



## Ventana Chapter ~ [Ventana.SierraClub.org](http://Ventana.SierraClub.org) Hikes and Outings for Monterey/Carmel & Santa Cruz September & October 2015 ~ Contact leader to reserve a spot

This is a current listing of the Outings. Please refer to the website: [Ventana.SierraClub.org](http://Ventana.SierraClub.org) for any additions or changes, and contact the leader for a reservation as most outings are weather dependent. Note that some may require a small fee for transportation

### TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1

#### **Senior Saunter: Chaminade**

2 mile fairly easy walk through the red-woods, some uphill. Hikers may add a hike down into the canyon. May eat lunch at the Chaminade Conference Center bar or bring lunch to eat at picnic area. Beautiful views. Meet before 9:30 am at Sears on 41st Ave or go direct and park behind tennis courts at Chaminade before 9:50 am. Bring lunch, water, \$2 carpool. Restrooms. Leader: Brooke Ewoldsen, 475-6188.

### SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 5

#### **Hike: Mt Madonna Huckleberries**

This will be an effort to find huckleberries in a drought year. No promises! We'll also start at the top of the mountain and likely go where we haven't gone before. Expect 4 to 7 miles and a few hundred feet of elevation gain because the route is not yet set. Carpooling will be at 9:30 am from the usual place on Main St in Soquel. Please find a parking place that is not directly in front of a resident's home. Leader: Nick Wyckoff, (831) 462-3101.

### SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 5

#### **Hike: Asilomar-Pebble Beach Loop**

4 mile hike loop through Pebble Beach neighborhood, sand dunes and then to the coast trail. We go out and back to Point Joe and back along the beach boardwalk to Asilomar Blvd. Beach wild flowers, possible wildlife to be seen. Meet across from the Fishwife Restaurant on Sunset Drive and Asilomar Blvd., Pacific Grove at 9:00 a.m. Back about noon, bring snack and water. To reserve a space, call me. Leader: Martha Saylor, 372-9215.

### SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

#### **Hike: Pebble Beach**

We'll zig and zag through the serene pine forest of Pebble Beach nibbling on a variety of ripe berries as we go. Bring water; lunch gives us the option of purchasing a Poppy Hills sandwich. 5 miles, 750 ft. elevation gain with flora and fauna stops. Arrive early; we depart at 9:30 a.m. from the "Haul Road" gate on Highway 68 in Pebble Beach. Call for a reservation—limit of 8. Leader: Lynn Bomberger, 375-7777.

### SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

#### **Bicycle Ride: Sand City to Salinas River Wildlife Refuge**

About 24 miles round trip, a comfortable pace of 1.5 hrs each way, includes comfort stops. 1 hour for lunch and beach combing. We'll meet at 9 am and start in the Sand Dollar Shopping Center parking lot, between Starbucks and Sports Authority and ride on designated bike trails almost all the way. The last mile at the mouth of the Salinas River is on hard packed dirt. Speaking of Sand Dollars, the beach is covered with them. Lots of birds; binoculars, cameras, tire patch kit or extra tube recommended. Bring water, lunch and extra wind breaker for cool ocean breeze on beach. Ends back at the cars where we started. For questions and to RSVP, call. Leader: Steve Jackson, (831) 320-4561.

### TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

#### **Senior Hike: Harvey West**

4 miles with some uphill (some steep) from Harvey West parking lot by baseball fields. We'll walk by Sacred Tree and the old clubhouse. A shorter hike will be available. Meet before 9:30 am at Sears on 41st Ave. or at Harvey West parking lot before 9:50 am. Bring lunch, water, \$2 carpool. Restrooms. Leaders: Perry Brohmer, 1-650-793-3987; Brooke Ewoldsen, 475-6188.

### WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

#### **Hike: Elkhorn Slough**

Our 5-6 mile loop with minimal elevation gain at a moderate pace takes us along the tidal marshes of the slough. We should see birds other wildlife, so bring your binoculars. Also, bring water and lunch and a credit card for the entrance fee (last time it was \$4.12). Meet near REI off highway 1 and Imjinn Pkwy at 9:30 am or at 10:00 at the Elkhorn Slough visitor center. Please let me you if you are coming. Leader: Gisela Nobinger, onegisela@aol.com or 393-4983.

### THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

#### **Hike: Garland Ranch Regional Park**

9-10 miles, 4.5-5 hours, 1600 foot elevation gain. Wonderful views of Carmel Valley. This hike has about 1.5 miles of steep ascent, as much as 15% grade in a few places, high traction soles recommended. Trails are generally wide and well-groomed so poison oak and ticks aren't usually a problem. Bring lunch, snacks and two liters of water. One way hike will require an 11 minute car shuttle. Meet 9:00 am at the east end of Mid Valley Shopping Center for carpooling/shuttling. Hike begins at 9:30 at the old Rosie's Cracker Barrel, Carmel Valley Village, and ends back at Mid Valley Shopping Center. Please RSVP. Leader: Steve Jackson, (831) 320-4561, marciaandsteve@usa.net.

### SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

#### **Hike: Hills above Brazil Ranch**

For a change, just a short drive to the trailhead near Bixby Bridge for this lollipop loop of about 6 miles, 1000' elevation gain/loss. We'll walk up on a trail, partly very steep; then cow trails over the meadows high above the Big Sur coast with the Big Sur lighthouse below us. Probably no flowers anymore but wonderful wide views, or through coastal fog. Lunch at a stand of redwoods. Back on trails. Meet on Rio Road at Park & Ride in Carmel at 9:00 a.m. Call for more info. Leader: Anneliese Suter, 624-1467.

### SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

#### **Meander: Pfeiffer Big Sur State Park**

A river runs through it! We'll mosey from the Big Sur River gorge area to the lower river (via the highway underpass) and back to our cars, with little or no elevation change. Bring lunch, water, footgear if you're likely to wade in, and a windbreaker in case the weather changes. Meet at 9 am at Rio Road P&R. Leader Mary Gale: 626-3565.

## ATTENTION MEMBERS!

Sierra Club Ventana Chapter's Trail Guide and Map to the Northern Los Padres Forest is available on line at REI for \$14.95 plus shipping at the link below. All proceeds from sales go to our Conservation work: <http://www.rei.com/product/616587/trail-guide-to-the-los-padre-national-forest-northern-section-trail-map-7th-edition>

**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15**

**Senior Hike/Saunter:  
Waddell Creek**

Approx. 4 mile hike on tree lined dirt roads in Big Basin Redwoods State Park. Some uphill. We will hike up the "Skyline to the Sea" trail to "Twin Redwood Camp". Our return will be on the main dirt road. Lunch will be by the horse trail camp. There will be a walking alternative. If the Marsh Trail is still open, walkers will park near the Nature Center and go back & forth on the Marsh Trail and toward the Organic Gardens. Prepare for sun/heat/fog. Meet before 9:30 am at Sears on 41st Ave. or at Shen's Gallery at Mission & King St. before 9:50 am. We will park along HWY 1 after crossing the creek bridge. Restrooms. Bring lunch, water, \$4 carpool fee. Leaders: Perry Brohmer, 1-650-793-3987; Brooke Ewoldsen, 475-6188.

**WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16**

**Hike: Mill Creek Redwood Preserve**

Our 5 1/2 mile in and out hike with about 400 feet elevation gain at a moderate pace takes us through Redwoods, Tan Bark Oaks, and Laurel forest to a coastal overlook with benches for lunch. Bring water and lunch. Meet at the Carmel Rio Road "Park and Ride" parking lot near Bank of America at 9:30 am. Please let me know if you are coming. Leader: Gisela Nobinger, onegisela@aol.com or 393-4983.

**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 18**

**Bike Ride: Pacific Grove to Marina**

We'll ride from Lovers Point in Pacific Grove to Locke-Paddon Park in Marina, mostly on paved bike trails, with a few short stretches of roads with vehicle traffic. Round trip distance is around 30 miles. Expect coastal views, moderate hills, and sometimes headwinds on the return. Meet at the beginning of the rec. trail at Lovers Point in Pacific Grove, 10.00 am. Bring lunch and water, and be sure your bike is in working condition with the tires pumped up. Leaders: Cath Farrant and Mary Dainton, 372 7427.

