

# Field Trips and Outings

Thanks to Phil and Sakiko Wehrman

This section contains a partial list of the places for Den or Pack outings. Places we did not specifically include are:

**Police departments and fire departments:** Most of them have wonderful programs for children. Don't forget 9-1-1 centers in your community. Contact your police department.

**Other public facilities:** Some cities give tours of their city halls. Some judges are willing to talk to the boys in their chambers. These are great for the Webelos Scouts. Libraries are always fun to visit, especially when they let you see the storage rooms.

**Supermarkets and restaurants:** Albertsons, Safeway, Costco and many other supermarkets give tours. Children like their big freezers. Carl's Jr., Burger King and McDonalds are but a few of the fast food restaurants who take the kids behind the counters. Chevy's and other restaurants give tours too.

Many other places do not publicize but give tours to those who request. Others, mostly private businesses, may not have given any tours before but probably would be willing to do so if asked. So if you are working on caring for pets with your Wolves, call a pet shop or your veterinarian. If you need a bicycle expert for the Webelos Handyman badge, just call a bicycle shop in your neighborhood and ask. Ask for specific things; tell them what you need to be covered for a particular achievement or activity badge. Many are more than willing to accommodate you.

**City, County, State, and National Parks:** We did not include as many outdoor facilities for picnic, hiking and camping as we would have liked. We are lucky to have so many beautiful parks surrounding us. Call County Parks, State Parks and National Parks for information. These services have their own guidelines and publications. California State Department of Parks and Recreation publishes yearly a listing of their special events, programs and activities, from astronomy program and kite festival to poison oak festival and banana slug derby. Call (916) 653-4000 and ask them to send you the 1999 Event Calendar.

**State Park Camping Reservation:** (800) 444-PARK. Information is also available through the Department's Internet website: [www.cal-parks.ca.gov](http://www.cal-parks.ca.gov)

**Santa Clara County Parks:** Reservations: (408) 358-3751. Some of the county parks have youth camp grounds. At \$28 per site for up to 40 people, these are great bargains. And the sites are well maintained. Call the Parks and Recreation department for more information. They will ask you for your tax exempt ID number.

AAA has books and maps for the area including those for camping. Ask them for a copy. Boy Scout leaders are excellent resources for hiking trails and camping grounds.

If you are taking your den or pack on an outing, call ahead even if a reservation is not required. Most of the phone numbers and fees in the following pages have been updated in November 1998. But they may change. Also the hours often change between summer and winter so it is advisable to call for the latest information before you go. We recommend that you take coins and dollar bills for parking since more and more parking lots are being automated.

## SAN JOSE AND VICINITY

### ALUM ROCK PARK

Alum rock Ave., east of US 101 Park free, parking \$3 per vehicle Sat, Sun and holidays. Visitor center (408) 259-5477. Picnic facilities and marked trails. Camping available for youth groups.

See YOUTH SCIENCE INSTITUTE-ALUM ROCK DISCOVERY CENTER

### BFI

Please see the RECYCLERY

### CALIFORNIA HISTORY CENTER

De Anza College, 21250 Stevens Creek Blvd, Cupertino 95014. (408) 864-8712. Mon-Thurs, 8:30-noon and 1:00-4:30. Closed July and August. Free. 4th grade and up. Group tours by appt.



This living history museum is housed in the restored Le Petit Trianon, the original house on De Anza land. It doesn't take long to see this place. They recommend visitors to combine this tour with the visit to the planetarium and/or the environmental study area.

### **CAMPBELL BREAD BAKING AND MILLING CO.**

1581 W. Campbell Ave., Campbell. (408) 364-2253. Afternoon tours may be arranged.

There is no set tour schedule but the owners are willing to make arrangements for elementary school age children.

### **CAMPBELL HISTORICAL MUSEUM**

51 North Central, Campbell 95008. Off First St. and Civic Center Drive. (408) 866-2119. Thurs-Sun, 12:00-4:00. Closed holidays. Adults, \$6; Seniors, \$4; youth 7-17, \$2.50. Ainsley's house located at 300 Grant St. The museum is closed for renovation until fall of 1999

Docent-led tour of the Ainsley's house, which depicts the lifestyle of the 1920's and 1930's. Learn about Campbell history. The tour lasts about 45 minutes. House is closed in winter till early April, 1999.

### **CHEESEBROUGH SCOUT RESERVATION**

Council's camp located on Hwy 9. A great place for overnight for Webelos or pack families. And with service project, it's free! Inquire at the Council Service Center.

### **CHILDREN'S DISCOVERY MUSEUM**

180 Woz Way, San Jose 95110. (408) 298-5437. Tues-Sat, 10:00-5:00; Sun, 12:00-5:00; closed Mondays except designated holidays. Adults, \$6; ages 2-18, \$4; seniors, \$5. Parking (Woz Way Lot) \$2 per vehicle, exact change. Theater specials, story telling, and programs. Groups by appt. Dial the museum number (above) and then press 4 for the "What's Happening Line," it will give you a recorded list of upcoming programs and performances. If you don't get through, just ask the receptionist and he or she will help you. The museum also does an overnight sleep-in. Adults, \$30; boy, \$15. It usually starts on Fri with check-in at 6:30 p.m., and ends on Sat morning at 9. Max group size, 40-50 boys; min group size, 20 boys. They provide a dinner of pizza and soda, snacks and drinks in the night, and a breakfast of doughnuts, fruit, and juice. Call Karen Peck at ex. 246 at the number above. Just bring your sleeping bag, a flashlight, and your curiosity. Use the BSA scout-adult ratios. Do it as a pack. <http://www.cdm.org>

Spectacular hands-on exhibits and games capture the imagination of children instantly. Cameras, still and video, are welcome. The museum can be reached by the light-rail. Get off at the Children's Discovery Museum stop.

### **DE ANZA COLLEGE**

21250 Stevens Creek Blvd.

They have California History Center, Environmental Study Area and Planetarium. Please see separate listings.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES /AREA**

De Anza College, 21250 Stevens Creek Blvd, Cupertino 95014. 864-8346 (leave message, they are not in the building often). Free. Open to any age, maximum 30 people.

They have 1 1/2 acres native California plants divided in areas like desert, coast, etc. Children can see adaptation of plants, California ecology in a nutshell, food chain and seed dispersions. Tour lasts one hour or longer. Combine this tour with a visit to the planetarium or California History Center.

### **HAKONE JAPANESE GARDENS**

21000 Big Basin Way, Saratoga 95070. (1/4 mile outside of Saratoga Village, on Hwy 9) (408) 741-4994. Mon-Fri, 10:00-5:00; weekends, 11:00-5:00. Closed Christmas and New Years. Donation. Parking \$5 per car (free on the first Tues of every month). Children under 10 must bring an adult.



There are some picnic tables. Gift shop open daily 12:30-4. Tea Ceremonies on the first Thurs. of each month at 1-4 by reservation. Max. group size for tea ceremonies, 20 people.

