

RECOMMENDED HIKES Arrowhead Trail – First Leg

Level: Easy

Distance: 1.7 miles

Description: You begin on the Heart's Delight Trail and travel along the base of a large hill studded with rare serpentine rock outcroppings. Switch to the Arrowhead Loop Trail and gently ascend through blue oak savannah. You climb 140 feet and may see deer on grassy hillsides or yellow-billed magpies flying overhead. Buckeye trees and California bays dominate the north-facing hillsides. You reach a scenic overlook with sweeping views of the Coyote Valley Region. After resting on a well-placed bench, you hike .85 miles back to the parking area.

Arrowhead Trail – Second Leg

- Level: Moderate
- Distance: 3.3 miles

Description: From the first scenic overlook, you climb 300 feet and survey a canopy of oaks -- coast live, blue, and valley -- along with fragrant California bays. Cross over two sturdy, redwood bridges and pass by a bench. The vegetation changes to chaparral and you notice mounds and slides caused by seismic vibrations. The second scenic outlook is at nearly 800 feet in elevation. You relax on a bench and view the preserve's full expanse below and Tulare Hill to the north. You hike 1.6 miles back to the parking area.

Arrowhead Full Loop Trail

- Level: Challenging
- Distance: 4 miles

Description: Continue on the trail to a service road along a ridgeline. Be on alert for poison oak while traversing a grove of buckeye trees whose canopy shades from the hot sun. Among annual grasslands you see a short spur trail leading to a secluded picnic table. Back on the trail, watch for mule deer and bobcats among the California bays, blue oaks, and buckeyes. Please note the cows, whose grazing helps control invasive plants. As you descend to the valley floor and reach the Heart's Delight Trail, scan the meadow for sly coyotes and soaring raptors.

TRAIL RULES & SAFETY

- Hours are 7:00 a.m. to sunset.
- Mountain biking, hiking, and horseback riding are permitted only on designated trails.
- Pets are not permitted in the preserve at any time.
- Fires, fireworks, and smoking are strictly prohibited.
- Do not feed, disturb, molest, or kill wildlife. Hunting and trapping are not allowed.
- Do not collect, remove, destroy, or deface any natural or human-made object.
- No water is available at trailheads, at the parking lot, or along the trails.
- If you see grazing cattle on the trail, give them a few minutes to move. Don't chase or harass them; they will move on their own.

BE PREPARED

Always carry water and for maximum comfort, dress in layers for a range of weather conditions. Pack snacks or lunch, especially if you're hiking with children. Bring a hat, sunblock, and a simple first aid kit. Horseback riders and cyclists should also plan for the care and maintenance of their transportation. Finally, be aware of your fitness level and abilities, especially when venturing out alone or on especially challenging hikes or rides.

DIRECTIONS Coyote Valley Open Space Preserve

- From Hwy 101
- West on Bailey Avenue
- Left on Santa Teresa Blvd
- Right on Palm Avenue
- The preserve is at the end of Palm Avenue



Rev April 2024 Photo Credits: Coyote Valley Open Space Preserve – Stephen Joseph, Flowering hillside – Derek Neumann, Hawk – Christina Schell



Coyote Valley Open Space Preserve

SPACE AUTHORITY

Welcome

The 348-acre **Coyote Valley Open Space Preserve** opened to the public on June 27, 2015. While only 20 miles from downtown San Jose, the preserve offers a true rural and wilderness experience with trails, wildlife, exquisite views, easy parking, and a clean restroom.

The 4-mile Arrowhead Loop Trail meanders past rare serpentine rock outcroppings, through grasslands and forest canopy composed of oaks and California bays and runs along seasonal creeks that spring alive in winter. Avid bird watchers will enjoy soaring red-tailed hawks, golden eagles, and turkey vultures. Spring months bring dazzling wildflowers blanketing hillsides and meadows and pollinators such as birds, bees, and butterflies.

ABOUT THE OPEN SPACE AUTHORITY

Since 1993, the Open Space Authority has protected over 30,000 acres of open space, natural areas, watersheds, and wildlife habitat—providing outdoor recreation opportunities and preserving the natural beauty and environmental health of Santa Clara County. Our open space preserves are open 7 days a week, 365 days of the year.

> Learn more about the Open Space Authority at openspaceauthority.org