**The Chapter wants to thank** all our Outings and Hike leaders for their years of service to the Club. Through them, our members are able to enjoy and explore our many parks and wilderness areas. In order to allow us to keep members updated on outings and hikes and attract new members, please send your email address to: [chapter@ventana.sierraclub.org](mailto:chapter@ventana.sierraclub.org)

**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22**

**Senior Saunter:  
Wilder Bluffs North**

Three mile walk on the more northern part of the cove trail. A shorter walk will be available. Meet before 9:30 am at Sears on 41st Ave. or at Shen's Gallery at King and Mission St. before 9:50 am. To go direct, meet group in Wilder Ranch State Park parking lot one mile north of Santa Cruz on Hwy. 1. Bring lunch, water, \$2 carpool plus share of entrance fee. Leader: Irene Lennox, 457-2690.

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26**

**Hike: West Ridge Trail Loop**

Join us for this Nisene Marks hike of 8 miles with 1000 ft. elevation gain through a lovely shaded forest of redwoods, tan-bark oaks, maples and ferns with stops to enjoy them. Bring water & lunch. Arrive early; we depart at 8:40 a.m. from the far end of the parking lot in front of REI in Marina or depart from the parking lot behind Aptos Station at 9:30. Bring water & lunch. Call for a reservation—limit of 8. Leader: Lynn Bomberger, 375-7777.

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27**

**Hike: Palo Corona back country.**

We'll begin our jaunt at the Fish Barn near highway 1. After hiking up the road and along the San Jose Creek overlook, we eventually arrive at the Corona Cabin for lunch. We'll take a slightly different route back to our cars. Expect 12-13 miles and about 2,500' of elevation gain. A longish hike, but not difficult. Call for reservation (20 maximum) and meeting info. Leader: Larry Parrish 622-7455

**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29**

**Senior Saunter: Rio del Mar**

Nice casual walk through neighborhoods of Rio Del Mar, then along the beach trail and sunken ship. A shorter walk will be available. Restrooms. Meet before 9:30 am at Sears on 41st Ave. or go direct Hwy.1 to Rio Del Mar exit, to beach parking lot. Bring lunch, water, \$2 carpool. There's a deli if you want to buy lunch. Leader: Bev Meschi, 475-4185.

**All our hikes are offered FREE** to the community. What better way to advocate for the natural world than to show it to you. Breathe in the salty pine scented air and take in the grand landscapes, and know there is no other place like this on earth. Sign up for one or more of our hikes and we'll show you our surrounding wilderness up close and make it personal. After you've enjoyed one of our hikes, please consider becoming a member and joining your 6000+ Monterey Bay neighbors in protecting these natural wonders for generations to enjoy.

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3**

**Hike: Extreme South Los Padres**

We'll be hiking mainly on the grassy Coulter Pine and oak studded coastal ridge separating the coast from Dutra/San Carpoforo Creeks. Beautiful long distance canyon and mountain views. Total length will be about 9 to 10 miles. First 2 miles is a steep climb on the Baldwin Ranch Rd (FS 25506) to the ridge. We'll then go south and enjoy coastal SLO County views from gentler Williams Ranch Rd for about a mile until the Hearst Ranch boundary. After backtracking to Baldwin Ranch Rd, we'll head north for 2 to 3 miles on gentle relatively flat terrain to the flanks of Mt Mars. Then back down the way we came. Bring lunch, snacks and 2 to 3 liters of water. Meet at Rio Rd, Carmel, Park-n-Ride at 7:30 am for car pooling and 2 hour drive 73 miles south to Ragged Pt. (146 miles) Plan on reimbursing drivers for gas. Please RSVP. Leader: Steve Jackson, (831) 320-4561, [marciaandsteve@usa.net](mailto:marciaandsteve@usa.net).

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3**

**Hike: Chalk Mountain from  
Whitehouse Canyon**

We'll drive to the end of Whitehouse Canyon Rd to access the Chalks Trail on the west side of Big Basin to Chalk Mountain. This one depends on dry road conditions. So if not, the hike may change without notice. Expect 7+ miles and 1400 ft of elevation gain. We'll meet at the Govt Center in Santa Cruz at 9:30 to carpool. Leader: Nick Wyckoff, (831) 462-3101.

