



Visitor Guide

NPS PHOTO / JAMIE JIRELE

Old-growth redwoods from Cal Barrel Road.

Visitor Centers: A Great Start

Five visitor and information centers provide orientation, information, and trip-planning advice. Park staff and partners are on duty. Get a map, Junior Ranger book, and passport stamp at any of these locations!

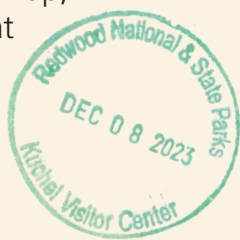
Park stores are operated by the Redwood Parks Conservancy.

📶 Park wifi can be found at the Crescent City Bookstore, Hiouchi Visitor Center, Elk Prairie Campground Kiosk, and Kuchel Visitor Center.



Ranger Programs

Follow the QR code for a calendar of events or ask at a visitor center for a schedule!



See Map on Pages 2-3

Crescent City Bookstore
 1111 Second Street, Crescent City, California

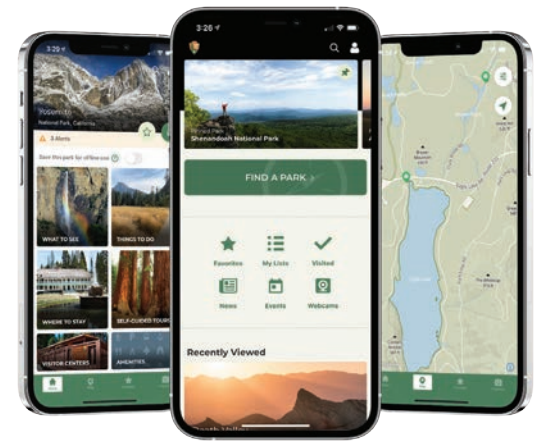
Hiouchi Visitor Center
 9 miles northeast of Crescent City, California, on US 199

Jedediah Smith Campground Store (open summer only)
 9 miles northeast of Crescent City, California, on US 199

Prairie Creek Visitor Center
 6 miles north of Orick, California, on Newton B. Drury Scenic Parkway

Kuchel Visitor Center
 2 miles south of Orick, California, on US 101

Explore with the Mobile App!



Download the official NPS App to have maps, trip suggestions, hiking information, and more at your fingertips! All content can be saved to your phone for offline use.



NPS PHOTO / TED HUMPHRY

Carruthers Cove and Gold Bluffs Beach from Coastal Trail.

Fees, Park Passes, and Reservations

Entrance Fees are not charged at Redwood National and State Parks.

Day-Use Fees apply at these select areas:

1. Jedediah Smith Day-Use Area
2. Gold Bluffs Beach Day-Use Area/
Fern Canyon Trailhead Access
3. Elk Prairie Picnic Area

Fees can be paid on site by cash, check, or Yodel App.

Federal and California State Park Pass Holders do not need to pay day-use fees.

Reservations are recommended for campgrounds (see page 4) and required for only a few park attractions (see page 3). Permits are required for backcountry camping (see page 4).



Redwoods: Our Tallest Treasures

Home to the tallest trees on earth, Redwood National and State Parks reside in the foggy, coastal climate of northern California. The moist, temperate environment keeps the trees continually damp, even during the summer droughts, providing the perfect habitat. Their natural resistance to insects and fire, as well as unique regenerative abilities, helps them thrive. While out in the park, keep an eye out for new sprouts coming from a stump or downed tree. These are clones! Burls — hard, knotty growths that form from dormant seedlings on a living tree — can sprout a new tree when the main trunk is damaged by fire, cutting, or toppling.

Though we often simply refer to these giants as “redwoods”, there are in fact three distinct redwood species: dawn redwood, giant sequoia, and coast redwood. Fossil evidence suggests that redwoods descended from a group of conifers that thrived across Europe, Asia, and North America when dinosaurs roamed the Earth in the Jurassic period more than 145 million years ago. As Earth’s climate gradually and generally became cooler and drier, redwoods became restricted to three distinct geographic regions and evolved into the three species we know today.