### **HAPPY HALLOW PARK AND ZOO**

1300 Senter Road, Kelley Park, San Jose 95112. (408) 277-3000. Daily, 10:00-5:00. Ages 2-64 \$4.50; 65-74 or disabled, \$4; under 2 ore after 75, free for the park, zoo, and all rides. Parking \$3 for the park, weekends and holidays to enter Kelly Park. Subject to closure in bad weather. \$9 entry fee to Kelley Park on weekends. Open 8AM until one hour before local sunset. For reservations call 295-8383.

The zoo has excellent programs about caring animals given by zoo attendants. Their Animal Encounters program is 45 minutes long for 30 or less people. Cost is \$65 for all, including admission. Need at least 1 month advance notice (2 months in spring). If interested, call Zoo Education Center at 277-5120.

### **THE HUMANE SOCIETY OF SANTA CLARA VALLEY (SPCA)**

2530 Lafayette, Santa Clara. Only one in the valley. (408) 727-3383 ex. 880 Alma Tarectecan. Tours by appt. Max group size, 10 people. No tours under 7 years old.

Please bring a give-away for the animals (a blanket, dog biscuits, toys, etc.).

### **JAPANESE FRIENDSHIP TEA GARDEN**

15300 Senter Road, Kelly Park, San Jose 95112. (408) 277-5254. Daily, 10:00-sunset. Free. Parking \$4 weekends and holidays per vehicle.

The garden is patterned after a famous garden in San Jose's sister city of Okayama. Feed koi fish in the pond (25 cents for the fish food).

### **KELLY PARK**

Senter and Story Rds, San Jose.

See individual listings for Happy Hallow Zoo, Japanese Friendship Tea Garden, and San Jose Historical Museum.

### **LICK OBSERVATORY**

Mt. Hamilton 95140. Highway 130, 25 miles Southeast of San Jose. (408) 274-5061. Visitors Center, weekdays, 12:30-5:00; weekends, 10:00-5:00. Tours, 1:00-4:30, every 30 minutes. Free.

Ten-to-15-minute-guided tour of the 36" reflector telescope. Self-guided tour of the rest of the facility. There is a 120" reflector telescope 1/4 mile east of the visitor center. It takes one hour to drive from San Jose. Since you cannot look through the telescope during the day, combine this trip with a visit to Joseph Grant County Park, about 15 minutes from the observatory.

The observatory is open some nights between June and September. Call and ask for more information.

### **LOCKHEED MARTIN**

1111 Lockheed Martin Way, Sunnyvale. Building 107. (408) 742-5606 ask for Pam. Space exhibit facility. 4th grade and up. Tours for Mon afternoons and Fri mornings. Lasts about 1 hr. Reserve 1 week in advance, required. Free. Max group size, 30. Min group size 10 (including parents). Call for directions and map. There are about 50 buildings so let Pam give you directions.

Great exhibits on the Hubble Space Telescope and other phenomenal achievements.

### **LOS GATOS ART AND NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM**

Corner of Main and Tait Ave. (in old firehouse) P.O. Box 1904, Los Gatos, CA 95031.

(408) 354-2646. Wed - Sun, 12:00 - 4:00. Free (donation welcome)

The main floor has art exhibits. Downstairs houses rocks, fossils and natural history of the area. Docent-conducted tours are available. Suitable for the Webelos Geologist Activity Badge.



**MINOLTA PLANETARIUM**

De Anza college, 21250 Stevens Creek Blvd at Stelling Road, Cupertino 95014. (408) 864-8814. Call for times and prices since they change with each class session. \$2.00 parking.

The Minolta Planetarium creates remarkable family shows using audiovisual and video projection systems. Laser Light Shows are offered some Fri. and Sat. Evenings (\$6 adult, \$5 under 12). Call 864-5791 for time and program.

They offer Family Astronomy evening from Jan 30 to April on Fri at 6:30. \$4 per family

**MISSION SANTA CLARA DE ASIS**

Santa Clara University, 500 El Camino Real, Santa Clara 95053. (408) 554-4023. Self-guided tour Mon-Fri, 8:00-6:00; Sun, 12:00-3:30. Free. Guided tours (408) 554-4528 (museum).

Founded in 1777, the present mission is a replica of the third building raised on this site. An adobe wall from the original cloister still stands in the garden. Visit De Asis Museum, Tues-Sun, 11:00-4:00.

**PERALTA ADOBE AND FALLON HOUSE**

175 W. Saint John, San Jose. (408) 993-8182. 90-minute guided tours available Tues-Sun, 12:15, 2:00, 3:30. Adults, \$6; ages 6-18, \$4; seniors, \$5; children under 6, free. Gift Shop, Tues-Fri, 11-4; weekends, 12-5. For booking call (408) 918-1040. Located near the historic San Pedro square.

These are two of the oldest dwellings left in San Jose. Peralta Adobe was built in 1797. The Victorian Fallon House was built in 1855. Docent-led tours. Because of school groups weekdays are crowded It is better to go in afternoon or weekend. Call ahead if you are taking a large group.

**THE RECYCLERY (BFI)**

1601 Dixon Landing Road, Milpitas 95035. (408) 262-1401. Self-guided tour Mon-Fri, 8:00-5:00 for individuals and small groups (ten or less). Guided tours for 10 to 80 people by appt. Reservation: two months in advance. Free. All guided tours by appt. Group size, 10-75 people.

One of the largest recycling centers in Northern California. Visitors stand in a glass booth and watch glass, cans, and newspaper being sorted on the floor below. The tours last 1 to 1 1/2 hours.

**ROSICRUCIAN EGYPTIAN MUSEUM AND PLANETARIUM**

Rosicrucian Park, 1342 Naglee Ave (at Park), San Jose (408) 947-3636. Non-school related tour, call 947-3635  
Egyptian Museum: Daily 10:00-5:00. Adult \$7.00; ages 6-15 \$3.50; seniors and students, \$5; under 6, free.  
Planetarium show: W-M 2:00-4 adults, \$4; ages 7-15 \$3. Check show time at front desk. Planetarium closed until summer of 1999.

Egyptian and Babylonian mummies, sculpture, paintings and scrolls are in abundance. Children would want to know how old each item is. The Planetarium (closed till summer 99) presents changing programs exploring the myths, mysteries, and facts of the sky of yesterday, today, and tomorrow.

**SANBORN- SKYLINE COUNTRY PARK**

Please see the SANTA CLARA COUNTY PARKS (map) at the end.

Also see YOUTH SCIENCE INSTITUTE - SANBORN-DISCOVERY CENTER

**SAN FRANCISCO BAY NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE****ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION CENTER**

Alviso. (408) 262-5513. Take Zanker road North-west, past the Treatment Plant, cross the railroad tracks, right turn at the sign.

Weekend interpretive programs, nature study walks, slide and film presentation and other classes are available. Call the center for weekend events. A great place to visit with kids.



