3; GPS N33.1663, W117.052483)

Tecolote Canyon Natural Park (West)

I4c

Sunday, January 18, 2015 8 AM–11:30 AM

Observe seasonal changes to natural vegetation in the park and climb to a high point for a view of the golf course and the University of San Diego. Visit the nature center to see informative exhibits about the canyon.

(San Diego) From I-5 exit east on SeaWorld Dr./Tecolote Rd. and follow it past the ball fields. Park in the Nature or Recreation Center lots. Facilities and water. Allow 20 minutes driving time. (Map 1268-F2; GPS N32.775753, W117.197846)

Balboa Park Centennial Trail #2 New!

E2a

Saturday, January 24, 2015 8 AM–10 AM

Discover architectural treasures from the 1915 Panama-California Exhibition and see many of San Diego's native plants on this special walk in honor of Balboa Park's Centennial Celebration.

(Balboa Park) From CA-163, exit north on Park Blvd. Turn left (west) onto Village Pl. Meet Canyoneer host by the Natural History Museum just north of the Bea Evenson Fountain. Facilities. (Map 1289-C1; GPS N32.731653, W117.146807)

Crest Canyon Open Space Park

E2a

Sunday, January 25, 2015 10 AM–NOON

Enjoy a variety of native and nonnative plants in this coastal canyon south of San Dieguito Lagoon. The trail ascends gradually into the canyon through sage scrub and chaparral.

(Del Mar) From I-5, exit west on Via De La Valle, then turn left (south) onto Jimmy Durante Blvd. Just after crossing the bridge over the San Dieguito River, turn left (east) onto San Dieguito Dr., which becomes Race Track View Dr. Continue through to the stop sign, parking on the road shoulder. No facilities. Allow 30 minutes driving time. (Map 1187-H4; GPS N32.962883, W117.255278)

Santee Lakes

E2a

Saturday, January 31, 2015 2:30 PM–4 PM

Birds to look for on this shore walk include coots, grebes, double-crested cormorants, reintroduced wood ducks, and possibly white pelicans. Bring your binoculars!

(Santee) From Hwy. 52, exit east on Mast Blvd. Turn left (north) onto Fanita Pwky. Park on Lake Canyon Rd. and meet the Canyoneer host past the gate west of Fanita Pwky. Facilities. Allow 30 minutes driving time. (Map 1231-A4; GPS N32.858206, W117.006307)

Anza-Borrego Desert State Park

IX8c

(BOW WILLOW - ROCKHOUSE CANYON LOOP)

Saturday, February 7, 2015 9 AM–3 PM

This is a moderately strenuous hike over some well-marked trails. Hearty desert plants like cholla, ocotillo, and creosote bush are likely to be seen on the way to a rock shack, watering trough, and pipeline leading to a seasonal spring and waterfall. Part of the journey requires boulder hopping and some simple route finding.

(Anza-Borrego Desert State Park) From I-8, exit on S2 (Imperial Hwy.) at Ocotillo. Turn northwest (left) on S2, and drive 16 miles to milepost 48 and look for a turnoff on the left for Bow Willow Campground (signed). Drive 1.6 miles to the campground. Continue to the western most campsites and park just beyond the last campsite. A day use fee of \$5 payable at a kiosk is required to park. Please refer to Parking Fee Information on the inside front cover. Facilities. Allow 2 hours driving time. (Map 430-E5; GPS N32.842399, W116.224588)

El Monte Park

D4d

(FLUME TRAIL)

Sunday, February 8, 2015 9 AM–1 PM

Our trail follows switchbacks through chaparral and sage scrub to reach the area where a flume was built to carry water from El Capitan Reservoir to downtown San Diego.

(Lakeside) From I-8, exit north on Lake Jennings Rd., and turn right on El Monte Rd. Meet the Canyoneer host at the parking lot before the park entrance. No facilities. Allow 40 minutes driving time. (Map 1213-A6; GPS N32.892263, W116.846805)

San Dieguito River Park

I5b

(COAST TO CREST TRAIL - OLD COACH STAGING AREA TO RAPTOR RIDGE)

Saturday, February 14, 2015 10 AM–1 PM

Hike to Raptor Ridge and if hawks, vultures, and other raptors are present, you'll understand how it got its name. From the viewpoint you will have a panoramic view of the San Pasqual Agricultural Preserve and the San Diego Zoo Safari Park.

