

# Coyote Lake – Harvey Bear Ranch



## Hiking “The Coyote-Bear!”

Several trails at the Coyote-Bear, provide visitors with spectacular hiking opportunities. These trails range from the wide, maintained and relatively easy Coyote Ridge, to the narrower and steeper trails on both side of the ridge. It is the responsibility of hikers to plan their trip for their comfort and safety. Toward that end hikers should follow the rules listed in the Coyote Lake- Harvey Bear Ranch County Park General Brochure, and those guidelines listed below:

- Stay on designated trails when hiking- avoid animal paths which are narrow and potentially dangerous.
- Overlooks and trail edges with steep drop-offs should be avoided. Children should be supervised by an adult at all times.
- Do not hike alone. Use a “buddy system which allows someone to seek help if necessary.
- Carry and drink plenty of water. You should carry a minimum of one quart for every hour you hike. If the weather is hot, carry more!
- Beware of poison oak, rattlesnakes and ticks. Poison oak can be identified by its cluster of three shiny leaflets. Rattlesnakes warm themselves on sunny portions of trails. Ticks ‘lie in wait’ on grasses and plant stalks, hitchhiking on to both wildlife and humans.
- Don’t start a wildfire! Please do not smoke on park trails.
- No hiking is allowed off-trail. The park is surrounded by both private property, and public property that is currently off-limits to the public.
- Later in the day, check the day’s sunset time before you start. Park gates close at sunset.



HIKE	DISTANCE (miles, round-trip)	DIFFICULTY	DESCRIPTION & HIGHLIGHTS
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### From Bear Ranch:

1	<b>Martin Murphy Loop</b>	<b>2.0 (paved)</b>	<b>Easy</b>	This mostly level paved path is popular with joggers in the morning and evening. The trail provides great views of the Santa Cruz Range and the Diablo foothills. Hikers will notice huge Valley Oaks in the field and can spot ground squirrels, American Kestrel and maybe even a golden eagle overhead.
2	<b>Willow Springs/ Rancho San Ysidro/ Savannah</b>	<b>5.3</b>	<b>Moderate</b>	As you head up the Willow Springs Canyon notice the huge landslide to your right. This hike takes you through hills and dales that have been intensively used by cattle. You will pass through the Front Creek drainage numerous times. Great views of Coyote Ridge can be seen on this trail.
3	<b>Willow Springs/ Town Springs Harvey Bear</b>	<b>4.4</b>	<b>Moderate</b>	Up Willow Spring Canyon this hike passes through a beautiful small glen after crossing Coffin Creek. The return on Harvey Bear Trail provides great views of the southern Santa Clara Valley
4.	<b>Harvey Bear/ Coyote Ridge/ Willow Springs</b>	<b>6.0</b>	<b>Strenuous</b>	This hike makes a grand loop of the park’s north end. Climbing to the top of Coyote Ridge, the trail turns north providing great views of the valley, and of Coyote Lake. Once it reach Harvey Bear the trail gives you an “edge of the world” feeling as you drop back into the valley where you started

### From Campground Trailhead:

5	<b>Campground./Valley Oak/ Coyote Ridge</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>Moderate</b>	Climbing from the campground through a forest of coast live oak, this hike turns north onto the Valley Oak Trail where you enter a rare blue oak woodland with beautiful views of Coyote Lake. After a short jaunt on the Calaveras you turn south onto Coyote Ridge where you are afforded great views of the Santa Clara Valley. At Campground Trail you go downhill back to you car, tent or trailer,
6	<b>Campground/Coyote Ridge/ Mummy Mountain/Mendoza</b>	<b>4.3</b>	<b>Strenuous</b>	This hike explores the southern end of the park. Going south on Coyote Ridge Trail, you are right on the Calaveras Fault trace. Along the way you’ll see linear valleys and small sag ponds. Turn west onto the Mendoza Trail hiking to the “Ankle of Mummy Mtn.”, a pass where you turn north onto the Mummy Mtn Trail. Here you’ll climb to the mountaintop passing interesting rock formations and catching glimpses of the Coyote Creek Canyon to the east. Enjoy the view on top of Mummy Mtn. before you climb down, returning to the campground.

**From Mendoza Ranch:**

- 7 Coyote Ridge/ Mummy Mtn./ Mendoza South 3.6 Moderate Follow this trail along the main trace of the Calaveras Fault, hiking in a beautiful oak-studded valley. At the fence separating the Mendoza and Bear Ranches, take a right onto the Mummy Mtn. Trail for spectacular views of the south Santa Clara Valley and Coyote Lake. Coming down off the mountain, take Mendoza and Coyote Ridge Trails back to the trailhead. Taking Coyote Ridge Tr. from the trailhead, take the Mendoza Trail. The trail winds along the west slope of Coyote Ridge providing great views of the valley. Watch for deer, coyotes and turkey vultures soaring above the ridge. Mendoza intersects Coyote Ridge Trail. Turn south and return to the trailhead.
- 8 Coyote Ridge/Mendoza 3.0 Moderate

**From Launch Area/Ohlone Trailhead:**

- 9 Ohlone/Calaveras/ Harvey Bear/Coyote Ridge 5.5 Moderate At the Launch Area, climb Ohlone Tr, to the Calaveras Trail and head north. Along the way you'll pass through live oak forest and by a rare serpentine habitat with is stunning wildflowers in Spring. At Harvey Bear, climb to the ridgeline for beautiful valley views as you return to the trailhead.

**From Coyote Dam Trailhead:**

- 10 Harvey Bear/Coyote Ridge/ Calaveras Coyote Ridge. 5.0 Moderate This route covers the same terrain as Trip 9 from the Ohlone Trailhead, from a different start point. Enjoy views of the lake along Coyote Ridge.