Once occupying two million acres, only five percent of ancient or “old-growth” coast redwood forests remain since logging began in 1850. Efforts are ongoing to restore degraded second-growth forests to their pre-logged conditions, rejuvenating a diminished resource and securing their future health for generations to come.

QUICK FACTS

Coast Redwood
(Sequoia sempervirens)

Height: up to 380 ft (115.9 m)

Diameter: up to 26 ft (8 m)

Age: over 2,000 yrs (500-700 yrs average)

Cone size: ~1 in (2.5 cm)

Range: Northern California coast and into southernmost coastal Oregon.

Contact Us

www.nps.gov/redw
 For email, click “Contact Us”

Phone
 707-464-6101

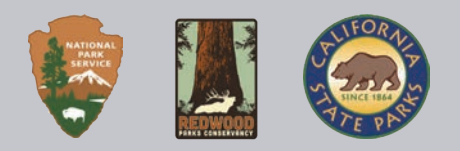
Mailing Address
 Redwood National and State Parks
 1111 Second Street
 Crescent City, CA 95531

@RedwoodNPS



In case of emergency dial:

911



National or State?

Redwood National and State Parks is a partnership between the National Park Service and the California Department of Parks and Recreation. In 1994, three redwood state parks (Jedediah Smith, Del Norte Coast, and Prairie Creek) joined with Redwood National Park to co-operatively manage adjacent lands, staffing, and visitor services. Together we manage 130,000 acres of forested lands, and this includes 45% of the world’s remaining old-growth redwoods.

We are committed to working in partnership with the original stewards of this land, including people of Yurok, Tolowa, and Chilula descent. Projects and programs are regularly planned, implemented, and reviewed with our tribal partners. Together, we manage these lands using the best of traditional ecological knowledge and science-based information to preserve what is intact and restore what has been lost.

The Redwood Parks Conservancy and Save the Redwoods League are also allies in carrying out work in the park. The Conservancy manages the bookstores, obtains grants, organizes volunteer activities, and facilitates specialized programs all to better serve visitors. For over 100 years, Save the Redwoods League has worked to save the last remaining old-growth redwood forests in collaboration with national and state parks.

Everything you see on your visit here is thanks to the partnership between large organizations and dedicated individuals. We hope you will appreciate the efforts made by our predecessors in protecting this unique landscape and perhaps find your own way to continue that legacy.

