



Ventana Chapter ~ VentanaSierraClub.org Hikes and Outings for Monterey/Carmel & Santa Cruz May & June, 2016 ~ Contact leader to reserve a spot

This is a current listing of the Outings. Please refer to the website: VentanaSierraClub.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

SUNDAY, MAY 1

Hike: Big Sur, East Molera Trail

7.2 miles total, 2400 foot elevation gain. Trail is steep for 1.6 miles where it connects with an old dirt road. This levels out along a ridge but it also has its steep parts. We'll go to the State Park/USFS boundary just below Post Summit and above Captain Cooper School. Expansive views of the Big Sur River Valley and Village, Pfeiffer Ridge, Pt Sur rock & lighthouse, open grassland & oak ridges and canyons of redwood & bay trees. Possible poison oak and ticks. Bring 2 litters of water, lunch and snacks. Meet at Carmel Rio Road P&R at 8:30 am for carpooling. Please RSVP. Leader: Steve Jackson, (831) 320-4561.

SUNDAY, MAY 1 - NOTE NEW DATE,
WAS APRIL 24

Hike: Garrapata to Palo Corona Traverse

From Garrapata State Park, ascend the Rocky Ridge Trail over Doud Peak, continue over the shoulder of Palo Corona, down through the redwoods of Seneca Creek and eventually out to Route 1 near the mouth of Carmel River. Strenuous 9+ hour hike, 15 miles and 3300'. Meet at the Rio Road Park & Ride by 7:30 am to arrange car shuttle. Bring lunch, 3+ liters water, and rain/wind protection. Limited to 14 hikers, so please reply to CarolAndRandyHike@yahoo.com with your name and phone number, and we will call you. Rain cancels. Leaders: Randy May and Stanley Dudek.

TUESDAY, MAY 3

Senior Hike: Bean Hollow/Wilbur's Watch

A 2 mile saunter through a blooming paradise on ocean bluffs south of Pescadero. There is the option of a moderate 2 mile round trip climb to Wilbur's Watch near Pigeon Point, before the flower walk. Meet before 9:30 am at Sears on 41st Ave. or at Shen's Gallery at Mission & King St before 9:50 am. Restrooms. Bring lunch, water, \$5 carpool (\$3 from Shen's). (Some may choose to have lunch nearby at Duarte's in Pescadero.) Leaders: Janet Schwind, 831-425-3845; Irene Lennox, 831-457-2690.

THURSDAY, MAY 5

Hike: Point Lobos Bird Island/Geology Discovery

Join Jerry Loomis on a "questions encouraged" CNPS/Sierra Club discovery walk in Point Lobos. Our focus will be on birds, native plants, Native American history, geology, marine biology and anything else we might find along the trail. Jerry was a park ranger at Point Lobos for 22 years and currently is a docent there. About 2 miles with minimal elevation gain. Bring water and lunch. Arrive early; we depart at 10:30am from Rio Road Park and Ride in Carmel. Call me for a reservation, limit of 8. Leader: Lynn Bomberger, 375-7777.

SATURDAY, MAY 7

Hike: Boronda/De Angulo Loop

This loop is a classic route of Big Sur. It runs along a prominent grassy ridge that rises steeply from the ocean with magnificent vistas of the Ocean and reaches just over 3,000' at the summit Timber Top. It packs a punch in terms of rate of elevation gain per mile; the distance is only 3 miles. The terrain is almost entirely grass and offers very little shade. After a well-earned rest at Timber Top we take the Coast Ridge Road south to the De Angulo trail to descend on the spine of Partington Ridge down a series of steep switchbacks through burned and live redwood and oak forest with nice views north of Boronda Ridge and the rugged coast. Finally we get to an old fire road that leads us back to our cars on Hwy 1. Bring a minimum of 2-3 liter of water, also sun protection and trekking poles. We meet 8 am at Rio Rd. P&R in Carmel for the 32 miles drive. Leader: Burkhard Siedhoff, 831-920-1803.