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4**

**Walk: Carmel River Beach Saunter**

How about a morning saunter with steps from Carmel River Beach to Monastery Beach, returning via the bluff trail. Enjoy the breathtaking views of Point Lobos and listen to the surf. Approximately 3 miles. Wear comfortable shoes and dress for the weather; wind breaker recommended. Bring water and a snack. Meet at 9 am at the parking lot at Carmel River Beach at the lagoon (south end of Carmelo in Carmel). To reserve a place, call me. Leader: Martha Saylor: 372-9215.

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6**

**Senior Saunter:  
Levee to Wharf**

Casual 4 mile walk along the levee to Beach Hill and Santa Cruz Wharf. Return along beach to other side of river and San Lorenzo Park for lunch. A shorter walk will be available. Meet before 9:30 am at Sears on 41st Ave. or at Gateway Plaza on River St. by Ross's before 9:50 am. Bring lunch, water, \$2 carpool. Leaders: Irene Lennox, 457-2690; Brooke Ewoldsen, 475-6188.

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TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13

**Senior Hike:  
Lower Nisene Marks**

This is an approx. 3.5 mile nature walk among the redwoods, the largest tree in the park and the twisted trees. Some uphill. For this hike, park at the first kiosk. An alternative shorter walk will be available, beginning at the farthest parking lot near the start of the Lomo Prieta Trail. Meet before 9:30 am at Sears on 41st Ave or go direct to the appropriate parking lot. Primitive restrooms. Bring lunch, water, \$2 carpool and share of entrance fee. Leaders: Perry Brohmer, 1-650-793-3987; Brooke Ewoldsen, 475-6188.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14

**Sierra Club Meeting, Monterey  
Library at 5:00 pm**

Collecting Hikes and Outings for November and December 2015. Everybody is welcome! Deadline for sending in hikes: Sunday, October 25, 2015

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17

**Hike: Henry Coe/Hunting  
Hollow Entrance**

Most people enter Henry Coe state park at the visitor's center off Dunne Avenue. Near Gilroy Hot Springs, the Hunting Hollow entrance is quieter and closer. We quickly ascend the steep Steer Ridge Trail to gain views of the area, then follow Steer Ridge (fire) Road. We make a short detour up to Wilson Peak, then follow the road to Wilson trail camp before descending back to Hunting Hollow. Moderate hike with some steep sections, 1800' gain and 7 miles. Meet at Home Depot in Seaside, near the gas station on the left side, at 7:45 am; or at the Hunting Hollow parking lot by 9:00 am. Bring lunch, 2-3+ liters water, and a rain/wind jacket. Limited to 12 hikers, so please reply to CarolAndRandyHike@yahoo.com with your name and phone number, and we will call you. Leaders: Carol Greenstreet & Randy May.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18

**Stroll: Andrew Molera State Park**

A river runs through it! We can follow it from parking lot through Creamery Meadow to the ocean beach, wade across it at the beach, and return via the road through the camp ground. Or vice-versa. In case of El Nino storm, we won't wade. Bring lunch, water, footgear if you're likely to wade in, and a windbreaker in case the weather changes. Meet at 9 am at Rio Road P&R, and plan to be gone several hours. Bring small bills for entrance fee. Leader: Mary Gale, 626-3565

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20

**Senior Hike / Saunter:  
Point Lobos**

Two routes for different abilities will be available in this beautiful Park to the south of Carmel. Hikers will park at Whaler's Cove and make a loop around the park, about 3 miles, to a picnic spot called Piney Woods. After lunch we'll continue back to Whaler's Cove. Terrain is hilly but not strenuous. Walkers will park at Bird Island and follow a more level route. Scenery is spectacular. Dress for windy cool weather. Meet before 9:30 am at Sears on 41st Ave. Bring lunch, water, \$6 carpool and share of Park fee. Restrooms. Leaders: Bev Meschi, 475-4185; Brooke Ewoldsen, 475-6188.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21