Trip Planning

Hikes

	Trail Name	Trailhead / Access Road	Distance Duration Elevation	What You Will See	Additional Information	Accessible?
1	Simpson Reed	Walker Road	0.8 mi (1.3 km) loop 30 min - 1 hr 50 ft (15.2 m)	Old-growth redwoods, waysides	No motor homes or trailers on Walker Road.	Yes, gravel
2	Stout Grove	Howland Hill Road (access from east end) <i>Summer only - Jedediah Smith Campground</i>	0.5 mi (0.8 km) loop 30 min - 1 hr 32 ft (9.8 m)	Old-growth redwoods, Smith River floodplain	Hike is longer from camp, no motor homes or trailers on Howland Hill Road.	No
3	Grove of Titans	Howland Hill Road (access from east end)	1.7 mi (2.7 km) out & back 1 hr - 1.5 hrs 137 ft (41.8 m)	Old-growth redwoods	Limited parking, no motor homes or trailers on Howland Hill Road.	No
4	Boy Scout Tree	Howland Hill Road (access from west end)	5.5 mi (8.9 km) out & back 3 - 4 hrs 900 ft (274.3 m)	Old-growth redwoods, Fern Falls, Boy Scout Tree	Limited parking, no motor homes or trailers on Howland Hill Road.	No
5	Yurok Loop	Lagoon Creek Picnic Area / US 101	1.25 mi (2 km) loop 45 min - 1.25 hrs 100 ft (30.5 m)	Beach flowers, Lagoon Creek	From the loop, head south on the Coastal Trail 4 mi to reach the Klamath River Overlook.	No
6	Circle	Big Tree / Newton B. Drury Parkway	0.5 mi (0.8 km) loop 15 min - 40 min 22 ft (6.7 m)	Big Tree, old-growth redwoods	Connect with either the Cathedral Trees Trail or the Foothill Trail for a longer hike.	Yes
7	Karl Knapp	Prairie Creek Visitor Center / Newton B. Drury Parkway	2.5 mi (4 km) loop 1 hr - 2 hrs 200 ft (61 m)	Old-growth redwoods, Prairie Creek	Complete the loop: Karl Knapp trail north, east across parkway to Foothill Trail, head south, and then west across parkway.	Yes
8	Revelation	Prairie Creek Visitor Center / Newton B. Drury Parkway	0.3 mi (0.5 km) loop 15 min - 45 min 9 ft (2.7 m)	Old-growth redwoods	Developed specifically for the visually impaired.	Yes
9	James Irvine	Prairie Creek Visitor Center / Newton B. Drury Parkway	10.4 mi (16.7 km) out & back 5 hrs - 7 hrs 1,400 ft (426.7 m)	Old-growth redwoods	Make the hike a loop by continuing into Fern Canyon, Davison Road, Miners Ridge Trail (adds 1.6 mi/2.6 km).	No
10	Trillium Falls	Elk Meadow Day-use Area / Davison Road	2.75 (4.4 km) mile loop 1.25 hrs - 2 hrs 450 ft (137.2m)	Old-growth redwoods, Trillium Falls	Shorten the hike by walking just 0.5 miles out to the falls and back.	No
11	Lady Bird Johnson Grove	Bald Hills Road (2.5 miles from US 101)	1.5 mi (2.4 km) loop 45 min - 1.25 hrs 100 ft (30.5 m)	Old-growth redwoods	Small parking lot that fills up on busy days, walking tour on NPS App, no motor homes or trailers on Bald Hills Road.	No

More hiking information, including additional challenging hikes, is available online at nps.gov/redw or on the NPS App.



Scenic Drives

PACIFIC OCEAN

Road Name	Road Description	Vehicle Restrictions	Distance Duration	What You Will See
-----------	------------------	----------------------	-------------------	-------------------

A Howland Hill Road	Mostly unpaved, two-way traffic, narrow	Motor homes/RVs and trailers not advised	10 mi (16 km) one-way 45 min	Get an intimate encounter with the towering old-growth redwoods in Jedediah Smith Redwoods State Park.
B Coastal Drive Loop	Mostly paved, one-way (northbound) traffic only section	Motor homes/RVs and trailers prohibited	9 mi (14.5 km) loop 45 min	This narrow road with steep grade and sharp curves offers panoramic views of the Pacific Ocean and Klamath River Estuary.
C Newton B. Drury Scenic Parkway	Paved, two-way traffic	No commercial vehicles	10 mi (16 km) one-way 30 min	A not-to-be-missed alternative to US 101 passes through the heart of the old-growth redwood forest in Prairie Creek Redwoods State Park.
D Bald Hills Road	Mostly paved, two-way traffic, steep/narrow	Motor homes/RVs and trailers not advised	17 miles one-way 45 min	Ascend a steep grade through old-growth trees before passing through several open prairies. Mileage is from US 101 to park boundary.

Have a little more time? Check out one of these points of interest!

- a** Jedediah Smith Day-Use Area (\$) **h** High Bluff Overlook
- b** Crescent Beach **i** Big Tree Wayside
- c** Crescent Beach Overlook **j** Elk Prairie Picnic Area (\$)
- d** Enderts Beach (0.5 mi/ 0.8 km hike) **k** Elk Meadow Day-Use Area
- e** Mill Creek Day-Use Area **l** Redwood Creek Overlook
- f** Lagoon Creek Picnic Area **m** Freshwater Beach
- g** Klamath River Overlook **n** Chah-pekw O' Ket'-toh "Stone Lagoon" Visitor Center

Reservations Required

Reservations are not required for most places in Redwood National and State Parks.

Due to limited parking and safety concerns, the following places require a reservation to access:

1. Fern Canyon Trailhead Parking (summer)
2. Gold Bluffs Beach Day-Use Area (summer)
3. Tall Trees Trailhead Parking



Reservations are only available online.

