



2024

TrailLink Unlimited



Guides



**Crystal  
Springs  
Regional Trail**  
*California*



# Crystal Springs Regional Trail

California

*Overview The Crystal Springs Regional Trail offers tranquil views of two long, narrow reservoirs and a lake that sits atop the San*



## Overview

The Crystal Springs Regional Trail offers tranquil views of two long, narrow reservoirs and a lake that sits atop the San Andreas Rift Zone, a geologic fault that shook violently in the destructive 1906 San Francisco earthquake and others.

The trail runs down a ridge on the San Francisco Peninsula between San Bruno and Woodside and consists of three sections: (from north to south) the 2.6-mile San Andreas section and the 7.2-mile Sawyer Camp section, which make up a connected segment intersecting near where I-280 exits onto Hillcrest Boulevard in Millbrae, and the 6.7-mile Crystal Springs segment.

The two contiguous northern segments are mostly wide, paved, and reasonably graded, except for the southernmost 0.6-mile section of the San Andreas segment. Due to the steeper grade and narrow gravel surface, this stretch is accessible only to walkers and equestrians. To avoid it, bicyclists, skaters, and wheelchair users are directed to take Skyline Boulevard via Larkspur Drive and Hillcrest Boulevard. The Crystal Springs segment is dirt and open only to walkers and horse riders. It is maintained by San Mateo County, which does not allow pets.

## About the Route

The northernmost trailhead with parking is located a half mile south of the trail endpoint at San Bruno Avenue. The San Andreas section features views of the San Andreas Reservoir at the foot of Sweeney Ridge.

The Sawyer Camp section leaves off from Hillcrest Boulevard. It's considered the busiest trail section in San Mateo County and has a posted speed limit of 15 miles per hour. Spanish explorers followed this route in the 16th century, and it later became a wagon road that led to a lodge operated in the mid-1800s by landowner Leander Sawyer. The trail heads downhill and away from the interstate at the southern end of the San Andreas Reservoir and crosses a dam. The trail passes through a forest that offers shade and places for picnicking. This area is also home to deer and other wildlife, as well as the Jepson laurel, which is said to be 600 years old and the largest such tree in the state.

The Crystal Springs Reservoir emerges about 2.3 miles past the dam, offering pleasant views in clearings for the next 4.5 miles to the end of the Sawyer Camp section at CA 35/Skyline Boulevard and CA 92/Half Moon Bay Road. A dam here separates the upper and lower reservoirs.

The Crystal Springs segment leaves off from 0.5 miles south on CA 92 at Cañada Road. This dirt track on the western side



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**States:** California

**Counties:** San Mateo

Length: 15.3miles

**Trail end points:** San Bruno Ave. W (San Bruno) to Raymundo Dr. (Woodside)

**Trail surfaces:** Asphalt, Dirt

**Trail category:** Greenway/Non-RT

**Trail activities:** Bike, Fishing, Wheelchair Accessible, Horseback Riding, Walking

## Parking & Trail Access

The Crystal Springs Regional Trail runs between San Bruno Ave. W (San Bruno) and Raymundo Dr. (Woodside).

Parking is available at:

- 950 CA-35 (Redwood City)
- 3389 Edgewood Rd (Redwood City)

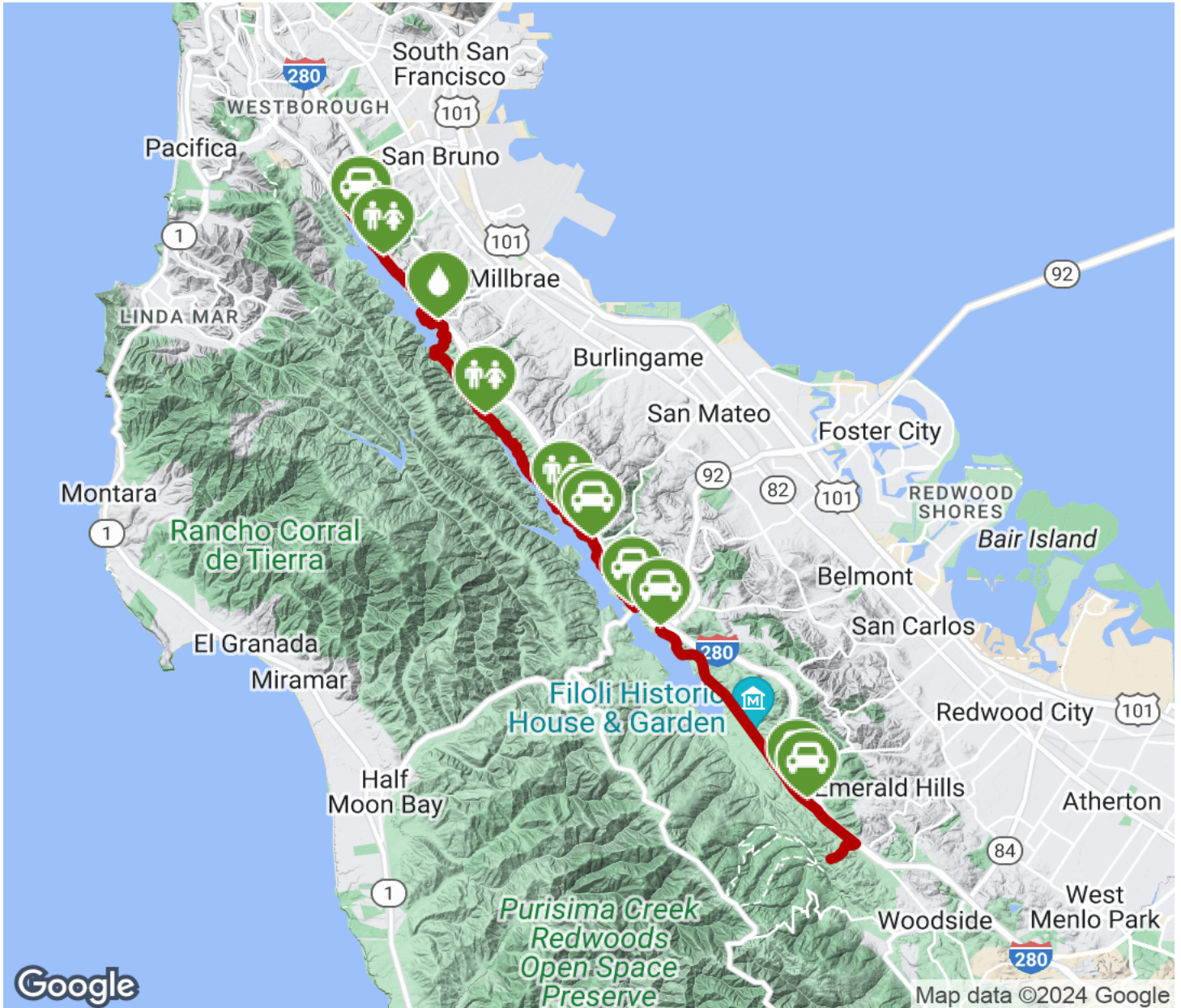
Visit the [TrailLink map](#) for all options and detailed directions.





# Crystal Springs Regional Trail

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Trailhead



Restroom



Parking



Water Fountain



Tunnel



**TrailLink**  
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