### **SAN JOSE ASTRONOMICAL ASSOCIATION STAR PARTY**

At Houge Park. Take Hwy 85 to Bascom and go north toward San Jose on Bascom to the first light, White Oaks. Or Hwy 880, take Camden Ave., east approx. 1/2 mile to Bascom Ave., turn right (south) on Bascom until the second light, White Oaks Ave., turn left (east) on White Oaks Ave for a few blocks to Houge Park. Turn left (north) on twilight Drive to get to the entrance. usually on the Friday closest to a First Quarter Moon. From 1 hour before sunset until about 11:30, weather permitting. SJAA hotline (408) 559-1221. Free.

SJAA has several options for an excellent Scout event. No advanced notice is required for the monthly Houge Park star party, although a call to say you are bringing a group is appreciated. Specific dates for each month are available on the hotline or web site. For a private event (good for larger groups), docent led parties are available at no charge. Links to other local astronomy groups and events are also available on the SJAA web site.

Most of the telescopes will be set up on the lawn next to the parking lot. Or you may want to take your own. If you are having a problem with your telescope or just want to learn how to use it, this is a very good place to get your question answered. They are so helpful and friendly. For more information, call the Association's hotline 559-1221. SJAA web address: <http://www.seds.org/billa/sjaa.html>

### **SAN JOSE INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT**

Call San Jose Convention & Visitors Bureau (408) 295-9600 for information.

### **SAN JOSE HISTORICAL MUSEUM**

1650 Senter Road, San Jose 95112. South end of Kelly Park at Senter Road. (408) 287-2290. Tues-Fri, 8-5. Sat-Sun 12:00-5, closed Mon. Adults, \$6; seniors (65 and older), \$5; youth (6-17), \$4; children (5 and under), free. Docent-led tours, by appt. Groups are 10 people or more. Reservations, 2 weeks in advance. Group rates-adults, \$5; seniors, \$4; kids (6-17), \$3; children (5 and under), free. May need a deposit for group tours. To reserve tours, call (408) 918-1040.

Reconstructed and restored landmarks bring to life the look of late-19th-century San Jose in this 16-acre complex. Visit the trolley barn and see antique trolleys being restored. Trolley rides (inside the grounds)-weekends only, free.

### **SAN JOSE MERCURY NEWS**

750 Ridder Park Drive, San Jose. (408) 920-5000. Tours are scheduled for Tues at 10:00-11:30. Free. Make reservation at least 3 weeks in advance. 3rd grade and up. Group size: 30 (1 adult per every 10 children, required).

This may be a good one for spring break or summertime since tours are limited to mornings. This is a very popular tour. Call early to secure the date you want.

### **SAN JOSE MUSEUM OF ART**

110 S. Market, San Jose. (408) 271-6840. Tues-Sun 10:00-5:00; Thurs 10:00-8:00. Adults, \$7; seniors (62 and older) and children 6-17 \$4; Under 5, free. Free day: first Thurs of the month. First Tues of every month free to seniors all day. Every Thurs from 5-8, half price for everyone. Last Sunday of every month-from 11-3 is Kid's Art Sunday, a free art time for anyone (adults must be accompanied by a child 17 or younger). For admissions desk call (408) 271-6855.

They offer public free tour Tues - Sat at 12:30 and 2:30, and on Thurs again at 6:30

### **SAN JOSE POST OFFICE (main office)**

1750 Lundy Ave., San Jose. (408) 437-6621. Any weekday. No tours in December. Up to 40 kids.

Allow minimum of one hour. Take a letter and walk through the process. A fun and informative tour for children and adult. Siblings are allowed too.



**SAN JOSE STATE UNIVERSITY, METEOROLOGY DEPT.**

620 Duncan Hall. (408) 924-5206. Prof. Alison Bridger. Tues and Thus. Free. At least 1 week in advance. Max number 50. No age limit but it is recommended a group be composed of children of similar age.

Tours are given by senior students. A tour mostly consists of show and tell, in class experiments, pictures and videos. It does not include a tour of most of the instruments since they are on the rooftop. A tour last about one hour.

**SANTA CLARA COUNTY MODEL AIRCRAFT SKYPARK**

Contact Jerry Fisher, Club President, (408) 778-9314.

Open 365 days, 8:30am to dusk.

Great place to spend the day watching model airplanes soar in the sky. Scout groups are more than welcome. They might even let you fly a plane if you call ahead. Weekend food service during regular season, March through November. 500 x 60 foot plus runway.

**SANTA CLARA VALLEY AUDUBON SOCIETY**

22221 McClellan Road, Cupertino, Ca. 95014. (408) 252-3747. Nature walk. Free. Weekdays before 6:00 year round, availability is limited so call ahead. Reservation 4 weeks in advance. Maximum 35 children.

Children learn about the creek and trees, birds, and other wildlife associated with Stevens Creek. When weather permits, they can go wading in the creek. The Society provides binoculars, field guides, net and other items to make learning fun for children. Also inquire about their "Young audubon" program.

**SUNNYVALE HISTORICAL MUSEUM**

235 East California (corner of Sunnyvale and California), Sunnyvale 94085. (408) 749-0220. Tues and Thurs, 12:00-3:30; Sun, 1:00-4:00; and by apt. Free. This small museum captures the past with artifacts and pictures of pioneers.

**TANDY LEATHER**

Unfortunately for all of us, Tandy Leather has closed all of their retail stores. You can still obtain their catalog from their web site at <http://www.tandy-leather.com/>, or call them at (888) 890-1611.

**THE TECH MUSEUM OF INNOVATION**

201 South Market St., downtown San Jose 95110. (408) 279-7150. Tues-Sun, 10:00-5:00. Adults, \$8 for exhibits or imax theater, \$13.50 for a combo ticket; ages 3-12, \$6 for exhibits or imax, or \$10 for a combo. <http://www.thetech.org>

Newly renovated and infinitely exciting. A lot of hands-on exhibits. A number of virtual reality exhibits. You can create and "ride" your own roller coaster. You can make an earthquake, control a remote operated vehicle (ROV) and you can even try "surgery." The Tech museum also houses the only domed I-max theater in California. A lot of hand-on activities. The museum is located near the San Jose Museum of Art so you could make it a double field trip.

**TRITON MUSEUM OF ART**

1505 Warburton Ave., Santa Clara. (408) 247-9340. Wed-Sun, 10:00-5:00; Tues, 10:00-9:00. Admission free. Special docent-led field trip available for children. \$1 per child. Call (408) 247- 3754 for live person (staff member). Donations welcome. <http://www.tritonmuseum.org>

Tours for children are normally scheduled for mornings, but you can arrange an afternoon tour.

**VASONA COUNTY PARK**

Please see the SANTA CLARA COUNTY PARKS (mat) at the end of this section.  
Also YOUTH SCIENCE INSTITUTE - VASONA DISCOVER CENTER.



**VILLA MONTALVO**

Saratoga-Los Gatos Road, Saratoga. (408) 961-5800. Arboretum: Mon-Sun, 9:00-5:00; Hiking trails. Free.

