

Great Outdoors chapter presents
Whiting Ranch/Red Rocks
Day Hike
April 12, 2018, 8:30 AM



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Limestone Canyon and Whiting Ranch Wilderness Park encompasses about 4,300 acres of riparian and oak woodland canyons, rolling grassland hills, and steep slopes of coastal sage scrub and chaparral. The park is highlighted by scenic rock formations, including the beautiful Red Rock Canyon, our destination.

Our hike will go up Borrego Canyon, through old growth forest. At 2 miles out, we will arrive at Red Rock Canyon. The last portion of trail into the Red Rocks is sandy and rocky so boots or sturdy walking shoes are recommended. We will spend time there to enjoy the sights and a snack.



On our way back, we will take the Billy Goat Trail circling around to the Serrano Trail. (Those not wishing to take the longer hike can retrace their steps to the Parking Lot.)

The total hike will be about 10 miles and take about 4.5 hours. Afterwards, those who wish can gather for lunch at a nearby food court.

The park is closed for 3 days following rain. To verify access, call the park at (949) 923-2245 or check for alerts at: <http://www.ocparks.com/whitingranch/> No alternative hike is planned.

DIRECTIONS: Just south of the El Toro Y (where the 5 and 405 meet) take Bake Parkway East. After about 5 miles, turn left on Portola Parkway. The park entrance and parking is just past the Ralphs shopping center on the right. (26741 Portola Parkway, Foothill Ranch, CA 92610). Parking is \$3.00 in exact change. The lot tends to fill up by 8:30, so it is best to get there early. **WHAT TO BRING:** Sturdy walking shoes, boots, or trail runners, at least 1 quart water, sunscreen, a hat, windbreaker/sweater if it is cool, cameras, binoculars, snacks, and money for parking and lunch. No dogs. This is free to members, there is a \$5.00 non-member fee.