

801

Palos Verdes Peninsula Hike

Ocean Trails (Trump Golf Course) and Forrestal Open Space Preserve

May 3, 2006

Hike leader: Anneliese Grohs

Start time: 9:30am

Distance: about 5 - 7 miles

Elevation: ups and downs, short steep stretches

Terrain: coastal sage scrub

View: on clear days Catalina Island and the coastline

Directions to Trailhead: From 405 Fwy take Harbor Fwy South to the end onto Gaffey and drive south to 25th St., turn right. After approximately 2 miles is the left turn onto La Rotonda Dr., just in the bend of the road and before P.V.Dr.East takes off to the right. People who are familiar with the Peninsula can also drive around it on P.V.Dr.West past the landslide area. At the entrance to La Rotonda Dr. is a large sign: Trump National Golf Club at Ocean Trails East (I'm not sure about the exact wording). This area is a proposed building site. There are several levels. The first one to your left at Twin Harbor View is now closed, because houses are being built there now (two years ago we started the hike from here). This time we will start from Cape Point, two levels further down to the left with a beautiful view. I was just there and saw whales going north, mother and child, very close to the shore!

There are good restroom facilities at the bottom of the drive to the right, past the Condos. You can walk or drive down.

The Hike: We will start on the Ocean Trails and wind our way through and past the golf course. The strong hikers can sprint down to the tide pools. There is several access trails to the beach. Most trails around the golf course are pretty with flowers, two lakes and many birds, etc.

From the clubhouse we head across PV-Dr. and walk up a short section of street to get to the Forrestal Preserve. Up there you are rewarded with a good trail, wild flowers and a great view. I think we'll have the cookie break before we start on this trail near the Ladera Linda Community Center and lunch somewhere up on the trail with a view.

You can return to the parking lot the same way we came or along the road. There is a shorter walk under PV-Dr. which is fairly level. For those who don't want to go up to the Forrestal Preserve there are many areas to explore around the golf course or down at the beach. I don't think you can get lost anywhere.

The Ocean Trails are wide and open, on the Forrestal trail there is a chance of ticks.

There is no shade, but most of the time a wonderful ocean breeze.

We will have refreshments in the parking lot or drive to table and benches in the little park near the entrance to the clubhouse, if that is preferred.