A Santa Clara County park. Nature trails traverse a redwood grove, hills and meadows, and flower covered arbors in the arboretum. Hiking maps available in Parking Lot #1.

**WINCHESTER MYSTERY HOUSE**

525 South Winchester Blvd. (between Stevens Creek Blvd and I-280), San Jose 96128. (408) 247-2101. 65-minute tours daily except Christmas. 9:30-4:30 in winter, 9:00-5:30 in summer. Ages 13-64, \$13.95; ages 6-12, \$7.95; seniors, \$10.95; tots 5 and under, free when accompanied by a paying adult. Reduced group tour fees by reservation. There is a behind the scenes tour but it is not available to those ages 12 and under.

This 160-room house is full of mysteries with its doorways opening to blank walls, secret passageways twisting around, and the number 13 appearing everywhere. The tour takes you through 110 rooms. A self-guided tour of the Victorian Gardens is included in the tour price.

Special flashlight tours offered on a Friday, the 13th for \$21; ages 5 and under, free

**YOUTH SCIENCE INSTITUTE - ALUM ROCK DISCOVERY CENTER**

16260 Alum Rock Ave., San Jose 95127. Alum Rock Park, off Highway 680. (408) 258-4322. Tues-Fri, 12:00-4:30. Closed Sat, Sun, and Mon in winter. Adults, 50 cents; children, 25 cents. Family \$1. Group size, up to 20 kids, self-guided. Due to flood damage park is half closed. Call ahead for more information.

It is a junior museum with an extensive collection of live animals, reptiles, amphibians, and birds.

**YOUTH SCIENCE INSTITUTE - SANBORN DISCOVERY CENTER**

16055 Sanborn Rd, Saratoga 95070. Sanborn-Skyline County Park, off Highway 9. (408) 867-6940. In winter Tue-Fri 9:00-4:30; Sat, 12:00-4:30. Open Tues-Sun in summer. Parking fee. Closed Sun, October to March. Located in a redwood forest, this is a junior museum with a live insect zoo. They are in a process of expanding their program.

**YOUTH SCIENCE INSTITUTE - VASONA DISCOVERY CENTER**

296 Garden Hill Drive, Los Gatos 95030. Vasona County Park, off Blossom Hill Road. (408) 356-4945. Mon-Fri, 9-4:30. Closed weekends. Donations welcome. Parking fee, \$4.

This junior museum features exhibits of aquatic life and dinosaurs.

**THE PENINSULA****BAYLANDS NATURE INTERPRETIVE CENTER.**

2775 Embarcadero Road (at the eastern end past the duck pond), Palo Alto 94303. (650) 329-2506. Tues, Wed, 10:00-5:00; Thurs, Fri, 2:00-5:00; Sat, Sun, 1:00-5:00; closed Mon. Summer hours, Tues-Fri, 2-5; Sat-Sun, 1-5. Free. Groups by appt.

This bayside nature center is on pilings out in a salt marsh, handy for the nature walks and ecology workshops it excels in. You can arrange a docent-led nature walk or take a self-guided walk with a nature trail booklet provided by the center. The self-guided tour is free and there will be a 5-10 minute talk by the staff. Let them know if you are bringing a group of children even if you are taking a self-guided tour.

**COYOTE POINT MUSEUM FOR ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION**

1651 Coyote Point Drive, San Mateo 94401. Coyote Point Park, off Poplar Ave from Highway 101. (650) 342-7755. Tues-Sat, 10:00-5:00; Sun, 12:00-5:00. Adults, \$3; students 12-18 and seniors, \$2; ages 3-12, \$1; children under 3, free. First Wed of the month, free. Gate fee for park, picnic areas, playgrounds, and beach, \$4 per car.

The Environmental Hall is devoted to the understanding and appreciation of nature and our place in it. The separate Wildlife habitats house mammals, birds, amphibians and reptiles native to the Bay Area in their natural setting. Call for docent-led tours and special programs.



### **FILOLI HOUSE AND GARDENS**

Ca--ada Road, Woodside 94062. (650) 364-2880/366-4640. Filoli Nature Hikes: Individual and group tours and nature hikes by reservation. Children ages 12 and up, \$10; 2-12, \$1; children under 2 are free. Closed until February 16, 1999.

Explore the many trails in the remote areas of Filoli. You can learn about the Indians who lived here many years ago and touch the San Andreas fault. Nature hikes are great for elementary school children. House and garden tour is not open to children under the age of 12.

### **FOOTHILL COLLEGE OBSERVATORY**

On Foothill College campus in Los Altos Hills (Take 280 to El Monte) (650) 949-7334. Open for public viewing: clear Fri. nights 8:30 pm-11:00pm; clear Sat mornings 10:00-12:00 noon for Solar Viewing); closed if cloudy. Free. Facility next to Parking Lot D. Parking \$2.00 (in quarters only for the machines). Good for all ages.

Attendance for Solar Viewing on Saturday is normally low. The observatory is the normal meeting place for the Peninsula Astronomical Society. Meetings are open to public. 2nd Fri of each month at 7:30 in the Forum Building on Campus near Parking Lot E. Call William Phelps (650) 493-4742, if interested.

### **HIDDEN VILLA**

26870 Moody Road, Los Altos Hills 94022. (650) 949-8650. Daily except Mon, 9:00-dusk. Farm tours, summer programs, environmental education programs, and individualized tours, by appt. Fees (depending on time of year). Parking \$5 per car.

Hidden Villa's 1,600-acre wilderness preserve is relatively unchanged since the days when Ohlone Indians gathered food from its hillsides and took fish from its creeks. A self-guided tour of the farm area is available, as are four suggested wilderness treks.

### **JEREMIAH O'BRIEN**

Pier 32, San Francisco. (415) 441-3101. Open daily except major holidays. Open 9-4. Adults, \$5; seniors, \$4; kids 6-18, \$3; under 6, free. Self-guided. Make sure to call ahead -- the ship was moved to a different pier for some refitting. WW II Liberty ship. Crew members on board to answer questions.

### **NASA AMES RESEARCH CENTER**

Moffett field 94035. Off Highway 101. (650) 604-6274. Visitor Center open Mon-Fri, 8:00-4:30. Visitors center is free. No public tours due to security reasons overseas, only visitors center open to public. Closed federal holidays. Picture ID is required for all people over 16 at guard station outside the base. You will come to a 4-way stop, follow signs leading to the Visitors Center.

Public tours are no longer offered due to security reasons overseas.

### **NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE**

Redwood City. (650) 364-4610

Since last year they have changed the age requirement to 6th grade and up.

### **SANCHEZ ADOBE HISTORIC SITE**

1000 Linda Mar Blvd (off Highway 1), Pacifica 94044. (650) 359-1462. Tues-Thurs 10:00-4:00; Sat and Sun, 1:00-5:00, and by appt. Free. Booked for school field trips for 1998-99 school years. Call ahead.

