

Getting Married in a California State Park

California State Parks offers a variety of unique and beautiful wedding sites - from historic adobes to stately mansions to ancient redwood forests to stretches of sandy beaches.

Your best bet is to check with the park that interests you. Fees and requirements vary from location to location.

Here's a sample of California State Parks wedding sites:

For Malibu area State Beaches and Parks, including Malibu Creek, Tapia, Leo Carrillo, El Matador, Thornhill Broome and Point Mugu call (310) 457-8144 or email: mzuhair@parks.ca.gov For the Adamson House in Malibu call (310) 457-8144 or e-mail: adamsonhousewedding@parks.ca.gov

For weddings at Asilomar State Beach and Conference Grounds, go to www.visitasilomar.com Click on "Meetings and Events."

California Citrus State Historic Park offers a natural park setting among the citrus groves for weddings and/or receptions. For information, please contact Marge at (951) 509-4500 or email debbyphillips2@yahoo.com

In Sacramento Sutter's Fort State Historic Park and Governor's Mansion State Historic Park are available as wedding sites. For more information, please contact Cheryl Meyer - cmeyer@csrmf.org (916) 445-2560. The site websites are www.parks.ca.gov/suttersfort and www.parks.ca.gov/governorsmansion .

Bidwell Mansion State Historic Park in Chico features a gazebo where many weddings have taken place. For more information, contact Supervising State Park Ranger Michael Fehling at (530) 895-6144.

Calafia State Beach in San Clemente has bluff top wedding sites. For more information, call (949) 366-8589.

Crystal Cove State Park in Laguna Beach has bluff top wedding sites and allows beach weddings. For more information, call (949) 494-3539.

Ed Z'berg - Sugar Pine Point State Park at Lake Tahoe offers a beautiful lake side location for ceremonies, with receptions taking place on the grounds of the elegant and historic Ehrman Mansion (w/gazebo). For more information, contact the Special Events Coordinator at (530) 525-5060 or lssec@parks.ca.gov.

For Big Sur-area weddings at Andrew Molera State Park, Julia Pfeiffer Burns State Park, or Pfeiffer Big Sur State Park, contact Wedding Special Event Coordinator at (831) 667-2315.

La Purisima Mission State Historic Park near Lompoc features a rustic setting for an outdoor wedding. Guests are limited to 100 people, including the bride and groom. For more information, contact the park's supervising ranger at (805) 733-3713.

For Monterey-area weddings in Garrapata State Park, Monterey State Beach, and Carmel River State Beach, please call (831) 624-3704. For weddings and special events at Monterey State Historic Park, including Custom House Plaza and Memory Garden, please call (831) 649-7118 or email mshp@parks.ca.gov.

Patrick's Point State Park along the northcoast includes beautiful vistas overlooking the ocean including wedding rock and others. Fee and permit do apply please call (707) 677-3110 for more information.

San Buenaventura State Beach in Ventura features a sandy beach with a shady picnic area that can be used as a reception area. For more information, call (805) 648-4059.

San Clemente State Beach has an historic cottage with a patio and catering kitchen. For more information, call (949) 366-8589.

For weddings in the San Diego area at Old Town San Diego State Historic Park or Torrey Pines State Reserve, contact Debbie Valdez at (619) 688-3385.

Sonoma Coast State Park offers vistas of the rugged northern coastline and majestic Pacific Ocean. There are a number of spectacular and picturesque sites for weddings, receptions and other special events along the panoramic Sonoma County coastline from Bodega Head, south of Bodega Bay, to the far reaches of Salt Point in the north. Weddings are also permitted at the Group Picnic Area of Armstrong State Natural Reserve in Guerneville. All weddings require a permit and some may require a state park monitor to be present. The Department's Russian River Sector office can help find the ideal location for your special occasion. Fees and requirements vary from location to location. Please contact Elizabeth Beale at (707) 865-2394 or via email at lbeale@parks.ca.gov for further information and assistance.

Marshall Gold Discovery State Historic Park, in the heart of Coloma, features 2 beautiful historic churches and 3 shady picnic areas perfect for an outdoor ceremony or reception. For more information, contact Special Event Coordinator at (530) 622-3069.

For Mendocino area weddings in state parks, please contact the district office at (707) 937-5804 for information and availability.

For information on the following Wine Country wedding sites call Silverado Special Events at (707) 939-6188.

For information about weddings in State Parks in the Santa Cruz area go to www.santacruzstateparks.org

The Sonoma State Historic Park Chapel and Courtyard (near downtown Sonoma) can accommodate 210 guests. Please call the special events office at

For wedding information about Marin-area state parks Mount Tamalpais State Park, China Camp State Park, Tomales Bay State Park, Samuel P. Taylor State Park contact David Kopler at (415) 388 2853.

(707) 939-6188.

Surrounded by hills and vineyards, Jack London State Historic Park offers a dramatic setting for up to 300 guests at its Winery Ruins. The site was originally part of the Kohler Frohling Winery; the buildings were later adapted by Jack London as a carriage barn and bunkhouse.

In the Napa Valley, the Bale Grist Mill State Historic Park has an outdoor site, next to a fully restored flour mill. It can accommodate 75 guests.

The Gardens & Grounds at the Empire Mine State Historical Park are available by reservation for weddings from April 15th through October 15th annually on Friday, Saturday and Sundays only. Other dates and days are considered on an exception basis. Reservations can be made a year in advance for the next wedding season. Additional information can be found at the Empire Mine Association website.

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