

Marin Recreation

BIKING

Marin is a bicycle's paradise. For the best routes refer to Phyllis Neumann's Marin County Bike Trails, available at the San Rafael Public Library. Marin is also the birthplace of Mountain biking. Favorite locations include Lake Lagunitas for an easy ride. The most scenic is the 11.2 mile Bolinas Ridge ride.

BIRDWATCHING

Marin has some of the country's best bird-watching. Here is a guide to water fowl and rare species:

National Audubon Society/ Richardson Bay Audubon Center

A bird and wildlife sanctuary sitting on 11 acres on Richardson Bay facing San Francisco. Over 800 acres of Richardson Bay are maintained as a seasonal refuge for water fowl and shore birds that migrate to the Bay to spend the winter or just pause to rest and feed on their long journey. The Sanctuary is open to the public Wednesday through Sunday. (415) 388-2524

Audubon Canyon Ranch

Best known for the great blue heron and great egret nesting colony in the redwoods of Picher Canyon. These birds, as well as other local wildlife, can be seen from the many miles of well-marked trails. (415) 868-9244

Marin Headlands

South Bird Island plays host to migrating birds, including the huge brown pelican, from June to December. Best viewing is from Rodeo Beach.

Point Reyes

Over 400 species have been observed in the park and adjacent waters. For a complete list of locations, call or write the Point Reyes National Seashore, Pt. Reyes, 94956. (415) 464-5100

Stinson Beach Park

The charming shoreline village of Stinson Beach offers bird watchers a chance to catch the many species here. In the winter, thousands of monarch butterflies show off their regal coloring as they cluster in trees near the beach. (415) 868-0942

CAMPING

Angel Island State Park

To reserve overnight campsites: (800) 444-7275. Park information : (415) 435-1915

Mt. Tamalpais State Park

Located on Highway One. (415) 388-2070. For cabins along the shore, call (800) 444-7275

Point Reyes National Seashore

Backpacking campgrounds only. (415) 464-5100

China Camp State Park

On N. San Pedro Road along San Pedro Bay. (415) 456-0766. Reservations: (800) 444-7275

Samuel P. Taylor State Park

Located in Lagunitas. (415) 488-9897
Reservations: (800) 444-7275
Disabled campsites and restrooms available.

Olema Ranch Campground

Highway One, Olema. (415) 663-8001.
Point Reyes Youth Hostel
Limantour Road. Limited disabled access.
(415) 663-8811

Golden Gate National Recreation Area

Marin Headlands ~ (415) 331-1540
GGNRA Youth Hostel (415) 331-2777

FISHING

Cast your line in Marin waters and catch salmon, rock fish and striped bass at numerous scenic locations.

McNear's Beach Pier

Fee for parking. (415) 446-4424

China Camp

Many points with free parking that are ideal for fishing the San Pablo Bay. (415) 456-0766.

Angel Island State Park

Catch rockfish, striped bass, and salmon. Park information: (415) 435-1915.

Mt. Tamalpais State Park

Five clear blue lakes excellent for fishing. (415) 388-2070.

GOLF

Marin has a number of fine golf courses. Try the following:

McInnisPark Golf Center

350 Smith Ranch Road, San Rafael. (415) 491-5961

Peacock Gap Country Club

333 Biscayne Drive, San Rafael (415) 453-3111

San Geronimo Golf Course

5800 Sir Francis Drake Blvd., San Geronimo (415) 488-4030

HIKING

Lace up those boots and scale Marin's hills and mountains for some fine exercise and panoramic views. Some of the best locations:

Angel Island

10 Miles of trails wind around this island. For park information, call (415) 435-1915

China Camp

Hiking trails offer panoramic views. For a map, call the camp at (415)456-0766

Muir Woods

Six miles of hiking trails, mostly paved, decorate the canyon floor. Park opens every day.

(415) 388-2595

Point Reyes

Several trails ranging from easy to difficult, many with spectacular views. Visitor Center stocked with maps and information. (415) 464-5100

Tomales Bay State Park

Prized for its warm beaches and rich nature hiking. Pick up a brochure as you enter the ranger station. (415) 669-1140

Samuel P. Taylor State Park

Wide variety of flora and fauna. Pioneer Tree Trail and Wildcat Canyon Trail popular short hikes. The top of Mt. Barnabe is a heartier hike.

