



# Coyote Creek Parkway



County of Santa Clara  
Parks and Recreation Department  
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Use this QR code to view your GPS location on the guide map using



www.parkhere.org

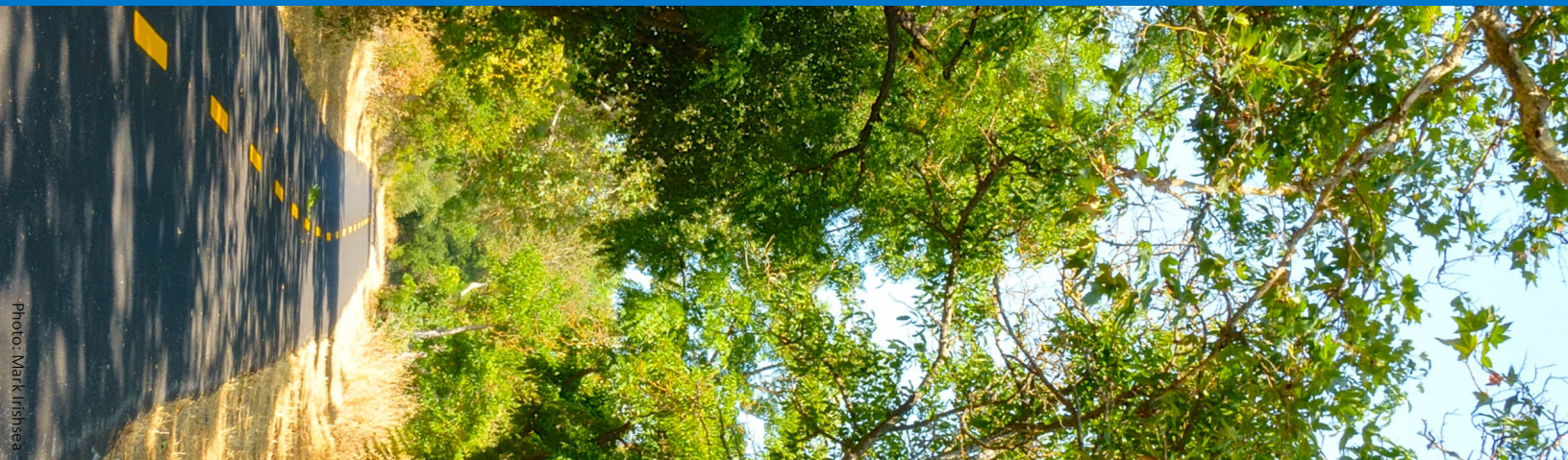
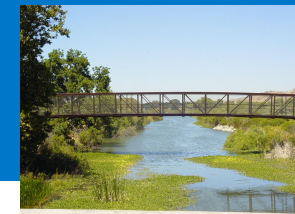


Photo: Mark Irish/Sea



## Accessibility

In compliance with the requirements of Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 ("ADA"), the Santa Clara County Parks and Recreation Department will not discriminate against qualified individuals with disabilities on the basis of disability in its programs, services, or activities. The Department will make reasonable modifications to policies and programs to ensure that people with disabilities have an equal opportunity to enjoy our programs, services, facilities, and activities. If you need assistance with an ADA request, please contact our ADA Coordinator at: ADACoordinator@prk.sccgov.org.



*Park Charter Funds at Work... Thank You!*

## Natural Diversity

Coyote Creek is the longest creek in Santa Clara County, flowing northward over 60 miles through Coyote and Anderson Reservoirs, San Jose, Milpitas, and finally through tidal marshlands into the San Francisco Bay. The creek environment is comprised primarily of oak savanna with riparian woodland species. Valley oak, coast live oak, big leaf maple, cottonwood, sycamore, and willow are typical trees of this community.

The banks of the Coyote Creek are home to a wide variety of waterfowl, including the great blue heron and the wood duck. Visitors to the creek area may also see foxes, bobcats, coyotes, wild pigs, or turkeys. Poison oak, abundant throughout the park, is an important ground cover that reduces soil erosion and helps stabilize stream banks. The woody vines offer excellent cover and protection for many species of wildlife.

