

1075

Forrestal Reserve and Portuguese Bend Reserve Hike in Rancho Palos Verdes

March 14, 2012

Lois Piper, leader

This hike has outstanding vistas of Portuguese Bend and Catalina Island with many wild flowers. Two different hikes are planned: 5 miles with 800 ft elevation gain and about 7 miles with 1400 ft. gain for the hearty group.

The trails have many names and are well marked with signs at each intersection. Maps will be available at the trailhead.

5 mile hike: We will take the road 0.4 mi to Purple Sage Trail and take the Conqueror Trail to the Portuguese Bend Reserve. We then take a variety of trails as delineated on the map leading to the Harman Outlook for a cookie or lunch break (depending on how fast you walk) in the shade of large pines and excellent views.

7 mile hike: The hike loops through the Forrestal Reserve before entering the Portuguese Bend Reserve. After lunch at Harman Outlook or Del Cerro Park you can head back.

Directions: South on the San Pedro Freeway (110) to where it ends on Gaffey St., continue south on Gaffey to 25th St., then west (right) on 25th for 3.4 miles to Forrestal Drive. This area appears to be speed patrolled often. Turn right on Forrestal to the Ladera Linda Community Center. Or go to the south end of Hawthorne Blvd, east on PV Dr. South past Portuguese Bend, and left on Forrestal Dr. Since we were there last, the hours have changed and I have no idea if either of the two gates will be open so we will meet there at the gates. If the gate down to the center is open go on down to the lot and the picnic tables. The buildings and toilets will be locked but there are two portable toilets 0.4 mi up the road at the Purple Sage trailhead and another portable closer to the tables or you can stop at Trump Int'l and use theirs. Trump is directly across from Forrestal Dr.