

POTRERO REGIONAL PARK

A San Diego County
Camping Park



RULES & REGULATIONS

- CAMPFIRES:** Must be confined to existing stoves or fire rings. See ranger for current campfire rules.
- PETS:** Pets are permitted if they are properly restrained and under the control of the owner. Dogs must be licensed, restrained on a leash not longer than six feet, and attended at all times.
- WASTE WATER:** Please dispose of all waste water in an approved dump station, never on the ground.
- VEGETATION & NATURAL FEATURES:** All plants, animals, natural features, and archaeological resources are fully protected and may not be damaged, injured, or removed. Please check with your ranger for firewood — he or she generally has a supply to sell for campfires. Please do not gather it from within the park.
- TREES:** Do not tie or hang ropes, wire, or tents to trees. Do not drive nails, screws, or staples into trees.
- GENERATORS:** Use of generators is prohibited.
- NOISE:** To insure each park guest's pleasure and peace, quiet hours are from 10:00 p.m. to 8:00 a.m. Of course, excessive noise and loud music is discouraged at all times.
- FIREARMS & WEAPONS:** Firearms, fireworks, and weapons are not permitted in County Parks.
- YOUTH:** All persons under 18 years of age must be accompanied by a legally responsible adult with medical authorization for each child while camping in the park.
- ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES:** Alcoholic beverages are permitted providing the alcohol content does not exceed 20%.

NOTE: Camping in the park is contingent upon guests maintaining their immediate camping area in a safe and clean condition and complying with all park rules. Failure to comply will result in a suspension of camping privileges and loss of prepaid fees.

RESERVATIONS & INFORMATION



Toll Free • (877) 565-3600
Local • (858) 565-3600

For online reservation information,
visit us at www.sdparks.org



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Potrero Regional Park

HIKING & SELF-GUIDED NATURE TRAIL

YOUTH CAMPING

PARK ENTRANCE

SEE ENLARGED CAMPGROUND MAP BELOW

ENTRANCE STATION

Legend

- Tent Site Only
- Partial Hookup Sites (electric only)
- Disabled Access
- Full Shade
- Partial Shade
- Ranger Station
- Picnic Area
- Playground
- Restrooms
- Restrooms with Showers
- Ball Field
- Pavilion
- Dump Station

Area Map

TO SAN DIEGO ←

← Buckman Springs Rd.

← Lake Morena

Potrero Valley Rd. →

Potrero Park Rd.

POTRERO

TECATE

Mexico

Check in: 2:00 p.m. Check out: 1:00 p.m.

Sites 33-39, no tents allowed.

For detailed site descriptions, go to www.sdparks.org

Welcome to Potrero Regional Park

Potrero Regional Park, 45 miles east of San Diego, is in a broad valley dotted by coastal live oaks. Its grassy meadow and rocky hillsides provide quiet solitude for hikers and campers, and picnickers will enjoy the shade of hundred-year-old oak trees. The park is well suited for year round recreation. The average summer high is 90° and the average winter low is 34°. At an elevation of 2300 feet, the valley can receive occasional light snowfall in the winter.

Some History

The Spanish word *potrero* means “pasturing place.” Until the middle of the 19th century, the Potrero region was inhabited only by Kumeyaay Indians, who found the area rich in their main food, the acorn. Evidence of their way of life can be seen on the park’s nature trail. Look for the large rock pitted with smooth holes, in which they ground the acorns into meal.



In 1868 Charlie McAlmond, a ship captain from San Diego, settled in the Potrero Valley and established a cattle ranch and farm. Others soon followed, becoming ranchers or wood cutters. The cordwood business flourished in this oak woodland, and large horse-drawn wagons hauled firewood and bark to San Diego.

What You'll See

Wagons no longer run between Potrero and San Diego, but much of the area might still seem like home to Captain McAlmond. Because the mountainous habitat has suffered relatively little disturbance, wildlife

abounds here. Rare predators such as bobcats are seen occasionally. Some of the more conspicuous animal residents include mule deer, coyotes, raccoons, striped and spotted skunks, and brush rabbits.

Many of the bird species native to Southern California live in the oaks and surrounding chaparral. Red-tailed and Cooper’s hawks, golden eagles, acorn woodpeckers, and scrub jays are just a few that you might notice. Observant visitors may also see reptiles such as the Great Basin fence lizard or the San Diego gopher snake. Rattlesnakes are occasionally reported; be cautious of these natural residents of the park and leave them undisturbed. During the spring, listen for the evening call of the Pacific tree frog.



Facilities

Potrero Regional Park offers RV, tent, and group camping. Groups, including corporate campouts, can use developed and primitive sites and can reserve a picnic area or the enclosed pavilion. Hot showers are available for campers staying at one of the 39 campsites, which have electrical hookups and water. There is a holding tank disposal station at the campground. Much of the 115-acre park consists of picnic areas. Visitors can also enjoy ball fields, a dance pavilion, playgrounds, and hiking along a half-mile nature trail. The nearby town of Potrero offers a general store, café, post office, and library. The railroad museum and century-old historic stone store in Campo make for an interesting side trip, and the colorful Mexican community of Tecate is only minutes away.