Built in 1842, the adobe still stands, filled with artifacts from the Costanoan Indians who lived here first, Victorian furniture, and rancho items.

### **STANFORD UNIVERSITY**

Stanford University Campus, Stanford 94305. Stanford campus tours daily, 11 and 3:15 for 1 hour. Free.



Hoover Tower Observation Platform, (650) 723-2053: Mon-Sun 10:00-4:30 when school is in session: adults, \$1; children, 50 cents.

Stanford Linear Accelerator Center, (650) 926-2204: tours by appt. Free.

Jasper Ridge Biological Preserve, (650) 327-2277: tours by appt. Free.

### **U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY**

345 Middle Field Rd, Menlo Park, 94025. (650) 853-8392 ex. 5392 for tours/853-8300. Various programs and tours available. Call at least three weeks in advance. Tours on weekdays, 8:00-4:00.

This is a great place to go for the Webelos Geologist activity badge. Speakers are available.

## **SANTA CRUZ**

### **ANO NUEVO STATE RESERVE**

Docent-led walks to the elephant seal breeding ground December through March. Call California State Park hotline (800) 444-PARK. Maximum 20, \$4 per person. Can make reservation up to 56 days in advance.

<http://www.cal-parks.ca.gov>

You must make a reservation during the breeding season, but reservation is not necessary after April 1 and it's free. You can still see elephant seals well into April. It may be a better time to go if there are a lot of small children.

### **BIG BASIN REDWOODS STATE PARK**

20 miles north of Santa Cruz via Hwy 9 and 236. (408) 338-8860 Visitors Center open 10-5 in the winter. Longer in summer. <http://www.members.aol.com/bbrsp>

Great place for hiking and family camping. Large group sites available with easy access.

### **LONG MARINE LAB AND AQUARIUM**

West edge of Santa Cruz, past the end of Delaware Ave., near Natural Bridges State Park.

(408) 459-4308. (408) 459-4308 (tour information) Tues-Sun, 1:00-4:00. Adult, \$2; Under 16, Free. Everyone free on 1st Tues of month. On-going docent-led tour. Need reservation if more than 10 in group. Education office, (408) 459-3854.

Combine this trip with your outing to Natural Bridges. Allow 45 min to 1 hour.

### **NATURAL BRIDGES STATE BEACH**

North of Santa Cruz. (408) 423-4609 for information on activities. Parking \$6 per vehicle but can park outside and walk in for free. Both tide pool and butterfly grove tours are free. Reservations must be made 15 days in advance. Max group size, 35 people. Reservations must be made by phone (no mail), cannot be made by someone else for you.

You can arrange docent-led tidepool tour any time of year or monarch butterfly grove in late fall, late Oct to November. Call for low tide days or butterfly population. Kids love playing on the sandy beach.

### **ROARING CAMP AND BIG TREES NARROW-GAUGE RAILROAD AND SANTA CRUZ, BIG TREES & PACIFIC RAILWAY COMPANY**

P.O. Box G-1, Felton 95018. Take Highway 17 to the Mt. Hermon Road exit in Scotts Valley, then drive west 6.5 miles to the end of the road at Felton, and left onto Graham Hill Road. (408) 335-4400. Big Trees Narrow-gauge Railroad: Adult, \$13.50; ages 3-12, \$9.50; under 3 (sitting on parent's lap), free. Call for schedule for both and fares for Big Trees and Pacific Railway. Group rates available. Parking, \$5.

Great steam locomotives hiss and puff through the redwoods on the steepest narrow-gauge railroad grade in North America and around the tightest turns to the top of Big Mountain.



**SALZ OF SANTA CRUZ - TANNERY**

1040 River Street, Santa Cruz 95060. (408) 460-3434. Tours: Wed, Thurs, Fri, at 10:00 and 1:30 p.m. by appt. Min group size, 5 people. Max group size, 10 people. Can accommodate up to 20 people in two groups. Call for details. Free. <http://www.salz.com>

Salz is the oldest tannery still in operation in the West. A tour of the facility takes about one hour. Call and reserve your spot. They need at least 6 people for each tour. Maximum size of the group is 10. If you have more than ten, arrange two separate tours at the same time. Wear comfortable shoes. Good for the Webelos. At the end of the tour, they will give each visitor a free bag of leather scraps. Boys like that.

Salz also donates scrap leather to non-profit organizations. Call ahead and ask. Take a letter of request on your letterhead and be sure to thank them.

**WILDER RANCH STATE PARK**

2 miles North of Santa Cruz off Hwy 1. (408) 426-0505/429-2850. Reservations necessary for groups at least 15 days in advance, if tour is desired. Docent led tour: Free. Parking \$6 per car. No dogs allowed. Call for group tours of 10 or more. Call for Visitors Center and Historic Ranch Buildings hours. Living History Demonstration, Sat-Sun, 11-3. Docent-led Ranch Tours, Sat-Sun, 1pm. Docent-led nature walks, Sat, 11am, meet in front of visitors center. Call for more information.

Docent led tours of historical ranch and demonstrations of old-time skills. Children enjoy old-fashioned games. Trails along the sea cliffs to the Old Cove Landing and through the ranch's 4,000 acres of back country, with spectacular views of Monterey Bay.

**GILROY - WATSONVILLE- MONTEREY****GIZDICH RANCH**

55 Peckham Road, Watsonville, Ca (408) 722-1056.

Pick your own strawberries available from May to July, Olallies in June, and Raspberries in June. Pick your own apples in early September. Tour their apple juice factory. It's a bit far but great for family outing.

**MONTEREY BAY AQUARIUM**

886 Cannery Row. (408) 648-4888. Open daily 9:30-6, June 15-labor Day and on holidays; 10-6 rest of year. closed December 25. Admission \$14.75; over 65 and students with ID \$11.75; ages 3-12 \$6.

<http://www.mbayaq.org>

Three story kelp forest, specula exhibits, hand-on exhibits. Watch sea otters play outside in the water. Allow minimum 3 hours. (The aquarium does have an overnight program but it is open to members only.)

**MOUNT MADONNA COUNTY PARK**

On Highway 152, ten miles west of Gilroy. County Parks and Recreation (408) 358-3741.

Great place for the pack family camp.

**THE MYSTERY SPOT**

1953 Banciforte Drive, Santa Cruz 95065. Address is useless unless sending them something, call ahead for directions and more information. (408) 423-8897. Daily, 9:00-5:00. Adults, \$4; under 11, \$2. Tours and group rates. This is a section of a redwood forest where the law of gravity does not seem to apply.

**ALAMEDA AND CONTRA COSTA COUNTIES****ARDENWOOD HISTORIC FARM**

Ardenwood Regional Park, 34600 Ardenwood Blvd (at Highway 84), Fremont 94555. (510) 796-0663. April-November, Thurs-Sun, 10:00-4:00. Closed holidays (the ground is open without black smithy, hay ride or wagon ride for \$1). Rain may close the park. Tues-Sun in winter, reduced prices, adults and seniors, \$1; ages 4-17, \$0.50. House tours by appt. Special event fees vary. Call above number then press 1 for more information on prices.