The Coyote Creek channel itself is habitat for a number of native aquatic species, including chinook salmon.

## Cultural History

For centuries, the native Tamien and Matalan tribes lived along what is now the Coyote Creek Parkway. The temperate climate, abundant wildlife and plant food sources attracted these Native Americans to this site.

In March of 1776, Juan Bautista de Anza and his party of explorers crossed the river on their way to San Francisco. They named the river Arroyo Del Coyote, most likely after the coyotes they saw during their journey.

Just south of Coyote Ranch Drive lies the Historic Coyote Ranch House within the former Rancho De La Laguna Seca. Captain Fisher purchased this 19,973 acre rancho at a Monterey auction for \$6,000 in 1845, and lived in an adobe house with his family on the site of the present house, which was built at the end of the 19th century. Following the death of Captain Fisher's granddaughter-in-law Gertrude Fisher in 1914, the estate was divided up into equal shares and the remaining acres of Laguna Seca were sold. Of the original 19,973 acres, 4.3 acres of the ranch remain, and continue to be used for raising livestock, training horses, staging hayrides, dances and barbecues.

At the southern end of the park is the site of the Malaguerra Winery, near Anderson Lake. Built in 1869 from basalt stones hauled up from Coyote Creek, the winery was also used to cure sausage and salami by hanging the meat from the rafters. The Malaguerras raised 11 children and operated the winery until 1898. The family occupied the property until their home was destroyed by fire in the 1930s. The last commercial use of the site was by the Klinke family from 1957 to 1971 as a chicken ranch.

## Welcome

Welcome to Coyote Creek Parkway. The central feature of this park is the 16-mile path that stretches from Hellyer County Park in San Jose to Anderson County Park in Morgan Hill. The path is relatively flat and meanders along the creek underneath oak, cottonwood, and sycamore trees. Coyote Creek Parkway is popular with hikers, runners, rollerbladers, bicyclists, picnickers, equestrians and nature lovers.

## Hours and Fees

Coyote Creek Parkway is open year-round from 8 a.m. until sunset. Vehicle entry fees are collected year-round when parking at Hellyer County Park or Anderson County Park parking lots.

## How to Get There

The Coyote Creek Parkway has many access points between Hellyer County Park and Anderson County Park. Trailheads with dedicated parking include:

- Hellyer County Park:** 985 Hellyer Ave, San Jose
- Silver Creek Staging Area:** Silver Creek Valley Rd at Blossom Hill
- Basking Ridge Staging Area:** Basking Ridge Ave at Chelsea Crossing (take sidewalk along Silicon Valley Blvd to reach main trail)
- Metcalf Ponds Staging Area:** Monterey Rd at Forsum Rd
- Burnett Ave:** Burnett Ave ends at trailhead
- Anderson Visitor Center:** Malaguerra Ave at Morning Star Dr.

## Activities

- Hiking, running, rollerblading, bicycling along a sixteen mile, multiple-use paved trail.
- First-come, first-served picnic areas along the Coyote Creek Trail are open year-round.
- Fishing along Coyote Creek is open from the last Saturday in April to November 15th.
- An equestrian staging area with trailer parking, picnic area and horse trough heads the 8-mile horse trail, starts at Burnett Ave.
- The Coyote Creek Nature trail is a 1.5-mile, self-guided tour through riparian habitat used by area wildlife.
- Remote planes at the Santa Clara County Model Aircraft Skypark. No vehicle access, trail access only.
- Disc-golfing at the La Raza Disc Golf Course.

## Share the Trails

- Be Considerate:** Trail speed limit is 15 mph. Use particular caution when passing children, senior citizens, and people with dogs.
- Use Open Trails Only:** Trails may be closed due to sensitive environmental concerns.
- Be Aware of Conditions:** Trails may be closed due to flooding. Riding when conditions are poor, such as shortly after a rain, may cause trail damage. Call (408) 355-2200 for current trail conditions.
- Plan Ahead:** Know your equipment, your ability and where you are going. Carry necessary supplies for changes in weather or other conditions. Please carry adequate water.