(Escondido, San Dieguito River Park) From CA-163 north, merge onto I-15 to the Pomerado Rd./West Rancho Bernardo Rd. exit. Go east on Pomerado Rd. to the first traffic light after leaving the freeway. Make a left turn onto Highland Valley Rd. Drive 2.4 miles from the traffic light to the Old Coach Staging Area on the right. There is ample parking and the trailhead is well marked. No facilities. Allow 40 minutes driving time. (Map 1150-F4; GPS N33.058177, W117.030485)



Gonzales Canyon New!

E4a

(TORREY PINES LOOP)

Sunday, February 15, 2015 9 AM–NOON

See a wide variety of plants representing coastal sage scrub, chaparral, and riparian habitats. We should observe many seasonal wildflowers and birds on this hike.

(Carmel Valley) From I-5, exit east on Del Mar Heights Rd. for 1.4 miles then left on Lansdale Dr. Go 0.5 miles, turn left into Sword Way for 0.5 miles. Meet the Canyoneer host at the start of the trail. No facilities. Allow 30 minutes driving time. (Map 1188-C4; GPS N32.966296, W117.214247)

Anza-Borrego Desert State Park

DX5c

(MOONLIGHT CANYON & INNER PASTURE)

Saturday, February 21, 2015 10 AM–3 PM

Hike through Moonlight Canyon from the Agua Caliente Hot Springs to the isolated Inner Pasture. The Kumeyaay once lived in this area between the Sawtooth Mountains and the Tierra Blanca Mountains of Anza-Borrego.

(Anza-Borrego Desert State Park) From I-8, exit north on Hwy. 79 through Cuyamaca Rancho State Park to Julian. Turn east on Hwy. 78 and proceed to the junction of Hwy. 78 and S2 (Scissors Crossing). Turn south on S2. Drive 21 miles to the store at the entrance of Agua Caliente County Park. Turn left and park at side of road to meet the Canyoneer host. Facilities. Allow 2 hours driving time. (Map 430-D3/page D; GPS N32.955250, W116.302202).

Anza-Borrego Desert State Park

I3b

(MORTEROS & GHOST MOUNTAIN)

Sunday, February 22, 2015 9 AM–3 PM

Visit a Kumeyaay cultural area where foods were processed leaving deep morteros in the native rock. Then visit the home of Marshal South, a homesteader in the 1930s and 1940s who emulated Kumeyaay ways.

(Anza-Borrego Desert State Park) From I-8, exit north on Hwy. 79 through Cuyamaca Rancho State Park to Julian. Turn east on Hwy. 78 and proceed to the junction of Hwy. 78 and S2 (Scissors Crossing). Turn south on S2. Go about 6 miles to the signed entrance to Blair Valley on the east side of the road. Meet the Canyoneer host in the parking area by the vault toilets. Carpool to Morteros and Ghost Mountain. Facilities. Allow 2 hours driving time. (Map 430-B1; GPS N33.037184, W116.409256)

Oakosis County Open Space Preserve

I3b

Saturday, February 28, 2015 10 AM–1 PM

This trail, lined with wild lilac, passes through thick chaparral on a gentle upward slope. Take a short climb to a promontory overlooking San Vicente Reservoir where we will stop for a snack before beginning the return trip.

(Lakeside) From Hwy. 67, exit east on Maplevue St. and then turn left (north) onto Ashwood St., which becomes Wildcat Canyon Rd. The preserve is on the left (west) at 12620 Wildcat Canyon Rd., about 2.5 miles past Louis A. Stelzer Park. Facilities. Allow 1 hour driving time. (Map 1212-F3; GPS N32.912668, W116.887228)

Black Mountain Open Space Park

13b

(MINER'S LOOP)

Sunday, March 1, 2015

8:30 AM–11:30 AM

Hike through chaparral to view the remains of an old arsenic mine. Seasonal wildflowers should be plentiful on this moderately challenging hike.

(Rancho Peñasquitos) Take I-15 to 56 west, then exit north on Black Mountain Rd. Turn right on Carmel Valley Rd. and go 0.9 miles to the second Black Mountain Open Space Entrance on the right (first entrance is the glider port), driving uphill to meet the Canyoneer host in the parking lot. No facilities. Allow 40 minutes driving time. (Map 1169-E7; GPS N32.992639, W117.116363)

San Dieguito River Park

E4a

(SANTA FE TRAIL)

Saturday, March 7, 2015

9 AM–NOON

Explore riparian vegetation and a large pond along the San Dieguito River. This area was impacted by the 2007 Witch Creek Fire.

(Rancho Santa Fe) From I-5, exit east on Lomas Santa Fe Dr. Continue on Linea del Cielo, which turns into Paseo Delicias and then Del Dios Hwy. Turn right after passing Calle Ambiente and turn in at the fruit stand on the right. There is a road marked with an "SDRP" sign that leads to the parking area where you'll meet the Canyoneer host. No facilities. Allow 1 hour driving time. (Map 1148-J7; GPS N33.039975, W117.156780)

Anza-Borrego Desert State Park

EX5b

(MINE CANYON)

Saturday, March 7, 2015

10 AM–2 PM

Hike into the North Pinyon Mountains, the site of many desert mine locations. Visit a large Kumeyaay village site with hundreds of agave-roasting pits.

(Anza-Borrego Desert State Park) From I-8, exit north on Hwy. 79 through Cuyamaca Rancho State Park to Julian. Turn right on Hwy. 78. Meet the Canyoneer host at the beginning of Mine Wash Rd, 2.7 miles east of the Tamarisk Grove (Yaqui Pass Rd.) intersection on Hwy. 78. We will consolidate into 4WD or high-clearance vehicles to reach the trailhead. No facilities. Allow 2 hours driving time. (Map 1098/1119-F5; GPS N33.132884, W116.333960)

Anza-Borrego Desert State Park

E2a

(SANDSTONE CANYON)

Sunday, March 8, 2015

9:30 AM–1:30 PM

We will drive through the geologically interesting Split Mountain area to Sandstone Canyon. Once there, we will walk through a spectacular wash with walls that are in places 200 feet high.

(Anza-Borrego Desert State Park) From I-8 east, exit Hwy. 79 through Cuyamaca State Park to Julian. Turn right on Hwy. 78 for 34 miles. Turn right on Split Mountain Rd. and go 8 miles to meet the Canyoneer host. We will consolidate into 4WD or high-clearance vehicles to travel to the hike location. No facilities. Allow 2.5 hours driving time. (Map 410-F11; GPS N33.038255, W116.097017)

Mount Gower County Open Space Preserve 14b

Saturday, March 14, 2015

9 AM–12:30 PM

Chaparral and oak woodland provide corridors for diverse wildlife. We hope to see woolly blue curls and canchalaguas along the trail. This walk involves a moderate climb to a viewpoint.

(Ramona) From Hwy. 67, go east on Maplevue St. 0.5 miles to Ashwood St. Turn north (left) on Ashwood St. (it changes to Wildcat Canyon Rd.) and continue 12.3 miles to San Vicente Rd. Go east (right) on San Vicente Rd. 1.6 miles to Gunn Stage Rd. Go north (left) on Gunn Stage Rd. for 1.8 miles to the entrance of the Preserve and park in the staging area. Facilities. Allow 1 hour driving time. (Map 1173-F1; GPS N33.026672, W116.792507)



Lopez Canyon Open Space Preserve

I3a

(SORRENTO VALLEY TO PACIFIC MESA)

Saturday, March 14, 2015 4 PM–6 PM

This quiet canyon is home to a variety of wildlife, including several species of birds of prey. Walk past magnificent sycamores and other riparian vegetation along an old creek bed into areas where dense chaparral mixes with coastal sage scrub at the top of the mesa.

(Sorrento Valley) Take I-5 north to the Sorrento Valley Rd. exit (Exit 30) and turn left onto Roselle St. Turn right on Sorrento Valley Blvd. Continue for approximately 1 mile to the parking lot on right (4280 Sorrento Valley Blvd). Facilities. Allow 30 minutes driving time. (Map 1208-D5; GPS N32.906792, W117.207241)

Silverwood Wildlife Sanctuary

E2a

Sunday, March 15, 2015 9:30 AM–NOON

Be sure to bring your binoculars to this oak-dotted Audubon Society preserve. We will observe wildflowers in season and higher-elevation chaparral growth and regeneration after the 2003 Cedar fire.

(Lakeside) From Hwy. 67, exit east on Maplevue St. then turn left (north) onto Ashwood St., which changes to Wildcat Canyon Rd. Drive 5 miles. Silverwood is on the right just beyond Oak Oasis (13003 Wildcat Canyon Rd., Lakeside). Facilities. Allow 40 minutes driving time. (Map 1212-F2; GPS N32.919648, W116.882182)

Sloan Canyon

I3c

Saturday, March 21, 2015 9 AM–NOON

A profusion of seasonal wildflowers makes this hike worthwhile. The moderate climb of about 1,000 feet over 2.5 miles is on an old road. From this elevation there is a great view of the Sweetwater River.

(Dehesa) From I-8 take the Harbison Canyon/Dunbar Lane exit. Merge onto Alpine Way. Turn right onto Arnold Way and then right onto Harbison Canyon Rd. (becomes Dehesa Rd.) to Sloan Canyon Rd. (a dirt road on the left), about 6 miles from the I-8 off-ramp. Turn left on Sloan Canyon Rd. and proceed to the end of the road, about 4 miles. This is a good graded road suitable for sedans. Park at the end of Sloan Canyon Rd. on the side of the road. Take care not to block the two gates. No facilities. Allow 1 hour driving time. (Maps 1253-A7 and 1273-B1; GPS N32.771785, W116.809857)



Santa Rosa Plateau Ecological Reserve

I6b

Sunday, March 22, 2015

8 AM–1 PM

View the only known examples of southern basalt flow vernal pools and then continue on to visit two historic adobes, circa 1857. We will learn about the plateau's unique topography, geology, and habitats.

(Riverside County, Murrieta) From I-15, go southwest on Clinton Keith Rd. to the Visitor Center and pay the park's day use fee: \$3 adults, \$2 children. Meet the Canyoneer host there to caravan to the vernal pool trailhead. Water and facilities. Allow 1.25 hours driving time. (Map 409-B3; GPS N33.543411, W117.270807)

McGinty Mountain Ecological Reserve

D5d

Saturday, March 28, 2015

9 AM–11 AM or 9 AM–2 PM

This small mountain southeast of El Cajon offers a hike with a 1400-foot elevation gain/loss. Plants endemic to this island of gabbro soil are of special interest. The short hike to the South Ridge is about 2 miles round trip. The long hike to the summit is about 5 miles round trip and will take 4 to 5 hours.

(Jamul) From Hwy. 94 (Campo Rd.), turn left on Lyons Valley Rd. for about 0.8 miles, then turn left at Jamul Dr. and continue for a little less than 0.5 miles to the entrance. Park in small turnout on right. No facilities. Allow 30 minutes driving time. (Maps 1272-H7, 1292-H1; GPS N32.729406, W116.872688)

Iron Mountain

I6e or I10e

(ELLIE LANE LOOP TRAIL)

Sunday, March 29, 2015

7:30 AM–NOON or 7:30 AM–1:30 PM

This alternative approach to hiking Iron Mountain has many of the same challenges and scenery but starts from a less-crowded parking area. There are hillsides of granitic boulders and views of Ramona from a saddle 200 feet lower than Iron Mountain peak. The longer hike includes a side trip to the peak.



(Poway) Take I-8 east to Hwy. 67 and drive 13.5 miles north. Turn right at Ellie Lane (0.5 miles north of the Poway Rd. traffic light) and meet the Canyoneer host in the parking area. Do not turn in at the Poway Rd. intersection entrance to the main Iron Mountain trailhead parking area. No facilities. Allow 40 minutes driving time. (Map 1171-D7; GPS N32.987684, W116.976938)

Cleveland National Forest

I5c

(KITCHEN CREEK FALLS)

Saturday, April 4, 2015

8 AM–11:30 AM

This 5-mile round-trip hike in the Laguna Mountains has an elevation gain/loss of 900 feet in a gradual slope. The view is spectacular as the trail rises. Plan to eat lunch at the falls.

(Cleveland National Forest) Take I-8 east to Buckman Springs Rd. Turn right (south) at the first stop sign and left (east) at the second stop sign. Proceed for 2 miles to the Forest Service campground (Pacific Crest Trail parking). A National Forest Adventure Pass is required to park. Facilities and water available at the Buckman Springs Rest Stop. Allow 1.5 hours driving time. (Map 430-A7; GPS N32.732506, W116.483277)

Mission Trails Regional Park

D6c

(RIM TRAIL)

Sunday, April 5, 2015

9 AM–1 PM

The Rim Trail on the western edge of Mission Trails Regional Park highlights views of Fortuna and Cowles Mountains, Suycott Wash, and the Peninsular Ranges to the east. Look for threatened species of variegated Dudleya, summer holly, barrel cactus, johnny jump-ups, and shooting stars.

(Mission Trails Regional Park, San Diego) From I-15 or CA-163, exit east on Clairemont Mesa Blvd. and park at the trailhead at the end of the road. No facilities. Allow 20 minutes driving time. (Map 1250-B1; GPS N32.825310, W117.077069)

Cuyamaca Rancho State Park

16c

(JUAQUAPIN CREEK LOOP)

Saturday, April 11, 2015

8:30 AM–2 PM

Walk along a beautiful, shaded creek and stop for lunch near an area where native people once prepared food in morteros.

(Cuyamaca Rancho State Park) From I-8, exit north onto Hwy. 79 for 7.5 miles. Turn into the large parking area on the right (0.5 miles past the Green Valley Campground). No facilities. Allow 1 hour driving time. (Map 1216-F2; GPS N32.909355, W116.574853)

Cuyamaca Rancho State Park

15c

(GREEN VALLEY FALLS LOOP)

Sunday, April 12, 2015

8:30 AM–1:30 PM

We will make an early-morning start at the falls and then hike along the east side of the Sweetwater River. After crossing to the west side of the river, we will return through chaparral, riparian, and meadow habitats.

(Cuyamaca Rancho State Park) From I-8, exit north onto Hwy. 79 for 7 miles to the Green Valley Campground kiosk. There is an \$8 day-use charge per vehicle. Park at the falls day-use parking lot past campsite #76. Facilities. Allow 1 hour driving time. (Map 1216-E3; GPS N32.903104, W116.580471)

Eagle Peak

14d

Saturday, April 18, 2015

9 AM–1 PM

This trail has panoramic views of the Three Sisters Waterfalls. On a clear day, the view from the peak can extend to the ocean.

(Descanso) From I-8, exit north on Hwy. 79 and then go left (west) on Riverside Dr. Turn left on Viejas Grade then make an immediate right past the store onto Oak Grove Dr. Turn right on Boulder Creek Rd. and drive 13 miles (it becomes a well-kept dirt road) to a hairpin turn that intersects Cedar Creek Rd. and the trailhead. No facilities. Allow 1.5 hours driving time. (Map 1175-B6; GPS N32.984544, W116.677112)

Lake Morena County Park

16c

Sunday, April 19, 2015

9 AM–1:30 PM

Morena Reservoir and the Pacific Crest Trail in the Cleveland National Forest provide access to some spectacular areas of vegetation, including riparian and chaparral communities. Giant granitic boulders border portions of the lake.

(Morena Village) Take I-8 east to the Buckman Springs Rd. exit. Turn right (south) onto Buckman Springs Rd. (S1) and continue 5 miles to Oak Rd. Proceed to Lake Morena Dr. Turn right to the County Park. Meet at the Pacific Crest Trail parking lot. Please allow extra time to pay the County parking fee of \$3 at the ranger station a short distance beyond the meeting site. Facilities. Allow 1.5 hours driving time. (Map 1296/1297-D5; GPS N32.682526, W116.516789)

SDSU Field Station

17d

(SANTA MARGARITA ECOLOGICAL RESERVE)

Saturday, April 25, 2015

9 AM–2 PM

Canyoneers have permission to guide at this SDSU field station on this date only. This hike has it all. Explore Stone Creek and the Santa Margarita River at the bottom of this impressive gorge and discover a variety of native plants found on the steep slopes and open areas of chaparral.

(Fallbrook) From I-15, exit west on Mission Rd. (S13) and turn right onto Willow Glen Rd. Drive to the end of Willow Glen and continue right (north) on Stage Coach Lane for 2 miles on a well maintained dirt road. The gate to the reserve will be open a half-hour before the hike. Follow the Canyoneer sign to the parking area. Facilities. Allow 1.5 hours driving time. (Map 998-C3; GPS N33.432163, W117.195276)

Hollenbeck Canyon

14b

Sunday, April 26, 2015

9 AM–1 PM

This hike will pass through a riparian habitat wildlife area with the remains of a cabin and evidence of floodwaters. Lunch will be along a creek, sitting on boulders before we loop back to the trailhead.

(Jamul) From I-8, exit I-805 south to Hwy. 94 east. Exit on Honey Springs Rd. and turn left and make a quick left into a parking lot to meet the Canyoneer host. Facilities. Allow 40 minutes driving time. (Map 1293 section 1313-E1; GPS N32.670541, W116.822886)

Boulder Mountain Road Private Nature Trail E4a

Saturday, May 2, 2015

9 AM–NOON

The owner of this private property has given the Canyoneers special permission to lead a hike on this date only. Please join us at this Poway location with an exceptional variety of native plants.