You can tour a remarkably well restored Victorian farmhouse, built in 1857, or go on a hay ride and a wagon ride. Or ride on the Deer Park train. Tour their blacksmith shop. In fall, children can help in the harvest and get to take some produce home. Call for information about special events. Reopens on April 3 for the 1997 season.

### **BLACKHAWK AUTOMOTIVE MUSEUM**

3700 Blackhawk Plaza Circle, Danville 94506. (925) 736-2280 (recording). Wed-Sun, 10:00-5:00. Closed major holidays (Christmas, New Years, and Thanksgiving) Adults, \$8; students and seniors 65 and up, \$5; children ages 6 and under, free with adult. Tours by appt. at least 2 months in advance.

The Behring Classic Car Museum shows rare classic automobiles. It showcases Kenneth Behring's \$100-million collection of custom-built and one-of-a-kind automobiles.

The UC Berkeley Museum of Art, Science and Culture features collections of artifacts dating back to 3500 B.C. The museum contains a nine-million-year-old mastodon found in the Blackhawk Quarry Site.

### **CHABOT OBSERVATORY AND PLANETARIUM**

4917 Mountain Blvd., Oakland 94619. MacArthur Freeway and Warren Freeway. (510) 531-4560. Fri and Sat 7:30 p.m. Adults, \$3; children, \$2. Reservations advised.

The changing two-hour show includes a movie, science demonstration, planetarium program, and observation of the night sky through a large telescope.

### **CHILDREN'S FAIRYLAND**

Lakeside park, Lake Merritt, Oakland 94612. (510) 238-6876. Spring and fall, Wed-Sun, 10:00-4:00; winter, Fri-Sun and school holidays, 10:00, weather permitting; summer, Mon-Fri 10:00-4:00, Sat-Sun 10:00-5:00. Adults, \$3.25; children, \$2.75; children under 1, free. Children not admitted without adult, adult not admitted without children. Picnic areas available.

Duck through the Old Woman's Shoe to meet Alice and many other fairy tale characters. Great for Tigers and Wolves. There will be puppet shows.

### **DREYER'S GRAND ICE CREAM FACTORY**

1250 Whipple, Union City. (510) 471-6622. Tours by appointment only. Reservations must be made 2 months in advance. Maximum group size 40. First Grade and older. Free. Call for more information on prices.

The tour will last one to 1-1/2 hours. It will include a brief video, a look at the production floor and, weather permitting, a "quick pass" through the Cold Box warehouses, which are maintained at a temperature of 20 degrees below zero.

### **LAWRENCE HALL OF SCIENCE**

Centennial Drive, University of California, Berkeley 94720 (on the Berkeley Campus). Up Hearst to the top of the university to Gayley Road, to Rim Way, to Centennial. Just south of Grizzly Peak Blvd. (510) 642-5132. Daily 10:00-5:00. Adults, \$6; students and seniors, \$4; ages 3-6, \$2. Star gazing at 8 p.m. every clear Saturday, free.

They have a variety of exhibits, science workshops, tests of your mathematical and logical ability, computers to play with, visual oddities and a lot more. Holt Planetarium offers shows. Call for current exhibits and hands-on activities.

### **MISSION SAN JOSE**

43300 Mission Blvd., Fremont 94539. At the intersection of Washington and Mission. (510) 657-1797. Daily, 10:00-5:00. Closed holidays. Adults, \$2; children, \$1. Reservations required

Mission San Jose was founded in 1797. The mission church has been reconstructed from hand-hewn beams and more than 180,000 adobe bricks. The mission features an exhibit on the Ohlone, the native people of the Bay Area. Self-guided tour. Guided tour is available for a group of 25 or more.



**NEW UNITED MOTOR MANUFACTURING, INC.**

Fremont. (510) 498-5500. Free. Maximum 24. POPULAR!! Call early for reservations.

Boys and adults both would love this tour. The facility was built with tours in mind. So you can see a lot. Unfortunately it is very popular and you have to book months in advance. Currently tours are booked till fall, 97. But if your group is small, there is a change of going in with another smaller group that's already made reservation. Vehicles used for the tour carry exactly 24 people. Call and ask.

**THE OAKLAND MUSEUM**

1000 Oak St., Oakland 94607. (510) 238-3402. Informational message(510) 238-3401. Wed-Sat, 10:00-5:00, Sun, 12:00-7:00. Closed Mon, Tues and holidays. Adult, \$5; children over 5 years, \$3. Free after 4 on Sun.

You can spend a whole day in its exhibits on California art, natural sciences, and history. There are special exhibits and events as well. One block from the Lake Merritt BART Station. Park the car at Fremont and take BART to the museum.

**OAKLAND ZOO**

9777 Golf Links Rd. off I-580. (510) 632-9525. Zoo open daily, 10-4. Closed Thanksgiving and Christmas, or weather permitting. \$3 per car or van, adults, \$6; seniors 55 and older, \$3; children ages 2-14, \$3; children under 2 years old, free.

More than 300 exotic and native animals in naturalistic habitats. Children's zoo. An aerial tram affords a bird's-eye view of the area.

**SAN FRANCISCO BAY NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE**

Highway 84, Fremont 94539. At the east end of the Dunbarton Bridge, near the toll plaza off Thornton Ave, exit right on Thornton. (510) 792-3178. Visitor Center, Tues-Sun, 10:00-5:00. Free.

Weekend interpretive programs, nature study walks, slide and film presentation and other classes are available. For a trail through the marsh and diked ponds, call the center.

**WESTERN AEROSPACE MUSEUM**

Oakland Airport North field, P.O. Box 14264, Oakland 94614. At Doolittle Drive and Hegenberger, look for the signs. (510) 638-7100. Wed-Sun, 10:00-4:00. Adults 13 and older and seniors, \$4; children 6-12, \$2; 5 and under, free. Additional \$2 for a tour of the Flying Boat. Reservation for docent-led tours required.

Ten antique and retired aircraft along with Challenger forward command modules, and a space shuttle. There are also bombers and fighters. Additional charge to tour the Short Solent, a large flying boat used in Raiders of the Lost Ark.

**SAN FRANCISCO****ALCATRAZ ISLAND CRUISE AND TOUR**

Pier 41, San Francisco 94133. (415) 705-5555. Frequent sailing's on the Blue and Gold Fleet daily. First ferry leaves at 9:30, then from 10:15-2:15 they leave at intervals of 1/2 an hour. Last ferry to leave Alcatraz, 4:30. Adults 12 and older, \$11; seniors, \$9.25; children 5-11, \$5.75; 4 and under, free. These prices include a self-guided tour of the prison, a museum, a video movie, an audio cassette, and a round trip ferry ticket. For a tour without audio cassette, \$7.75 for everyone. Open daily except Christmas and New Years. Unlimited time for tour. \$2 handling fee for buying tickets by phone. Call ahead for more info.

