

Trail Descriptions

Most Hidden Villa trails head up from the valley and then return back down. The exception is the relatively flat Creek Trail along Adobe Creek.

HOSTEL TRAIL

Length— 1.5 miles
Elevation gain— 650', steep initial climb
Climate— shade on initial climb, exposed and sunny along the ridge
Directions— Starts across from the hostel and climbs Elephant Mountain. Hostel Trail connects to Toyon Hill Trail (0.5 mi.), Grapevine Trail (1.2 mi.) and Black Mountain Trail (1.5 mi.).

CREEK TRAIL

Length— 1.0 mile
Elevation gain— 240', gentle grade
Climate— shady, cool
Notes— 3–5 feet wide. Great for strollers, horses, and kids.
Directions— Look for the trailhead sign just beyond the White Barn. The trail follows Adobe Creek upstream, connecting to Toyon Hill Trail (0.1 mi. from the trailhead sign), Pipeline Trail (0.5 mi.), Grapevine Trail (0.6 mi.), and Ewing Hill Trail (1.0 mi.). Horses allowed as far as Ewing Hill Trail.

LONG BUNNY LOOP

Length— 1.75 miles
Elevation gain— 400', steady climb
Climate— mostly cool and shady
Directions— On Creek Trail, veer right after the first bridge. Cross the West Fork of Adobe Creek. After several switchbacks, you'll reach a clearing with a view of the ranch below. From here the trail narrows and descends along Bunny Creek to join the road behind the Big House. Turn right, cross the bridge, then turn left to return to the farm.

SHORT BUNNY LOOP

Length— 1.25 miles
Elevation gain— 250', steep climb that levels out
Climate— mostly cool and shady
Directions— A shorter version of Long Bunny Loop. Short Bunny Loop takes off from Long Bunny Loop about 0.5 mi. from the bridges and rejoins Long Bunny Loop along Bunny Creek.

GRAPEVINE TRAIL

Length— 0.5 miles
Elevation gain— 430', steep climb
Climate— exposed and sunny in places
Directions— Steep climb from Creek Trail (0.4 mi. from the bridges) to Hostel Trail (1.2 mi. from the Hostel). Horses allowed.

EWING HILL TRAIL

Length— 0.7 miles
Elevation gain— 470', steep climb
Climate— exposed and sunny in places
Directions— Connects Creek Trail (1.0 mi. from the bridges) to Black Mountain Trail.

TOYON HILL TRAIL

Length— 0.75 miles
Elevation gain— 500', steep uphill climb with switchbacks
Directions— Starts on Creek Trail just beyond the junction of the three creeks and heads uphill to the junction of Hostel Trail.

PIPELINE TRAIL

Length— 0.4 miles
Elevation gain— very slight uphill climb
Climate— patchy sunny woodland
Directions— Starts .25 miles up Toyon Hill Trail and gradually drops down to Creek Trail .4 miles from the bridges.

Recommended Hikes

HOSTEL-TOYON HILL-CREEK LOOP

Length— 1.5 miles round-trip from kiosk
Rating— Moderate
Time— 45 minutes, at steady pace
Directions— Go up Hostel Trail near the Hostel, turn right on Toyon Hill Trail. Go up over the ridge, down to Creek Trail and turn right to return to the farm.