Follow the QR code or visit nps.gov/redw for more information.

	Picnic area		Boat access		Redwood National and State Parks boundary		Unpaved road
	Interpretive trail		Campground		California State Park boundary		Scenic Drive <i>(Motorhomes and trailers see advisories above)</i>
	Wheelchair accessible		Backcountry camp <i>(free permit required)</i>		Old-growth coast redwoods		Trail
			Sportfishing				



Camping

Developed Campgrounds



Reservations

are available spring through fall and must be made at ReserveCalifornia.com or 1-800-444-7275 at least 48 hours, but up to 6 months, in advance.



Fee Discounts

are available for Federal Senior/Access Pass holders (\$17.50), Calif. Parks Disabled Pass holders (\$17.50), and Calif. Parks Veterans Pass holders (free).

	Open Season	# of Sites <i>Varies by Season</i>	Fees	RV Max. Length	Trailer Max. Length	Toilets	Shower	Water, Electric, & Sewer	Dump Station	Cabin
Jedediah Smith	Year round	86	\$35	25 ft (7.6 m)	21 ft (6.4 m)	Flush	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
Mill Creek	Spring - Fall	145	\$35	28 ft (8.5 m)	24 ft (7.3 m)	Flush	Yes	No	Yes	No
Elk Prairie	Year round	75	\$35	27 ft (8.2 m)	24 ft (7.3 m)	Flush	Yes	No	No	Yes
Gold Bluffs Beach	Year round	26	\$35	24 ft (7.3 m)	Prohibited	Flush	Yes	No	No	No

Backcountry Camps

Backcountry camping in Redwood National and State Parks is only permitted in the designated sites or dispersed camping locations listed here.

Permits - Online Only

Free permits are required for all backcountry camping. An additional reservation is required for Tall Trees Trailhead parking. Visit nps.gov/redw/planyourvisit/backcountrypermits.htm for more information.



CAUTION - River Crossing

Redwood Creek may be dangerous and/or inaccessible during high flow. Footbridges are seasonal; prepare to get wet.

Protect Your Park - Leave No Trace



Pack out all trash, including toilet paper and biodegradable items like orange peels.



Campfires are restricted to designated fire rings only except for Redwood Creek dispersed area.



Up to 50 lbs downed wood may be collected within 1/4 mi. of camp per day, except Gold Bluffs Beach.



Store food in bear-proof lockers or canisters when not actively cooking or eating.

	Nearest Vehicle Access	Water	Additional Information
North of Klamath River			
Little Bald Hills <i>(5 sites)</i>	Little Bald Hills Trailhead <i>3 mi (4.8 km) to camp</i>	Pack in or bring filter/purifier	Food storage lockers, fire pits, picnic tables, shared pit toilet, stock-friendly, bike access.
DeMartin <i>(10 sites)</i>	Wilson Creek Picnic Area <i>2.5 mi (4 km) to camp</i>	Pack in; no reliable source nearby	Food storage lockers, fire pits, picnic tables, shared pit toilet, limited bike access.
South of Klamath River			
Flint Ridge <i>(8 sites)</i>	Coastal Trail - Flint Ridge Section Trailhead <i>0.25 mi (0.4 km) to camp</i>	Pack in; no reliable source available	Food storage lockers, fire pits, picnic tables, shared pit toilet.
Gold Bluffs Beach <i>(1 site in developed campground)</i>	Prairie Creek Visitor Center <i>4.5 mi (7.2 km) to camp (longer via bike route)</i>	Potable water normally available	Hiker/biker ONLY. Food storage lockers, fire pits, picnic tables, restroom and showers, per person/night fee for site.
Elam Camp <i>(3 sites)</i>	Redwood Creek Trailhead (hikers only) <i>3 mi (4.8 km) to camp</i>	Pack in or filter/purify from Redwood Creek tributaries	Food storage lockers, fire pits, picnic tables, shared pit toilet, stock-friendly.
44 Camp <i>(4 sites)</i>	Tall Trees Trailhead <i>3 mi (4.8 km) to camp</i>	Pack in or filter/purify from Redwood Creek tributaries	Reservation required for Tall Trees trailhead parking. Food storage lockers, fire pits, picnic tables. Bury or pack out human waste.
Redwood Creek <i>(dispersed; no facilities)</i>	Tall Trees Trailhead <i>2 mi (3.2 km) to gravel bars</i>	Pack in or filter/purify from Redwood Creek tributaries	Reservation required for Tall Trees trailhead parking. No facilities, bury or pack out human waste, hang food or use bear cans.