**Hike: Nisene Marks State Park**

Our 6-8 mile loop with about 800 feet elevation gain at a moderate pace takes us through Redwoods and Oak forest. We will walk along the old railroad trail past the Hoffman Historic Site to the Bridge Creek for lunch. We return along the creek. Bring water and lunch. Meet near REI off Highway 1 and Imjin Pkwy at 9 am or at 9:30 behind the Epicenter bicycle store for carpooling and sharing the entrance fee. Please let me know if you are coming. Leader: Gisela Nobinger, onegisela@aol.com or 831-393-4983.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24

**Hike: Arroyo Seco**

A fall hike, not a swim hike anymore. We'll walk from the gate to Horse Bridge, either on the old road along the river or on a side trail high up with a view, and down again. We'll go down to the old suspension bridge, cross and walk mildly uphill, then steeper to a wonderful rock formation high above the Horse Trail for our lunch break. Same way back. About 10 miles and 800' elevation gain/loss on a moderate pace. Bring lunch and water, wear good shoes and dress for all kind of weathers. Please call before. Meet at Mid Valley Safeway opposite Chase bank at 8:30 a.m. for the +one hour drive up Carmel Valley to the trailhead. People from Salinas and Santa Cruz may drive to the Park Entrance of Arroyo Seco and meet us there around 10 a.m. For more directions, please call. Leader: Anneliese Suter, 624-1467.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24

**Hike: Costanoa Sand Dunes  
and Beach**

There's a parking lot across from Costanoa and Whitehouse Canyon Rd up the coast. We'll see where those trails go. Maybe 4-5 miles and 200 ft of elevation gain (walking in sand). We'll meet at the Govt Center in Santa Cruz at 9:30 to carpool. Leader: Nick Wyckoff, (831) 462-3101

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25

**Hike: Devil's Peak and beyond**

From Bottcher's Gap in the NW corner of Los Padres National Forest, we'll hike 4 miles up the steep trail into the Ventana Wilderness and on to Devil's Peak. From there, we will either explore Mount Carmel, or venture down to secluded Comings Camp. 10+ miles with about 3000' of elev. gain. Bring water, lunch, hiking boots, etc. Call for meeting time and place. Leader: Larry Parrish 622-7455.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 27

**Senior Saunter: Palm Beach**

Pleasant 3 mile walk along the slough by Pajaro Dunes community of vacation homes, then down to the beach and walk on hard sand along the ocean's edge back to the beginning. A shorter walk will be available. We'll lunch at the end of the hike in the picnic area. Meet before 9:30 am at Sears on 41st Ave. To go direct, drive past main Watsonville exit on Hwy 1 and take Riverside exit, turn right and right again. At West Beach traffic light take a left, drive to the end of the road and park. We'll meet on the road near the entrance to the parking lot. (Lot requires a fee.) Bring lunch, water, \$3 for carpool. Leader: Denise Lucy, 728-6552.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 28

**Hike: Toro County Park**

Our 6-7 mile hike with about 800 feet elevation gain at a moderate pace takes us through a forested valley along the Ollason Trail to oak dotted grasslands. Bring water and lunch. Meet at the dirt parking lot outside Toro Park at 9:30 am. Please let me know if you are coming. Leader Gisela Nobinger, onegisela@aol.com or 393-4983.

WHEN ?

**Hike: Big Creek  
Reserve/Canogas Falls**

The USCS Landels-Hill Big Creek Reserve, about 40 m down the coast, gave us a reservation to hike on their property. We'll hike up to High Camp for a short snack, then further up and steep down 1,000' to Canogas Falls, the largest waterfalls deep inside the Ventana Wilderness. Back out to High Camp to get fresh water and down over the meadows with the ocean shimmering beneath us. Just wonderful! Let's hope for some flowers. A strenuous day with about 15 miles and 3,000' elevation gain/loss. Bring a hearty lunch and water, a hat and sun protection, hiking poles and \$3.25 entrance fee plus some \$ carpool gas help. Call definitely for a reservation. Meet at Rio Road Park & Ride at 8:00 a.m. Leader: Anneliese Suter, 624-1467.

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