



MONTEREY PENINSULA REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT

Preserving & Protecting Parks & Open Space

Garland Hikes: Rancho Loop

Distance
1.5 miles

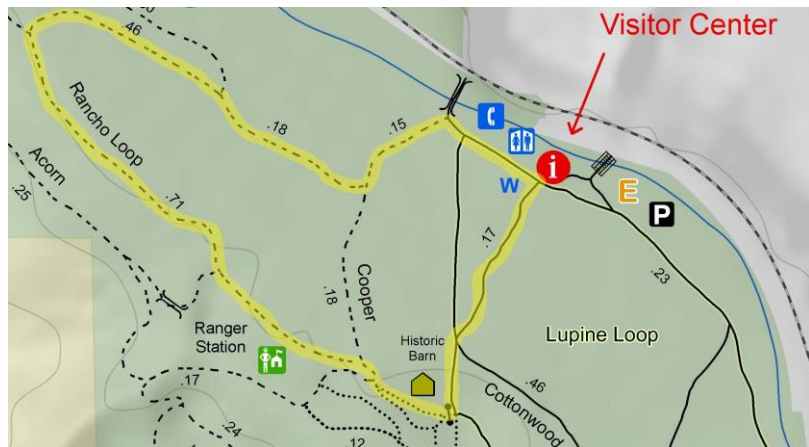
Hiking Time*
40 min

Elevation Gain
127 ft

Along with the Lupine Loop hike, this is a good choice for those who wish to experience Garland Ranch with a short hike without much elevation gain. The eucalyptus grove is a popular destination for birders. Note that bikes are allowed on this route.

Directions:

- From the Visitor Center, head West on the roadway (to your right with your back to the Visitor Center). You will pass the Lupine Loop Trail on your left. Continue to the T intersection where you can see the Vehicle Bridge on your right and park signs and a fence on your left.
- Turn left onto the **Cooper Trail**. This is also the road to the Ranger Station, so be aware there can be vehicle traffic. After a short walk, you will see a fence on your right. Veer right onto the **Rancho Loop Trail**.
- Follow the Rancho Loop Trail as it skirts the meadow. The trail will bend around and then head back in the opposite direction. Just after you pass a stand of eucalyptus trees and go up a little hill, you will see a trail to your right – continue straight on the Rancho Loop Trail.
- You will come to an intersection with the road where you will see the packing shed and barn straight ahead. Continue straight across the road. Take some time to look at the buildings and the displays of old farm equipment. When you are ready to continue your hike, take the lower, left-hand trail past the old chicken coop.
- You will come to a wooden gate. Go through the stile (the V structure in the fence) then turn left, down the hill. At the bottom of the hill, take the middle of the three trails, following the sign back to the Visitor Center along the **Shortcut Trail**.



- ✓ There is water at the Visitor Center and La Mesa, but nowhere else on the trails. Remember to bring plenty of water on your hike.
- ✓ There are restrooms at the Visitor Center and the Ranger Station, but nowhere else in the park.
- ✓ There are trash cans at a number of locations on the lower trails, but no trash cans higher up. Please pack out *everything* you pack in.
- ✓ On some trails, you may encounter horses. Equestrians have the right of way in those situations
- ✓ If you are hiking with a dog, be aware your dog can be off leash but must be under your control.
- ✓ Take time to look at the flowers, listen to the birds, enjoy the views and generally take in the pleasure of being out in Nature. But *please* don't pick the flowers!

* Hiking times are approximate. Experienced hikers may complete the hike in less time, inexperienced hikers or families with small children may need more time. Please plan accordingly.