SUNDAY, MAY 8

Hike: Big Creek Reserve/Canogas Falls

The USCS Landess-Hill Big Creek Reserve 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 millions of wildflowers and with the ocean shimmering beneath us. Just wonderful! 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 for entrance fee and \$ carpool gas help. Call definitely for a reservation. Meet at Rio Road Park & Ride at 7:30 am. Leader: Anneliese Suter, 624-1467.

TUESDAY, MAY 10

Senior Hike/Walk: Garrapata/Soberanes

For the hikers, a scenic walk along the bluffs followed by a climb up the canyon to enjoy the wild flowers. Lunch in a copse along the route before returning down the canyon. Walkers start straight on the canyon path. Meet before 9:30 am at Sears on 41st Ave. To go direct, Soberanes is 7.3 miles south of Rio Road in Carmel, on Hwy 1. Look for barn on left side of road and a grove of cypress trees on the right. There is parking along the road on the ocean side. Primitive restroom. Dress for weather. Bring lunch, water, \$6 carpool. Leaders: Irene Lennox, 831 457-2690; Brooke Ewoldsen, 831- 475-6188.

THURSDAY, MAY 12

Hike: Carmel Beaches

Leader: Gisela Nobinger, onegisela@aol.com or 408-406-9650. This hike was tentatively planned and has been CANCELLED.

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.

Go to www.VentanaSierraClub.org and join for as little as \$15 a year.

Continues on next page

SUNDAY, MAY 15

Hike: Asilomar-Pebble Beach Loop

4 mile hike loop through Pebble Beach neighborhood, sand dunes and then to the coast trail. We'll 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 am. Back about noon, bring snack and water. Call me to reserve a space. Leader: Martha Saylor, 831-372-9215.

TUESDAY, MAY 17

Senior Saunter: Upper UCSC

A fairly flat walk on trails at upper UCSC lands off Empire Grade Rd. A shorter walk will be available. Meet before 9:30 am at Sears on 41st. Ave. To go direct, take Mission to Bay Ave. Turn left at top of Bay and follow road past twin gates on Empire and Chinquapin Roads to parking areas on both sides of road. Park on shoulder on left side of road. Bring lunch, water, \$3 carpool. Leaders: Perry Brohmer, 650-793-3987; Brooke Ewoldsen, 831-475-6188.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 18

Hike: Santa Lucia Preserve

Chris Hauser, botanist and director of land stewardship for the Santa Lucia Conservancy, will lead a CNPS/Sierra Club field trip in the Santa Lucia Preserve. We'll walk along the Williams Canyon dirt road to observe the beautiful plant communities and to see what's blooming. Bring water, lunch and wear good walking shoes. We'll meet by 9:30am at the Santa Lucia Conservancy office at 26700 Rancho San Carlos Road, a quarter mile south of Carmel Valley Road. Call me for a reservation—limit of 15. Leader: Lynn Bomberger, 375-7777.

SUNDAY, MAY 21

**Hike: Soberanes Canyon/
Rocky Ridge Loop**

This is a mostly strenuous loop hike of 6 miles with an elevation gain of 1600'. Our route ascends through the shaded Creekside redwoods of Soberanes Canyon in Garrapata State Park up into open grassy hillside (and possibly, depending on our inclination, a side trip of 0.7 miles and 300' elevation to Doud Peak). We will return via the rugged sage scrub of Rocky Ridge Trail. Bring 2-3 liters of water, sturdy boots, trekking poles, hat, sunscreen, and lunch. Meet at Rio Road Park and Ride in Carmel at 9:00 AM. Heavy rain cancels. Leader: Stanley Dudek, sdudek829@gmail.com or 831-726-6200.