(Poway) From I-15, exit east on Rancho Bernardo Rd., which becomes Espola Rd. (S5). Make right turns on Martincoit and Orchard Gate, then left on Lime Grove which turns right, becoming Arroyo Vista Rd. Turn left on Boulder Mountain Rd. and meet the Canyoneer host. Do not be late, as we will have limited access through the gate. No facilities. Allow 40 minutes driving time. (Map 1170-E5; GPS N32.998514, W117.044096)

Cleveland National Forest

D8b

(NOBLE CANYON)

Sunday, May 3, 2015

8:30 AM–4 PM

Enjoy a downhill trek through this beautiful stream-cut canyon in the Laguna Mountains. We will pass through a stand of California bay-laurel trees and look for wild orchids, penstemons, and woolly blue curls. Bring plenty of water as the hike down to Pine Valley passes through open chaparral. Guides will shuttle drivers back to the trailhead as needed. (Cleveland National Forest) From I-8, exit Pine Valley Rd. going north. Turn west on Old Hwy. 80. Turn north directly past the bridge at Pine Creek Rd. keeping to the left. Park in the Noble Canyon parking lot near the restrooms. We will consolidate into 4WD or high-clearance vehicles to reach the trailhead. A National Forest Adventure Pass is required to park. Allow 1 hour driving time. (Map 1237-C3; GPS N32.849770, W116.523082)

Cleveland National Forest

I3b

(HORSETHIEF CANYON)

Saturday, May 9, 2015

9 AM–1 PM

We will descend 400 feet to the canyon floor and then follow a flat trail to Pine Valley Creek that will lead us through live oaks, sycamores and seasonal wildflowers. (Cleveland National Forest, Pine Creek Wilderness Area) From I-8 east, exit south on Japatul Valley Rd. to Lyons Valley Rd. Follow it to the trailhead at Mile Marker 16.4. A National Forest Adventure Pass is required to park. No facilities. Allow 1.5 hours driving time. (Map 1275-E4; GPS N32.747146, W116.669205)

Cleveland National Forest

D4b

(SECRET CANYON TRAIL)

Sunday, May 10, 2015

9 AM–2 PM

Follow Pine Valley Creek and pass under the Pine Valley Bridge, which is 400 feet above the gorge. Explore remains of an 1895 flume intended to move water from a proposed reservoir in Pine Valley to King Creek, a San Diego River tributary. (Cleveland National Forest, Pine Valley) From I-8, take Exit 45 (Pine Valley Rd) and turn north on Pine Valley Rd, then turn left on Old Hwy. 80 for 1.5 miles. Park in the Pine Creek Trailhead on the left. A National Forest Adventure Pass is required to park. No Facilities. Allow 1 hour driving time. (Map 1237-A4; GPS N32.837365, W116.541780)

San Diego River

E2a

(HAZARD CENTER TROLLEY STOP)

Saturday, May 16, 2015

10 AM–NOON

Arrive by mass transit to see native riparian and chaparral plants along the San Diego River mostly via a paved walkway.

(San Diego, Mission Valley) By trolley, take the Green Line to Hazard Center. By car, from CA-163 exit east on Friars Rd. Turn right at Frazee Rd. and right again on Hazard Center Dr. Look for the Canyoneer host at the trolley station. Wheelchair accessible. No facilities. Allow 15 minutes driving time. (Map 1269-A2; GPS N32.770506, W117.157824)

Santa Margarita River Trail

EX3a

Sunday, May 17, 2015

9 AM–NOON

There should be a grand display of seasonal wildflowers on the river trail.

(Fallbrook) From I-15, exit Mission Rd. toward Fallbrook then left at E. Mission Rd./Old Hwy. 395. Turn right at E. Mission Rd. then take another right at N. Pico Ave. continuing on De Luz Rd. Make a slight right at Sandia Creek Dr. then enter the parking lot (if you drive over the Arizona Crossing you missed the lot!). No facilities. Allow 1.5 hours driving time. (Map 997-G5; GPS N33.413515, W117.241602)

Volcan Mountain County Open Space Preserve D5c

Saturday, May 30, 2015

9 AM–2 PM

This 2,195-acre preserve offers an array of seasonal wildflowers in oak-pine woodland. We walk to Volcan Peak for a lunch stop and a grand view of the area.

(Julian) From Julian, take Main St. north out of town for about 2.2 miles (Main St. becomes Farmer Rd.). Turn right on Wynola Rd. for about 100 yards and then take the first left, which is a continuation of Farmer Rd. The preserve entrance is on the right. Park on the shoulder of the road. No facilities. Allow 1.5 hours driving time. (Map 1136-B3; GPS N33.105256, W116.602487)

San Elijo Lagoon County Ecological Preserve E2a

(RIOS AVE.)

Sunday, May 31, 2015

4:30 PM–6:30 PM

The preserve has more than 250 species of shore and water birds in multiple plant communities that include marsh, sage scrub, and chaparral. Bring your binoculars!