Wear walking shoes and bring a sweater. Self-guided tour take approx. 2 to 2 1/2 hours.

**BASIC BROWN BEAR & COMPANY TEDDY BEAR FACTORY**

444 DeHaro St., San Francisco 94107. At Mariposa on Potrero Hill. (415) 626-0781. Store hours, Mon-Sat, 10:00-5:00; Sun, 12:00-5:00. Tours, Mon-Sun, 1 p.m.; Sat, 11 a.m. Tours are free. To stuff a bear, \$12

[www.basicbrownbear.com](http://www.basicbrownbear.com)



You can see different kinds of teddy bears cut and stuffed right in front of you. You can even stuff your own (for the price of a bear). Call for tour hours.

### **CABLE CAR BARN MUSEUM**

1201 Mason Street (at Washington Street), San Francisco 94108. (415) 474-1887. Winter hours, daily, 10-5. April 1 to September 30, daily, 10-6. Closed Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's Day. Donation.

All three cable car lines in San Francisco are run by the huge revolving red and yellow wheels in the brick cable car barn, built in 1887. Visitors can watch the wheels from a gallery, where there are samples of the cable itself and charts explaining how the cable cars work. Because of the noise level, guided tours with docents are not available.

### **CALIFORNIA ACADEMY OF SCIENCES**

Golden Gate Park (south side of Music Concourse), San Francisco 94118. Taped information (415) 750-7145; switchboard (415) 750-7000. Daily (open throughout the year), 10:00-5:00. Adults, \$8.50; ages 12-17, \$5.50; ages 4-11, \$2; under 4, free; free the first Wed of the month. Group rate \$1.50 per person, one adult for every 10 children. For admissions call (415) 750-7440. Longer summer hours.

The Academy houses Morrison Planetarium, Steinhart Aquarium, and Natural History Museum. The Planetarium offers Sky Show and Laserium. Sky Show varies according to seasons, times also vary so call ahead at (415) 750-7127 (only works Mon-Fri, 9-5). Sky Show, adults, \$2.50; ages 6-17, \$1.25; under 6, free with paying adult (not recommended for children under 6). Laserium shows vary so call ahead for times at (415) 750-7138. Laserium, adults, \$7; students with ID and seniors, \$6; academy members with ID, \$6; children ages 6-12, \$4. For information on the Laserium, the Sky Show, and the Planetarium call (415) 750-7141 (recorded).

### **THE CHINESE CULTURE CENTER**

750 Kearny, in the Holiday Inn, third floor. (415) 986-1822. Tues-Sat 10:00-4:00. Free. Tours of China Town by appt. The Heritage walk (Historical), adults, \$15; children ages 18 and under, \$6. The Culinary walk (food), adults, \$30; children under 12, \$15.

The Heritage walk is a tour of historic sites, a market place, and other places of interest. The Culinary walk involves a trip to the hardware store to get cooking utensils, shopping at market places, a visit to a factory (noodles or fortune cookies), and a lunch at a Chinese restaurant. Cultural, historical, and artistic exhibitions are presented. They also conduct a tour of Chinatown for a fee. The tour includes a talk on Chinese culture, and a visit to a Chinese temple, a Chinese store and an old fashioned fortune cookie factory. Saturday tours are available.

### **THE EXPLORATORIUM**

Palace of Fine Arts, 3601 Lyon Street, San Francisco 94123. Between Marina Blvd and Lombard. (415) 561-0360. Winter hours, Tue-Sun, 10:00-5:00; Wed evenings, until 9:30. Closed Mondays, but open on holiday Mondays other than Thanksgiving and Christmas. Call for summer hours. Adults, \$9; seniors 65 and up, \$7; ages 6-17, \$5; ages 3-5, \$2.50; children under 3, free. Free first Wed of the month. Tactile Dome reservation (415) 561-0362. Groups (415) 561-0308 (advance reservation is necessary for group rate). Administrations office, (415) 563-7337 (9-5, 7 days a week).

This is a touchingthinkingpullingsplashingblinkingspinningopeningcloseingamazing museum of science, art and human perception. Have an adventure in the dark in the Tactile Dome. Call for special events.

### **FORT POINT NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE**

San Francisco 94129. Foot of Marine Drive, on Presidio grounds, under San Francisco end of the Golden Gate Bridge. (415) 556-1693. Wed-Sun, 10:00-5:00; closed Mon, Tues and holidays. Guided tours and demonstrations by appt. Free.

Fort Point, built during the Civil War, is the only brick coastal fort in the West. Roam through the officers' and enlisted men's quarters, and walk through the huge casements where once were mounted more than 100 huge cannon.



**NATIONAL MARITIME MUSEUM AT SAN FRANCISCO**

(San Francisco Maritime National Historic Park)

900 Beach Street (at the foot of Polk Street), San Francisco 94109. (415) 556-8177. Daily, 10:00-5:00; until 6:00 in summer. Call for calendar of events. Free. Call ahead.

The maritime history of San Francisco lives on here in models of clippers, British ships, iron ships, schooners, barkentines, cutters, and cod fishers. Combine this with a tour of Hyde Street Pier, within easy walking distance.

SCOUT OVERNIGHT on a tall ship or a WW II submarine is available.

See USS PAMPANITO or the THAYER

**SAN FRANCISCO HISTORIC SHIPS AT HYDE STREET PIER**

(San Francisco Maritime National Historic Park)

Hyde Street Pier (at Aquatic Park), San Francisco 94109. (415) 556-6435. Daily, 8:30-5:00, later in summer. Adults, \$3; ages 12-17 and over 61, \$1; under 12, free. For group tours (415) 556-3002. Free for group tour. Call ahead.

You can tour the Balclutha, one of the last surviving square-rigged Cape Horners, the C. A. Thayer lumber ship turned a salmon packet, which celebrated her 100th birthday last year, old ferryboat Eureka among other historic ships.

A free guided tour will take one hour. You need to make advance booking during school year. Weekend tours are also available. Environmental Living Programs is also available by appt.

**SAN FRANCISCO ZOO**

Sloat Blvd and 45th Ave., San Francisco 94132. (415) 753-7080/753-7061 (both numbers are a recording, press 0 for an operator). Open every day of the year including weekends and holidays from 10:00-5:00. Adults, \$9; seniors 65 and older, \$6; ages 12-17, \$6; ages 3-11, \$3; children 2 and under, free. Free day: first Wed of every month. On free day ONLY, there is a \$2 admission fee to the Children's Zoo for children 3 and older. Every other day the Children's Zoo price is included in the admission fee.

Visit Children's Zoo, especially the Insect House. Check schedule for big cat and penguin feeding time.

**USS PAMPANITO**

(San Francisco Maritime National Historic Park)

Pier 45 (near Fisherman's Wharf), San Francisco 94133. (415) 775-1943. Daily, 9:00-6:00; until 9 on weekends and in summer. Adults \$5; juniors \$3; children and seniors, \$1. Group tours \$1 per person, call ahead.

