

# SIERRA VISTA OPEN SPACE PRESERVE



Multi-use Trail

Dual-use Trail

### Trail Etiquette



- Parking
- Historic Ranch House
- Picnic Area
- Interpretive Overlook
- Sierra Vista Open Space Preserve
- Alum Rock Park (City of San Jose)
- Multi-use Trail
- Dual-use Trail
- Alum Rock Park Trail
- Elevation Contours (100 foot interval)
- Bay Area Ridge Trail
- Gate

No dogs in preserve

No parking along Sierra Road

**For emergencies call 911**

To contact the Open Space Authority, call (408) 224-7476 or visit our website.

Go Paperless! Download a PDF of this trail map from our website:

## RECOMMENDED HIKES

### Aquila Loop Trail

Level: Easy

Distance: 1.2 miles

Description: This mellow hike is perfect for beginners and families with young children. Enjoy expansive views of northern Santa Clara County and Alameda County as you stroll through grasslands and rock outcroppings (that once were part of the ocean floor). Stop at one of two benches along the way to take in the views and relax, and keep your eyes peeled for local wildlife, such as red-tailed hawks, bobcats and acorn woodpeckers.

### Upper Calaveras Fault Trail

Level: Moderate

Distance: 4.5 miles

Description: This moderate hike for more experienced hikers takes the Kestrel Trail to the Sierra Vista Trail north-east, then along the Upper Calaveras Fault Trail with its great views of Alum Rock Canyon, Alum Rock Park and, on a clear day, the Diablo Range. Hike through grasslands, chaparral, and mixed oak woodland habitats, then reconnect with the Sierra Vista Trail overlooking the canyon bottom several hundred feet below.

### Lower Calaveras Fault Trail to Vista Point

Level: Challenging

Distance: 8.4 miles (round-trip)

Description: This is a challenging hike for the experienced and dedicated hiker—but a worthwhile one for the stunning views and sense of solitude to be found. Take the Kestrel Trail to the Sierra Vista Trail north-east, then south to the Lower Calaveras Fault Trail with its great views of Alum Rock Canyon and Alum Rock Park. Past the Historic Ranch House and Penitencia Creek, there is a rapid elevation gain along the Lower Calaveras Fault Trail, through gray pine habitat, and dramatic views of Alum Rock Canyon. The Vista Point offers panoramic views of southern Santa Clara County.

## TRAIL RULES & SAFETY

- Hours are from 8:00 a.m. to 30 minutes after 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

For maximum comfort, dress in layers for a range of weather conditions and **always carry water**. Pack snacks or lunch, especially if you're hiking with children. Bring a hat, sunblock and a simple first aid kit. Equestrians 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 an especially challenging hike or ride.

## DIRECTIONS

### Sierra Vista Open Space Preserve

- From I-680, exit east on Berryessa Road.
- Left on Piedmont Road.
- Right on Sierra Road.
- Free public parking area and equestrian parking will be on the right.

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# Sierra Vista Open Space Preserve

# Welcome

The 1,678-acres **Sierra Vista Open Space Preserve** was opened to the public on May 11, 2002.

There are over 10 miles of trail that include the Aquila Loop Trail (1.15 miles), the Kestrel Trail (0.25 miles), the Boccardo Loop Trail (3 miles), the Sierra Vista Trail (2 miles), and the Calaveras Fault Trail (4 miles).

There are 6.7 miles of trail designated as a portion of the Bay Area Ridge Trail, a regional trail system that will someday stretch more than 550 miles along the ridge lines that encircle San Francisco Bay.



## ABOUT THE OPEN SPACE AUTHORITY

Since 1993, the Open Space Authority has protected over 16,000 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. Please visit our open space preserves, which are open 7 days a week, 365 days of the year.

Learn more about the  
Open Space Authority at  
[openspaceauthority.org](https://www.openspaceauthority.org)