(Solana Beach) From I-5, exit west on Lomas Santa Fe Dr. Turn right (north) onto Rios Ave. Go to the end of the road and park. No facilities. Allow 30 minutes driving time. (Map 1167-E6; GPS N33.003597, W117.272490)

Cuyamaca Rancho State Park

15c

(AIRPLANE MONUMENT)

Saturday, June 6, 2015

9 AM–1 PM

There are scenic views along the trail to the monument, which marks the site of the 1922 crash of Lt. Col. F.C. Marshal and 1st Lt. C.L. Weber. The memorial is a 12-cylinder engine mounted in stone.

(Cuyamaca Rancho State Park) From I-8, exit north onto Hwy. 79 for 7.5 miles. Turn into the large parking area on the right (0.5 miles past the Green Valley Campground). No facilities. Allow 1 hour driving time. (Map 1216-F2; GPS N32.909355, W116.574853)

Rose Canyon Open Space Park

E4a

Saturday, June 6, 2015

5 PM–7 PM

Watch for hawks soaring above Rose Creek in this 275-acre oasis along the old Santa Fe Railroad roadbed. Volunteers have planted a native garden near the trailhead.

(University City) From Hwy. 52 or from Clairemont Mesa Blvd., take Genesee Ave. north to Decoro St. Turn left onto Decoro St. and park. Walk south on Genesee back to the trailhead to meet the Canyoneer host. No facilities. Allow 20 minutes driving time. (Map 1228-D4; GPS N32.860368, W117.208795)

Cleveland National Forest New!

17b

(AGUA DULCE - CHICO SPUR LOOP)

Sunday, June 7, 2015

8:30 AM–2:30 PM

Walk under pines, oaks, and incense cedar on this 7-mile hike that follows the Agua Dulce fire road with a return on the Chico Spur.

(Cleveland National Forest, Laguna Mountains) From I-8, exit north on Sunrise Hwy. (S1) and go 8.3 miles to Wooded Hill Rd. Turn left and drive about 0.4 miles to the Agua Dulce Trailhead parking lot. A National Forest Adventure Pass is required to park. Facilities. Allow 1 hour driving time. (Map 430-B5; GPS N32.853845, W116.435488)

San Dieguito River Park New!

E6a

(COAST TO CREST TRAIL - DEL MAR)

Saturday, June 13, 2015

8 AM–12:30 PM

Hike the western-most section of the Coast to Crest Trail that will someday extend 55 miles from the ocean at Del Mar to Volcan Mountain just north of Julian.

(San Dieguito River Park, Del Mar) From I-5, exit at Via De La Valle. Turn east on Via De La Valle and then south on San Andres Drive, parking at the end of the street. Facilities along the trail. Allow 30 minutes driving time. (Map 1187-H2; GPS N32.978476, W117.247493)

Cleveland National Forest

17b

(SUNSET TRAIL)

Sunday, June 14, 2015

9 AM–2 PM

This hike winds through Laguna Meadow and then loops behind the mountains on the Sunset Trail for some spectacular views.

(Cleveland National Forest) From I-8, exit north on Sunrise Hwy. (S1). Drive 13.5 miles to the Penny Pines turnout near mile marker 27.3 and park. A National Forest Adventure Pass is required to park. No facilities. Allow 1.5 hours driving time. (Map 1218-C4; GPS N32.905644, W116.457394)

Cleveland National Forest

E2b

(LOVE VALLEY MEADOW)

Saturday, June 20, 2015

9 AM–NOON

Enjoy views of Lake Henshaw, golden grass meadows, and a rustic barn during this walk.

(Cleveland National Forest, Lake Henshaw) From I-15, exit east on Bear Valley Pkwy. (which joins Valley Pkwy.), bearing north to Hwy. 76, then east to East Grade Rd. (S7). Follow it to the trailhead at 3.3 miles and park at the south turnoff. A National Forest Adventure Pass is required to park. No facilities. Allow 2 hours driving time. (Map 409-H8; GPS N33.264071, W116.774092)

Palomar Mountain State Park

14c

(THUNDER SPRING/CHIMNEY FLATS)

Sunday, June 21, 2015

10 AM–2:30 PM

Enjoy a picturesque trail to Thunder Spring while hiking through bracken fern, oaks, and conifers. There are some steep elevation gains/losses as well as plenty of poison oak along the trail.

(Palomar Mountain State Park) From Hwy. 76, take S6 to Palomar Mountain. Turn left at S7 (just before the store and restaurant) to Palomar Mountain State Park. An \$8 parking fee is payable at the park entrance. Follow the signs to Doane Pond and park in the lot. Facilities. Allow 2 hours driving time. (Map 1032-B4; GPS N33.341747, W116.901352)

Cuyamaca Rancho State Park

17d

(OAKZANITA PEAK)

Saturday, June 27, 2015

8 AM–1 PM

Scarlet larkspur and Indian pinks brighten this challenging hike that climbs to the top of Oakzanita Peak (about 7 miles round trip) for a spectacular view. There will be an option for a less strenuous loop hike of about 5 miles.