SUNDAY, MAY 22

**Hike: Big Sur, Salmon Creek Trail
to Estrella Camp**

Rained out 3 times already, but I persist. 6.4 miles up and back, 1500' elevation gain. This will be an all-day event due mainly to the long 70 mile each way drive. If time allows, perhaps a short side hike to the possibly "thunderous" Upper Salmon Creek Falls (2.5 miles up a side trail) will be in order. Trail is exposed and steep at the start but levels out as it enters forested canyon terrain. It's in good shape except for one small stretch due to loose soil and previous slides. Bring at least 2 liters of water, lunch and snacks. Meet: Carmel Park n ride, 7:45 AM. Suggest \$6 for Carpool. Please RSVP. Leader: Steve Jackson, (831) 320-4561.

TUESDAY, MAY 24

Senior Saunter: Mt Madonna

This Santa Cruz County Park is located high above Watsonville on Hwy.152. Moderate 2.5 mile hike in lovely forest and meadows. Shorter walk available. We'll return home via Gizdich Farms for pie. Meet before 9:30 am at Sears on 41st Ave. or by restrooms just beyond the Park's kiosk entrance about 10:00 am. Bring lunch, water, \$4 carpool. Leaders: Perry Brohmer, 650-793-3987; Brooke Ewoldsen, 831-475-6188.

THURSDAY, MAY 26

Hike: Point Lobos

Leader: Gisela Nobinger, onegisela@aol.com or 393-4983. This hike was tentatively planned and has been CANCELLED.

SATURDAY, MAY 28

Hike: Russian Ridge, Mindego Hill

This is a new trail in the Mid Peninsula system following its acquisition of Mindego Hill itself, an ancient seamount. The length is probably 5-6 miles and maybe 1000 feet of elevation gain. We'll meet at the Government Center on Ocean Street in Santa Cruz at 9:30 to carpool. Leader: Nick Wyckoff, (831) 462-3101.

SUNDAY, MAY 29

**Hike: Fort Ord
National Monument**

Let's explore some of the eastern trails of Fort Ord. Wildflowers may still be in bloom and if we're lucky, maybe we'll catch sight of some of the abundant wildlife on these public lands. Expect 6-8 miles with ample elevation gain. Bring water, lunch, etc. Call for meeting time and place. Leader: Larry Parrish, 622-7455.

SUNDAY, MAY 29

Walk: Point Lobos State Reserve

With sunny and shady shoreline, this walk gives us beauty and variety as we meander along cliffs and through woods. We'll start at the north end with a visit to a Rumsien summer village site, and mosey south. Dress in layers, bring snack and water, and binoculars if you like to see the critters up close. Meet at Rio Road P&R at 9 am and expect to be back about noon. To reserve a space, call me. Leader: Mary Gale, 626-3565.

TUESDAY, MAY 31

Senior Hike/Walk: Loch Lomond

This is a beautiful hike thru the woods with lunch at the water's edge at the picnic area. Some steep hills. An alternative shorter route will be available. Meet before 9:30 am at Sears on 41st Ave. or beside the levee in the Gateway Center on River St, between Ross and Petsmart, before 9:40 am. To go direct, meet at the boat launch/pay station in Loch Lomond Park. From there a minimum number of cars will drive everyone to the trailhead. Bring lunch, water, \$4 carpool (\$3 from Gateway) and share of entrance fee. Hike leader: Perry Brohmer, 650-793-3987; Walk leader: Brooke Ewoldsen, 831-475-6188.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 1

**Meeting of
Sierra Club Ventana Chapter**

Please come to our Chapter Meeting, only every second month, at the Monterey Public Library at 4:45 pm. Please be on time! We'll talk about new hikes/outings and tell each other how many people participated at the last hikes and what should be changed maybe. If you can't make it, please send in your write-ups by e-mail to Martha Saylor at saylor@redshift.net as soon as possible.

FRIDAY, JUNE 3

Hike: Kahn Ranch

This quiet part of Garland, tucked in the southeastern corner of the park, boasts beautiful vistas and diverse plant life. We'll traverse the Fern, Manzanita and Hitchcock trails for around 4 miles and 1100 feet of elevation gain. Our leisurely pace will allow us to scout for wildflowers in preparation for Garland's wildflower show the following weekend. Please phone for a reservation by Tuesday, May 31 so we know how many permits to get. Meet at Rio Rd park and ride at 9 am with lunch and water. Leaders: Cath Farrant and Mary Dainton, 372 7427.