(415) 488-9897

Old St. Hilary's Historic Preserve

Fascinating varieties of wildflowers near old church in Tiburon. Seasonal hours. (415) 435-1853

National Audubon Society/ Richardson Bay Audubon Center

Self-Guided nature trail. (415) 388-2524

Audubon Canyon Ranch

Many miles of well-marked trails. (415) 868-9244

F or more information about tourism and seasonal activities in Marin County, please contact the following Chambers of Commerce:

Corte Madera Chamber of Commerce
129 Town Center, Corte Madera 94925
(415) 924-0441
www.cortemadera.org

Fairfax Chamber of Commerce
PO Box 1111, Fairfax 94978
(415) 456-5574
www.fairfaxcoc.com

Larkspur Chamber of Commerce
PO Box 998, CA 94977
(415) 686-2062
www.larkspurchamber.org

Mill Valley Chamber of Commerce
85 Throcmorton, Mill Valley 94941
(415) 388-9700
www.millvalley.org

Novato Chamber of Commerce
807 DeLong, Novato 94947
(415) 897-1164
www.novato.org

San Anselmo Chamber of Commerce
PO Box 2844, San Anselmo 94960
(415) 454-2510
www.sananselmochamber.org

San Rafael Chamber of Commerce
817 Mission Ave., San Rafael 94901
(415) 454-4163
www.sanrafaelchamber.com

Tiburon Chamber of Commerce
96B Main Street, Tiburon 94965
(415) 435-5633
www.tiburonchamber.org

HORSEBACK RIDING
Miles of open space and horse trails make Marin an equestrian's haven.

Five Brooks Stables
Point Reyes National Seashore Guided tours:
(415) 663-1570

Sunset Corral
2901 Vineyard, Novato
(415) 897-8212

Miwok Livery Riding Stables
701 Tennessee Valley Road
Mill Valley (415) 383-8048

WATER SPORTS

Kayaking
Point Reyes and Richardson Bay are favorite locations for kayaking. For classes, rentals and trips call Blue Waters Kayaking, 12938 Sir Francis Drake Blvd., Inverness (415) 669-2600 or Outback Adventures Rental in Larkspur, 12 E. Sir Francis Drake Blvd. (415) 461-2222

Sailing
Cass' Marina in Sausalito charters and rents sailboats and maintains a sailing school. Off Napa Street at 1702 Bridgeway. (415) 332-6798



Sport Fishing
Western Sport Shop, located at 902 Third Street in San Rafael, is a great resource for sport fishing information as well as for all types of fishing gear. (415) 456-4545

Surfing
Stinson Beach Park offers a rugged view of the Pacific and one of the best surfing beaches in Northern California. (415) 868-1922

Swimming
Marin's sunny summers are perfect for swimming. Contact the local chamber of commerce for information on local pools.

Windsurfing
The most popular local spot for this fast-growing sport is off Point San Quentin near Larkspur Ferry Terminal.

TENNIS
Marin has a number of tennis courts. Contact the local recreation department or chamber of commerce for details.

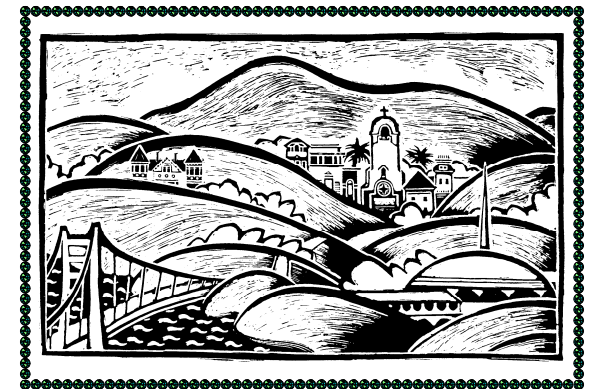
Boyle Park Tennis
11 East Drive, Mill Valley
(415) 388-6523
The San Rafael Recreation Center
will provide you with additional information. (415) 485-3333

WHALE WATCHING
Peak months are January through March, when it is not uncommon to see up to 100 whales each day. The California Gray whale migration is best viewed from the Point Reyes Lighthouse. (415) 669-1534.

The Oceanic-Society runs whale-watching cruises to the Farallon Islands out of ports in San Francisco and Bodega Bay. For information on whale-watching cruises go to: www.oceanic-society.org

July 2008

Marin Recreation



A Guide to Outdoor Activities from the Golden Gate to the Pacific Coast

Published
by:



www.visitMmarin.org
(415) 925-2060