(Cuyamaca Rancho State Park) From I-8, exit north on Hwy. 79 to just past Oakzanita Campground. As you enter Cuyamaca Rancho State Park, park in the dirt lot immediately to the right after the sign. No facilities. Allow 1 hour driving time. (Map 1216-F5; GPS N32.889480, W116.576014)

Cuyamaca Rancho State Park

15c

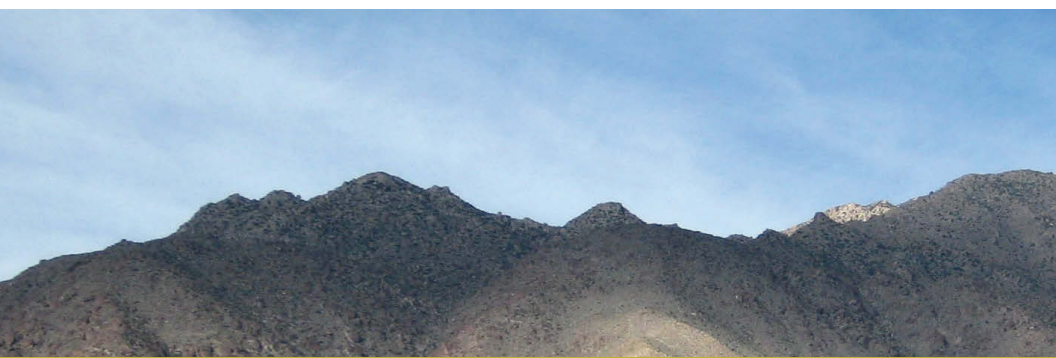
(STONEWALL PEAK)

Sunday, June 28, 2015

4 PM–7:30 PM

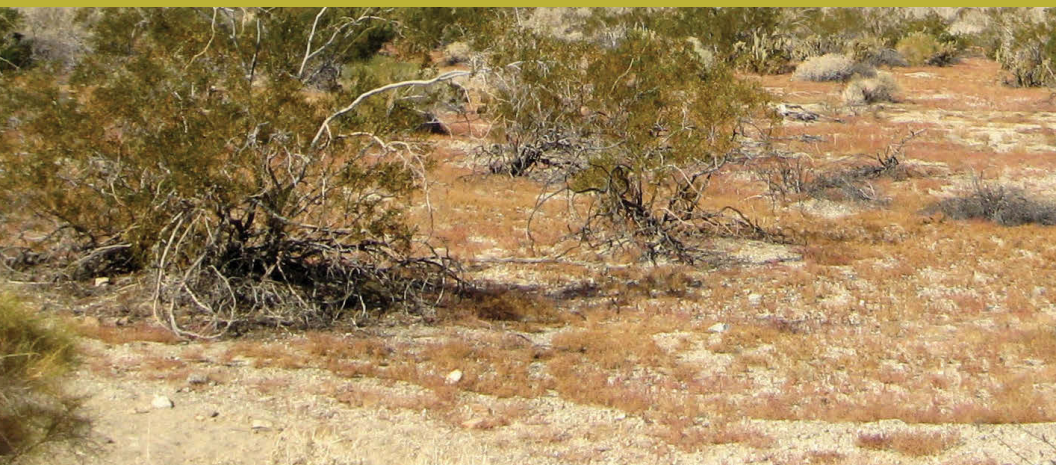
Follow this switchback trail to granitic Stonewall Peak, elevation 5,730 ft. Enjoy views of Cuyamaca Reservoir and nearby peaks of the Cuyamaca Mountains.

(Cuyamaca Rancho State Park) From I-8, exit north on Hwy. 79. Drive about 12 miles to the entrance of the Paso Picacho Campground. Meet the Canyoneer host in the parking lot. Parking fee is \$8. Facilities. Allow 1 hour driving time. (Map 1176/1196-E2; GPS N32.959647, W116.579154)



MISSION

To interpret the natural world through research, education, and exhibits; to promote understanding of the evolution and diversity of southern California and the peninsula of Baja California; and to inspire in all a respect for nature and the environment.



Photos courtesy of Canyoneers:

Stacey Vielma, Linda Pardy, and Liz Tymkiw.



San Diego Natural History Museum

P.O. Box 121390

San Diego, CA 92112-1390

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 466
SAN DIEGO, CA