

#### TRAIL DESCRIPTIONS

# **Arrowhead Trail - First Leg**

**Distance:** 1.7 miles

Begin on the Heart's Delight Trail and travel along the base of a large hill studded with rare serpentine rock outcroppings. Switch to the Arrowhead Loop Trail and gently ascend through blue oak savannah. Climb 140 feet and you may see deer on grassy hillsides or yellow-billed magpies flying overhead. California buckeye trees and California bays dominate the north-facing hillsides. Reach a scenic overlook with sweeping views of the Coyote Valley region. After resting on a well-placed bench, hike .85 miles back to the parking area.

# **Arrowhead Trail - Second Leg**

Distance: 3.3 miles

From the first scenic overlook, climb 300 feet and survey a canopy of oaks -- coast live, blue and valley -- along with fragrant California bays. Cross over two sturdy redwood bridges and pass by a bench. The vegetation changes to chaparral and you may notice mounds and slides caused by seismic vibrations. The second scenic outlook is at nearly 800 feet in elevation. Relax on a bench and view the preserve's full expanse below and Tulare Hill to the north. Hike 1.6 miles back to the parking area.

# **Arrowhead Full Loop Trail**

**Distance:** 4 miles

Continue on the trail to a service road along a ridgeline. Enjoy the diverse vegetation while traversing a grove of California buckeye trees whose canopies provide shade from the sun. Among annual grasslands you'll see a short spur trail leading to a secluded picnic table. Back on the trail, watch for mule deer and bobcats among the California bays, blue oaks, and California buckeyes. Please note the cows, whose grazing helps control invasive plants. As you descend to the valley floor and reach the Heart's Delight Trail, scan the meadow for coyotes and soaring raptors.

### **TRAIL RULES & SAFETY**

- Hours are 7:00 a.m. to sunset.
- Mountain biking, hiking and horseback riding are permitted only on designated trails.
- Pets are not permitted in the preserve at any time.
- Fires, fireworks and smoking are strictly prohibited.
- Do not feed, disturb, harass or kill wildlife. Hunting, trapping and fishing are not allowed.
- Do not collect, remove, destroy or deface any natural or human-made object.
- No water is available at trailheads, at the parking lot or along the trails.
- Keep a respectful distance from cattle and approach slowly if they block the trail, allowing them to move on their own. Avoid loud noises, touching or close-up photos. Always close gates behind you to help keep cattle contained.

# **BE PREPARED**

Always carry water. For maximum comfort, dress in layers for a range of weather conditions. Pack snacks or lunch, especially if hiking with children. Bring a hat, sunblock and a simple first aid kit. Horseback riders and cyclists should also plan for the care and maintenance of their transportation. Finally, be aware of your fitness level and abilities, especially when venturing out alone or on especially challenging hikes or rides.

# DIRECTIONS

# **Coyote Valley Open Space Preserve**

- From Hwy 101
- West on Bailey Avenue
- Left on Santa Teresa Blvd
- Right on Palm Avenue
- The preserve is at the end of Palm Avenue
- Please share the road! Slow down and prepare to stop for pedestrians, bikers and horses traveling on Palm Avenue.



Rev May 2025 Photo Credits: Coyote Valley Open Space Preserve – Stephen Joseph, Flowering hillside – Derek Neumann, Hawk – Christina Schell



# **Coyote Valley**Open Space Preserve

# Welcome

Coyote Valley Open Space Preserve is located at the western edge of the Coyote Valley, which provides a greenbelt between San José and Morgan Hill. While only 20 miles from downtown San José, this preserve offers true rural and breathtaking nature experiences for all. Recreation amenities include a multi-use trail for hikers, mountain bikers and equestrians.

The 4-mile Arrowhead Loop Trail meanders past rare serpentine rock outcroppings, through grasslands and forest canopy composed of oaks and California bays and runs along seasonal creeks that spring alive in winter. A favorite location for birdwatching, Coyote Valley is home to soaring red-tailed hawks, golden eagles, yellow-billed magpies and many other species. Spring months bring dazzling wildflowers blanketing hillsides and meadows.



## **ABOUT THE OPEN SPACE AUTHORITY**

Since 1993, the Open Space Authority has protected approximately 30,000 acres of open space, natural areas, watersheds and wildlife habitat—providing outdoor recreation opportunities and preserving the natural beauty and environmental health of Santa Clara Valley. Your open space preserves are open seven days a week, 365 days of the year.

Learn more about the Open Space Authority at openspaceauthority.org

Contact us: info@openspaceauthority.org