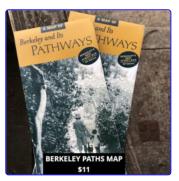
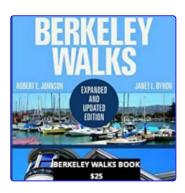


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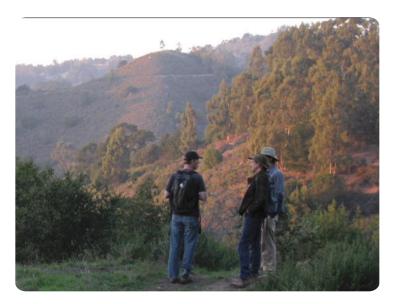
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Hikers pause at the top of the Gwin Canyon Trail, which leads onto Norfolk Road. (Photo by Bill McClung)

Exploring the Trails of Claremont Canyon: Gwin Canyon to Garber Park

By Sandy Friedland

This 3.5-mile, moderately difficult hike winds through two of the open spaces on the south side of Claremont Canyon and along some of the lovely streets between them in the neighborhoods above the Claremont Hotel.

The walk starts on steps at the beginning of the Willow Trail, and continues to the 1.1-mile Gwin Canyon Trail. Volunteers from the Claremont Canyon Conservancy recently built the first 0.4-mile of this trail, which follows Claremont (aka Harwood) Creek. The rest of the trail is part of the East Bay Regional Park system. MORE INFO

Walk With Us

Join us on our terrific guided walks, which are free and open to all. Unless otherwise noted, they last 2 to 3 hours and proceed at a moderate, conversational pace. We're sorry, but we can't accommodate your dogs except on walks specified as dog-friendly. Please check our home

to offer our path-oriented events. <u>Join now.</u>

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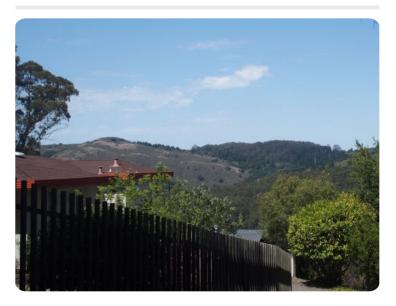


Berkeley Path Wanderers Association (BPWA) is a grassroots organization of people who treasure the public pathways that crisscross our city. Read more.

Meet Our Friends

You'll find links to many other organizations that promote walking, pedestrian safety, protecting the environment, and more on our website.

<u>page</u> for last-minute weather cancellations. Questions about a walk? Write <u>walks@berkeleypaths.org</u>.



A view of Tilden Park from Vistamont Avenue in the Berkeley Woods.

Berkeley Woods

Date: Saturday, December 7, 10 am - 12:30 pm

Leader: Bob Johnson

Start: 580 Grizzly Peak Blvd, 3 houses south of where Euclid ends at Grizzly Peak. 65 bus stops at Euclid and Grizzly Peak, but buses run once per hour on Saturday;

parking is available on surrounding streets.

Bob Johnson, co-author of <u>Berkeley Walks</u>, leads this hilly, ~ 3-mile walk in the northeast corner of Berkeley. The walk, one of his new <u>free series</u> of Berkeley walks, includes land formerly occupied by plant nurseries, and it features tall trees, views to the east and west, a variety of 20th-century architecture, the former homes of famous people, and an historic seminary that is now a Muslim liberal-arts college. We will explore two little-known paths, and walk up and down the ridge. The streets generally do not have sidewalks but traffic is scant.



On the last leg of San Francisco's Crosstown Trail, we explore Visitacion Valley (shown) and John McLaren Park.

San Francisco Crosstown Trail Part 4: Glen Park to Candlestick Point

(Hike 4 of the 4-Hike Series)

Date: Sunday, December 15, 10 am - 1:30 pm (or longer)

Leader: Alina Constantinescu Start: Plaza, Glen Park BART

End: Candlestick Park (1.5 miles from Muni T line).

Our December hike is the final southbound stretch, a 5.6-mile, 650-foot-elevation-gain section exploring John McLaren Park and hidden greenways and community gardens in Visitacion Valley, and ending in a state park on the Bay shore: Candlestick Point State Recreation Area. At the end, you can choose to take car share or retrace your steps 1.5 miles to Muni Line T for public transit options. Alternatively, you can choose to end your hike early when we first pass the T Line at mile marker 4.1.

Optional: Those who are up for a challenge can stick with the group and hike back to Glen Park BART for a total 11.2-mile loop. We will use a different route heading back, seeing a different side of McLaren Park and "pocket parks" in surrounding neighborhoods. Bring snacks and a lunch if you're sticking around for the long hike. Lunch will be around mile 7.5. Estimated end-time for the roundtrip option is 4:30 pm.



Stroll Kensington's Path #6 with us on New Year's Day.

Stepping Into the New Year

Date: Wednesday, January 1, 1 pm

Start: Corner of Arlington and Coventry Road, Kensington

(the parking lot below 285 the Arlington)

Leaders: Glen Lindwall and Jacob Lehmann Duke

Get off on the right foot in the new year, or walk off lingering remnants of the old one. We will cover the high ground on the Kensington/Berkeley border including the trail along Tilden Park (if it is not too muddy) and a stop in Dorothy Bolte Park for the slide (optional). There will be many stairs but the pace will be moderate...except those that want to try to keep up with Jacob can head off ahead of the rest for a slightly longer and more vigorous experience.



A king tide is an exceptionally high tide, caused by the gravitational pull of the moon.

King Tide on the "Richmond Riviera"

Date: Friday, January 10, 10 am - 12:30 pm

Leader: Susan Schwartz

Start: Shimada Friendship Park, Richmond, Peninsula

Drive and Marina Bay Parkway.

During one of winter's highest tides, this leisurely, level walk on paved trails will let us look at the Bay shore through many lenses: gritty industrial history, a current growing wealth of wetlands and wildlife (camera and binoculars welcome), the lingering legacies of toxic pollution, and what rising sea levels may bring in the near future.

Expect to see marshes and sloughs where birds including endangered Ridgeways rails find refuge, and hear stories at sites of railroad building, frog farming, a vanished resort, dynamite making, toxic dumps, and bits of nature snatched from development.

There is a restroom at the meeting place, but none along the way. We'll have tips on nearby lunch spots in Richmond's redeveloped Marina area.

Join Our Work Parties



Christina Choate joins BPWA volunteers to clear Halkin Path.

Help us Keep our Paths Clear for Emergencies Monday, December 2, 11 am

Help us transform a weed-obscured path into a safe and lovely walkway. Please email <u>Mary Lynch</u> if you can come to the work party, and she will send you the location. We

supply refreshments and gloves and tools, but feel free to bring your own.







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