Pets

While pets are family, wild park trails are not the place for them. Well-behaved pets can become stressed by unfamiliar surroundings and threaten visitors or wildlife. Predators may see pets as prey, placing pet and owner in danger.



Visiting with your pet

For safety, pets on a leash not exceeding six feet in length are allowed only at designated campgrounds, picnic areas, public roads, parking areas, and beaches with road access (Crescent, Gold Bluffs, and Freshwater beaches).

Walker Road and Cal Barrel Road are great places to walk through old-growth redwoods with your pets. Remember to bag and pack out all waste!



Where NOT to take your pet

Unless posted — with the exception of service animals — pets are not allowed on trails, at ranger-led programs, or in buildings.



Maverick strolls and sniffs on Cal Barrel Road.

Wildlife Safety: Stay Back!

Roosevelt elk roam the open spaces and are frequently seen by adoring visitors near Elk Prairie, Elk Meadow, Gold Bluffs Beach, Bald Hills Road, and Enderts Beach Road.



Don't let their endearing demeanor fool you: elk can be aggressive, especially the males during the fall elk rut and the females during spring calving season. **Stay back at least 75 ft (25 m)** — if you see signs of agitation (tongue flickering, head lowering, pawing the ground), you are too close! Back up slowly.

While an elk encounter may stand out, remember to respect all wildlife by keeping your distance. You are in their home, after all.

Viewing wildlife in Redwoods may be a special treat, but we don't want to put ourselves or them in danger by attracting them with food (or any other yummy smelling items). Prevent those unwanted dinner guests with these tips:

1. Keep a clean camp, picnic area, or rest stop at all times, not just when you leave.
2. Do not leave food unattended, unless it is in a bearproof container. Small mammals and birds can be quick when you aren't looking.
3. Use bear-proof lockers or canisters for food and all scented items.
4. Dispose of garbage immediately in bearproof trash cans; make sure lid closes securely.

Though uncommon, know what to do in case of a bear or mountain lion encounter: do not run, make yourself as large as possible, and shout and make noise. If attacked, fight back!

Report any sightings to a park ranger. If you witness an aggressive bear or mountain lion, immediately CALL 911.

How to Plan like a Park Ranger

Know the dangers of recreating near wild bodies of water.

When on the beach, be cautious of sneaker waves, rip tides, and rising tides. Know the signs and where to go in case of a tsunami. If you're near a river, crossing during high flow can easily sweep you off your feet.

Be prepared for varied or severe weather.

Cold, foggy, and rainy weather is typical for this area and can vary in different parts of the parks. Look up the weather in advance and use caution if there are storms in the forecast; high winds can down trees and lightning may occur.

Protect yourself from poison oak and ticks.

Wear long socks, pants, and sleeves and stay on the trail to help prevent encounters.

Be familiar with your vehicle and the roads you want to drive on.

Wet and foggy road conditions are common. Several roads are not suitable for low clearance vehicles, trailers, or large rigs. Slow down while driving; it's common for wildlife to be in the middle of the road.



NPS PHOTO

Protect Your Park

Do's

- ✓ Do take pictures of wildlife from a safe distance with a zoom lens.
- ✓ Do leave the park as you found it for everyone to enjoy.
- ✓ Do stay on trail, especially around the base of redwood trees to protect the root system.

Don'ts

- ✗ Don't use a drone on National or State Park Land.
- ✗ Don't collect or harm plants, rocks, tree bark, or other natural objects.
- ✗ Don't endanger yourself or the plants by attempting to climb trees or downed logs.