

Point Vicente to Hess Park & Return

July 27, 2011

Our hike will begin at 9:30AM at the Point Vicente Interpretive Center. Located next to Point Vicente Lighthouse, this small natural history museum is an ideal whale-watching spot. You never know what you might see playing out in the ocean. The many exhibits highlight the peninsula's geology, flora and fauna.

The hike will take us along the coastal cliffs of Palos Verdes in the city of Palos Verdes Estates. If the weather cooperates, the shoreline and ocean views are magnificent and we might be able to get a great view of Catalina Island and Malibu. While walking along the cliffs and trails we will also see some rather large homes. We will follow a path that takes us to Palos Verdes Drive West where we will cross to the center median where there is walking/running path. We continue hiking until we come to Paseo Lunado, where we **TURN RIGHT** for one block where we run into the trail that will take us up the hill to **Hess Park**. The trail ends between two homes where we continue across the street to the park where there are a couple of different paths to the top of the park. This would be a great place to have lunch and admire the view.

Alternate hikes: You can go as far or near along the paths as you like and turn back anywhere.

Trailhead Directions

From the **405 Freeway** take Hawthorne Boulevard **SOUTH**, up and over "The Hill" to the end of Hawthorne Blvd. at Palos Verdes Drive West. **TURN LEFT** at the traffic light. (where you'll find a "Starbucks" for coffee) **Turn right** at the next turn off, which will be the entrance to **Point Vicente Interpretive Center**, and park in the parking lot.

If you take the **110 Freeway** go **south** to the Pacific Coast Hwy off-ramp and head west. Turn left when you come to Hawthorne Blvd. and follow the directions listed above.

Note: There are restrooms available at the park, after 9am.

Hike Leader: Larry Savell