SUNDAY, JUNE 5

Hike: Big Sur, Hwy 1 to Timber Top via Coast Ridge Road

Starting and ending at the Ventana Inn. 13.4 miles Round Trip, 2100 foot elevation gain, 7 to 8 hours includes driving time. Walking along the ridge affords us miles and miles of expansive panorama views of the ever impressive Big Sur Coast on one side and the rugged and deep South Fork of the Big Sur River Valley on the other. The first 4 miles to Terrace Creek Trail is relatively steep, but levels out with gentle ups and downs from there. The graded road is wide open; therefore, free of poison oak and ticks. No reliable water sources, so bring at least 2 liters. Bring lunch and snacks. Meet 9 am at the Carmel P & R on Rio Rd. Please RSVP. Leader: Steve Jackson, (831) 320-4561.

TUESDAY, JUNE 7

Senior Hike: Cowell River Loop

This loop walk is along the river through a redwood forest. 3 miles w/slight uphill. Shorter walk available. Meet before 9:30 am at Sears on 41st Ave or beside the levee in the Gateway Center on River St, between Ross and Petsmart, before 9:40 am. To go direct, take Hwy 17 exit at Mt. Hermon Rd. to Felton. Take left at Hwy. 9 to Henry Cowell Park entrance. Pay at kiosk and take first right into camping/parking area. Bring lunch, water, \$4 carpool (\$3 from Gateway) and share of entrance fee. Leaders: Perry Brohmer, 650-793-3987; Brooke Ewoldsen, 831-475-6188.

THURSDAY, JUNE 9

Hike: Del Monte Forest

Our 4-5 mile loop with about 500 feet elevation gain at a moderate pace takes us along forest trails. Bring water and a snack. Meet at the parking area along highway 68 at the Haul Road between Skyline Forest and Forest Hill at 9:30 am. Leader: Gisela Nobinger, onegisela@aol.com or 408-406-9650. This hike is tentatively planned, since I have some medical stuff coming up, so please check in with me.

SUNDAY, JUNE 12

Hike: West Andrew Molera State Park

Starting from park headquarters, ascend the Hidden and Ridge Trails to a dramatic viewpoint, then return along the coast on the Panorama and Bluff trails. Moderate, about 9 miles and 1200'. Meet at the Rio Road Park & Ride at 7:45 am. Bring lunch, 2-3+ liters water, and rain/wind protection. Poison Oak likely on the narrow Panorama trail, so long sleeves and pants are recommended. 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.

TUESDAY, JUNE 14

Senior Saunter: Costanoa/Franklin Point

This is a 4 mile hike on trails around the beach and over the dunes near Costanoa Resort. A shorter hike will be available. Meet before 9:30 am at Sears on 41st Ave or near Shen's Gallery at Mission & King St. before 9:50 am. To go direct, take Hwy 1 to Costanoa and park in the lot by the General Store. Restrooms. Bring lunch, water, \$5 carpool (\$3 from Shen's). Leaders: Perry Brohmer, 650-793-3987; Brooke Ewoldsen, 831-475-6188.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 15

Hike: Carmel to Pebble Beach

This nice lollypop loop begins in Carmel and leads into the quiet Monterey pine forest of Pebble Beach. Lunch gives us the option of purchasing a Poppy Hills sandwich. 6 miles, 750 ft. elevation gain with flora & fauna stops. Arrive early; we depart at 10 am from the Rio Road Park & Ride in Carmel. Call me for a reservation—limit of 8. Leader: Lynn Bomberger, 375-7777.

SATURDAY, JUNE 18

Hike: Blue Rock

This is a moderate to strenuous hike from Los Padres Reservoir via Big Pine Trail to Blue Rock, about 10 m, 2000', 6 hours. Bring plenty of water und lunch. You will meet the Big Four: brush, deadfall, poison oak and ticks! Dress accordingly: light colored long pants and shirts with long sleeves. Great views of Mt. Elephant, Mt. Carmel, Puerto Suelo and more await us. We have lunch atop the serpentine rock outcrop of Blue Rock with geology info. Meet at 8 am at P&R on Rio Road in Carmel for car pooling. Leader: Burkhard Siedhoff, 831-920-1803.

SATURDAY, JUNE 18

Hike: Sanborn County Park/J. Nicholas Trail

This is a moderate walk that we've done before to one of Santa Clara Water Districts' reservoirs near Los Gatos. It's maybe 5 miles and only 4-500 feet of elevation gain. We'll meet at the Government Center on Ocean Street in Santa Cruz at 9:30 to carpool. Leader: Nick Wyckoff, (831) 462-3101.

SUNDAY, JUNE 19

Hike: Kahn Ranch

For those who haven't visited this eastern most portion of Garland Park, this will be worth the effort. Exploring the outer limits of the little jewel that is Kahn Ranch, we will encounter some small waterfalls, abundant wildflowers (hopefully still), and elevated views of the Carmel River. Also expect some poison oak and possible ticks. About 8 miles with 2500' of sometimes steep elevation gain/loss. Limit of 20 hikers. Call for a reservation. Leader: Larry Parrish, 622-7455.

SUNDAY, JUNE 19

Walk: Little Sur River

This woody trail takes us from the Old Coast Road to a spot by the river, and back, in less than 5 miles with gentle elevation changes. Unless El Nino has been hard on the trees, we'll enjoy beautiful redwood groves and possibly see clintonia in bloom; if El Nino was a baddy, we'll do a bit of clambering. With an early start to beat the traffic (!?), we'll want to dress in layers, wear good walking shoes, bring water, snack to and poles for tricky spots on the trail. For time and meeting point, call me. Leader: Mary Gale, 626-3565.

TUESDAY, JUNE 21

Senior Saunter: Sunset Beach

We'll walk both the bluffs and the beach. Moderate 4 miles without steep hills. A shorter walk will be available. Meet before 9:30 am at Sears on 41st Ave. or at Sunset Beach kiosk parking lot by 9:50 am. Bring water, lunch, \$4 carpool and share of parking fee. Restrooms. Leaders: Denise Lucy, 728-6552; Brooke Ewoldsen, 831-475-6188.

THURSDAY, JUNE 23

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 near Highway 1 and Imjin Pkwy at 9 am or at 9:30 behind the Epicenter bicycle store. Leader: Gisela Nobinger, onegisela@aol.com or 408-406-9650.

SUNDAY, JUNE 25

Hike: Skinner Ridge Trail to Mount Carmel

This is a strenuous out-and-back hike of 9.6 miles through shaded forest and open ridges. Beginning at Bottchers Gap (parking fee required), we will ascend a total of 2500' elevation gain to amazing views of Pico Blanco, Ventana Double Cone, and the Big Sur Coast with wildflowers galore along the way. Bring 2-3 liters of water, sturdy boots, trekking poles, hat, sunscreen, and lunch. Meet at Rio Road Park and Ride in Carmel at 9:00 AM. Heavy rain cancels. Leader: Stanley Dudek, sdudek829@gmail.com or 831-726-6200.

SUNDAY, JUNE 26

Walk: Carmel River Beach

How about a morning saunter from Carmel River Beach over the high path with steps 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.) Call me to reserve a place. Leader: Martha Saylor, 372-9215.

TUESDAY, JUNE 28

Senior Saunter: Asilomar South

Easy 3+ mile walk from Asilomar to Point Joe and return along sandy paths and beach boardwalk. A shorter walk will be available. Lunch at tables just south of Point Joe or at Asilomar. Meet before 9:30 am at Sears on 41st Ave. To go direct, meet before 10:40 am at Fish wife Restaurant & Asilomar in Pacific Grove. Bring lunch, water, \$5 carpool. Leaders: Bev Meschi, 831-359-9961; Brooke Ewoldsen, 831-475-6188.

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@VentanaSierraClub.org

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>