

SIR Hard Hike March 28, 2023

King's Canyon Loop

This hike is a six-mile loop-mile loop with approximately 800-900 feet of accumulated elevation gain. 90% of the trail is fire road. The trail is relatively well shaded, but the last half mile is open.

Trail Head Directions:

The hike begins at Rancho Laguna Park at the south end of Camino Pablo in Moraga. From Walnut Creek: Take the Central Lafayette exit off HWY 24 and then turn left on Mt. Diablo Blvd. and take the next right on to Moraga Road. Take Moraga Road past the Moraga Commons, where it becomes Canyon Road. Stay on Canyon Rd. for about $\frac{3}{4}$ mile, then turn left at Camino Pablo. Rancho Laguna Park is at the end of Camino Pablo. The trailhead can also be accessed via Saint Mary's Rd. or Moraga Way. There is water and restrooms at the park.

EBMUD: The Hike is mostly on EBMUD water shed and, a EBMUD trail permit is technically required. However, the pass is seldomly checked for. Several members of the Hiking group have trail permits. Each pass holder can have three guests. EBMUD trail passes can be bought at <https://www.ebmud.com/recreation/buy-trail-permit> The cost \$3.00 per day or \$ 10.00 per year.

Route Description: We start by leaving the park's south gate and turn right on the connecting fire road for 0.4 miles and reach the King's Canyon Loop Trail. We then take the Rimmer Creek Trail, a single-track trail, then we turn left and start a 600' climb. When we reach the ridge line, we will have expansive views of Moraga. Then there is a steep descent. At the bottom we turn towards the reservoir on the King's Canyon trail. We then return to Rancho Laguna Park.

Along the trail there are nice views of San Leandro Reservoir. Also, several species of waterfowl may be seen.

Bring: Bring Water. Hiking poles and sturdy shoes/hiking boots are recommended

Carpooling: First make sure that other hikers will be there. Meet at the parking garage next to the movie theater on Locust St in Walnut Creek at 9:20. The trail head is about 10 miles from the garage to the trailhead.

Lunch: Europa Hofbrau. 64 Moraga Way, Orinda

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