This World War II-vintage submarine is a floating museum. Self-guided tours through the cramped quarters are explained via audiotape.

Book ahead for a special tour for groups. \$1 per person regardless of age.

An OVERNIGHT experience is also available for \$14 per person for weekdays, \$20 for weekends. (25 persons min, 48 persons max) (415) 292-6664. You go on the submarine after dinner, learn about the submarine, watch a movie about the "silent service," sleep in the quarters, and do one-hour night watch, one of the most fun experience for many boys. Depart after breakfast. Take your own breakfast. Overnight crew patch is available for cost.

**THE C. A. THAYER and the BALCLUTHA**

(San Francisco Maritime National Historic Park)

Hyde Park Pier. Call ahead. (415) 292-6664

These schooners are about 100 years old. An overnight program for Scouts is available for children age 6 and above. The program begins on Saturday at 7:30 p.m. with a 2-hour interpretive program of tying knots, singing sea shanties, hoisting the sail, riding a bosun's chair into the rigging. (This part of programs flexible and staff will adapt it to your need and interests.) Videos on schooner are available. There is no night watch on the Thayer. Depart after breakfast. Take your own breakfast. There is no path available to go out for breakfast. Cost is \$20 per person, available only on weekend. Minimum 20 people, maximum 45 people. Reserve at least two months in advance.



## **NORTH BAY**

### **ANGEL ISLAND STATE PARK**

P.O. Box 866, Tiburon 94920. (415) 435-3522/435-1915-recorded info line. For ferry schedules and fees from Tiburon, call Angel Island Ferry (415) 435-2131. For ferry schedules from San Francisco, call Red & White Fleet (415) 546-2803. Cheaper to go from Tiburon (ferry and parking). Classes and tours available. Send \$2 to the Angel Island Association at the P.O. Box number and address above for information packet and map of Angel Island.

<http://www.angelisland.org>

Angel Island was the Ellis Island of the Pacific for Asian immigrants. Today, you can spend the day visiting historic sites and building or hiking, or stay overnight at one of its environmental sites.

On weekends, April to October, Camp Reynolds, Fort McDowell, and the Barracks Museum at the Immigration Station are staffed by docents who'll give tours and tell stories. There are cannon firings too.

### **MUIR WOODS NATIONAL MONUMENT**

Muir Woods Road (off Highway 1), Mill Valley 94941. (415) 388-2595. Twelve miles north of the Golden Gate Bridge. Daily, 8:00 to sunset. Reservations for large groups. Special events, employees, educational programs, (415) 388-2596. Ages 17 and up, \$2. Best time to visit is mid-week in the morning or late-afternoon. Parking is limited to what the woods can handle. Nice trails and day hikes.

This is a forest of giant coast redwoods, some more than 200 feet high. There are several self-guided trails. Junior-ranger packs are available to young naturalists. Salmon viewing in winter. Great number of ladybugs in spring.

### **POINT REYES NATIONAL SEASHORE**

National Park Service, Point Reyes, CA 94952. On Highway 1 near Olema. (415) 663-1092. The park is never closed, but no overnight parking is allowed unless you are camping. Free. For overnight reservations call (415) 663-8054 (9-2, Mon-Fri). There is a \$10 per night camping fee.

You can follow nature trails, birdwatch, backpack, picnic, rent horses, and camp. Bear Valley Visitors Center offers classes and special programs. You can visit the Point Reyes Lighthouse.

## **OUTSIDE THE BAY AREA**

### **COLOMA**

#### **MARSHALL GOLD DISCOVERY STATE HISTORIC PARK**

276 acres on SR 49, includes the 1860 cabin in which James Marshall lived. A statue of Marshall points toward the site of his discovery. A replica of Sutter's sawmill stands in the main part of the park. Visitors center, museum, picnic facilities are available. "Mr. Marshall" makes a personal appearance most Sundays. Park is open daily from 8 to dusk, museum is open from 10 to 5 (or 4:30 in winter) Closed Jan 1, Thanksgiving and Christmas. Day use fee \$5 per private vehicle. Call (530) 622-3470 for more information.

### **FOLSOM**

#### **FOLSOM DAM TOURS**

Tours are scheduled from Tuesday through Saturday at 10:00 am and 1:00 pm. Call (916) 989-7275 for information and direction. Tours are limited to 50 persons. Drop-ins for small parties might have to join a large group.

#### **HISTORIC FOLSOM POWERHOUSE**

This powerhouse performed the first long-distance transmission of hydroelectric power to Sacramento in 1895. Tours Wed - Sun, noon - 4:00 pm. Free. (916) 985-4843 or 985-4842 for more information and direction.



**SACRAMENTO****CALIFORNIA STATE RAILROAD MUSEUM**

One of kids' favorite place to visit. This museum houses 21 restored locomotives and train cars. More than 40 interpretive exhibits, dioramas, pictures, murals and film presentations document the history of American railroading between 1860 and 1960. Open daily 10-5; closed Jan. 1, Thanksgiving and Christmas. Admission \$6, ages 6-12 \$3. (916) 445-4209. (916) 324-0539 (recorded information).

**STATE CAPITOL**

The capitol was built 1860-74 and is noted for its lofty glass dome, which rises 210 feet above the street. The main building contains historical and art exhibits, murals and statuary. FREE guided tours cover the restored main building and chambers. Open daily 9-5; closed Jan 1, Thanksgiving and Christmas. A Capitol tour is offered daily on the hour 9-4. Additional tours are offered, and tickets are available 30 minutes before tours. Free. Call (916) 324-0333 for more information and location.

**SUTTER'S FORT**

This was the first European outpost in the California interior. The restored 1839 adobe fort has relics of pioneer and gold rush days. Open daily, 10-5. Last tour departs 45 minutes before closing. Closed Jan 1, Thanksgiving and Christmas. Admission mid-May to mid-Sept and during events \$5; ages 6-12 \$2. Admission rest of year \$3; ages 6-12 \$1.50. Call (916) 445-4422 or 324-0539 for more information.

**COLUMBIA****COLUMBIA STATE HISTORIC PARK**

12 square blocks in the old business district has been partially restored to its appearance in gold Rush days. Stagecoach rides, horseback tours, gold panning and gold mine tours are available. Park is open daily; stores 10-6, horseback rides 8-6. Park admission is fee. Fees for tours, stagecoach rides, and gold panning. Call (209) 532-0150 for more information. (A private campground nearby (209) 532-9539.)

**OAKDALE****HERSHEY CHOCOLATE FACTORY**

The factory is located at 1400 S. Yosemite Ave. Visitor center is at S. sierra Ave and G St. Shuttle bus available from the visitor's center to the factory. Free 30-minute tours are given Mon-Fri 8:30-3. Visitor center open Mon-Fri 8:30-5. Closed Good Friday and holidays. (209) 848-8126.





## SANTA CLARA COUNTY PARKS (part 2 of 2)





