

January 28, 2025, Hard Hike - Briones Valley to Tabletop and Seaborg Trail Loop – 10:00 a.m.

Hike Description: A return to Briones Regional Park for our first hard hike of the year. It is a 5.6 mile, 1000 feet AEG hike beginning at 10:00 a.m.. The route is a loop that is exposed on the outbound leg and offers 40% shade on the return. We head east 1.8 miles on Old Briones Road and Valley Trails, which are mostly level with limited shade. Shade arrives at the end of Valley Trail with a steep climb to a trail junction. If there is enough excitement, we'll turn left to include Briones Peak panoramic views. This will add 0.6 miles and 300 foot more climb to our hike (see route AllTrails map below).

We then head south via Tabletop and Briones Crest Trail which offers Diablo and southern views, before descending on Seaborg Trail. This 1.6 mile trail is wooded for the descent, bordered by trees along Homestead Valley and heavily shaded at the end s-portion where we re-connect to the Old Briones Road very near our start.

Optional lunch: Europa Hofbrau in Orinda, 64 Moraga Way.

Bring: Hiking boots and water. Trekking poles are useful for the steep stretches. Assume restrooms are not available although one porta potty is often available at the trailhead.

Directions: Take Hwy 24 west from Walnut Creek to Orinda. Exit on Camino Pablo northward toward Orinda Village/Richmond. Proceed 2.5 miles then turn right at the light onto Bear Creek Road. Proceed 4.4 miles to the Briones entrance road on your right. Enter the park and after passing the entrance booth go straight ahead to the parking lot.

Car-pooling:

Hike Leader – Carl Ludwig, cludwig171@gmail.com, 415.350.7372

Hike Coordinator and Hiker Chairman – Carl Ludwig, cludwig171@gmail.com, 415.350.7372

AllTrails: https://www.alltrails.com/explore/recording/afternoon-hike-f900afc--399?sh=carl-ludwig&utm_campaign=memory&unfurl=false&showMemory=true

Photos:



