Briones Regional Park

Alhambra Creek Staging Area to Alhambra Creek/Spengler/Old Briones Rd./ Briones Crest/Lagoon/Toyon Canyon/Pine/Orchard Trails

Length: 5.07-mile loop

Location: 2537 Reliez Valley Road, Martinez

Intensity: Moderate





Park Features: Briones Regional Park is a hidden wilderness right in the middle of Contra Costa County; the parks' peaks feature miles of tremendous parkland views, Mt. Diablo, and the Delta. Some Briones trails can becomes muddy and impassable during the rainy season; call the park office or check the District's closure website at www.ebparks.org/closure to check for updates or closures during the winter and spring.

Trail Highlights: This route goes past Maricich and Sindicich Lagoons. Each lagoon feature two ponds that are home to an array of bird, amphibian and insect life; Spring wildflower blooms in these areas are a sight to behold. The trails on this loop are all multi-use unpaved, and its 500 ft. climb and descent make it a fun and interesting trip year round.

Trail Directions: Head west then south from the Alhambra Creek Staging Area along the Alhambra Creek Trail and go right at the first fork to get on Spengler Trail. At the next fork, go left to head south on the Old Briones Rd. Trail; make the first right on Old Briones Rd. Trail for Briones Crest Trail; go right at the next fork to head north on the Lagoon Trail. Go right at the fork to head north on the Toyon Canyon Trail; avoid the first turn off for Pine Tree Trail and go right at the next fork to continue on Toyon Canyon Trail. Go right at the next fork to head east on the Orchard Trail back to the staging area.

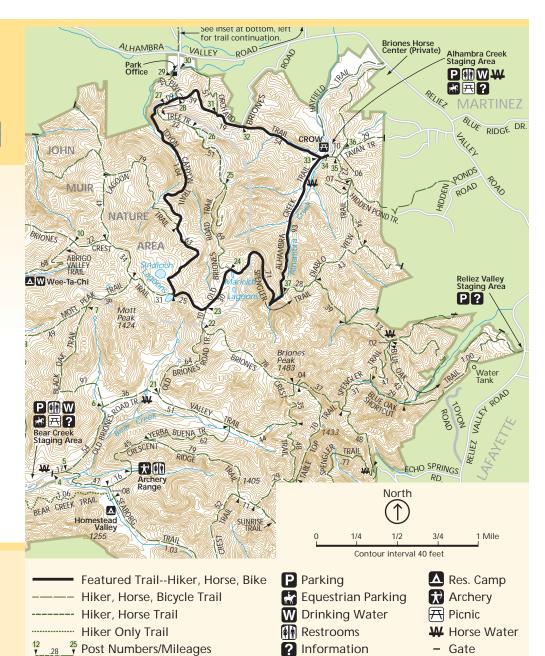
Driving Directions: From Hwy. 24 east: Take exit I4B for Pleasant Hill Rd. and keep left at the fork for Pleasant Hill Rd. north; turn left onto Reliez Valley Rd. and go almost five miles before turning left into the park's Alhambra Creek Staging Area.

From Hwy. 4 west or east: Take exit 9 for Alhambra Ave. toward Martinez and turn right (from eastbound) or left (from westbound) onto Alhambra Ave.; turn right onto Alhambra Valley Rd. and go left at the fork to stay on Alhambra Valley; turn left onto Reliez Valley Rd. and turn right into the park's Alhambra Creek Staging Area.

Park Hours: 8 a.m. to dusk (varies seasonally)

Fees: None.

Website: www.ebparks.org/parks/briones



Health Tip: Regular exercise, just a half an hour a day, can improve your heart function, lower your blood pressure, cholesterol and risk for heart disease. Exercise can also improve strength, endurance, and your body's ability to burn fat. It can ward off bad moods, improve sleep, decrease anxiety, and relieve depression.