ELEPHANT MOUNTAIN LOOP

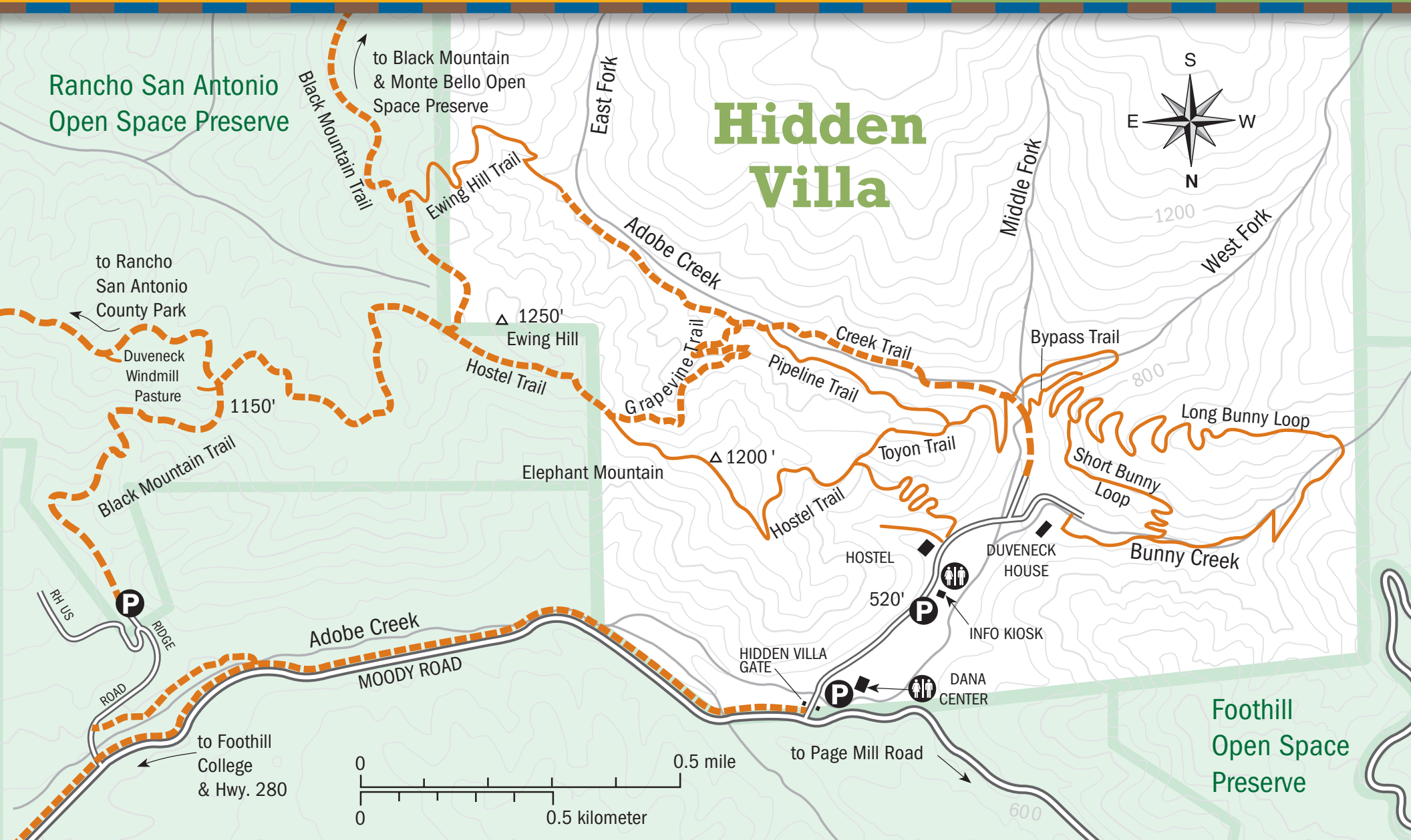
Length— 2.3 miles
Rating— Moderate
Time— 2 hours, at steady pace
Directions— Start by going up Hostel Trail. At Toyon Hill Trail, bear left to continue up Hostel Trail. The last steep climb will bring you to the highest point of Elephant Mountain, with views of Mt. Tamalpais and the Santa Clara Valley. Descend along the ridge, turn right onto Grapevine Trail, then turn right again when you join Creek Trail.

WINDMILL PASTURE LOOP

Length— 4.7 miles round-trip
Rating— Moderate-Difficult
Time— 2.5 hours, at steady pace
Directions— Take Hostel Trail, pass Grapevine Trail, then turn left on Black Mountain Trail towards Windmill Pasture. To return, backtrack along Black Mountain Trail. Continue 0.25 miles past the Hostel Trail and turn right on Ewing Hill Trail. Descend to Adobe Creek and follow on Creek Trail to return to the farm.

BLACK MOUNTAIN TREK

Length— 10.5 miles round-trip
Rating— Difficult
Time— 5 hours, at steady pace
Elevation gain— 2,280'
Directions— A long steep hike to the highest peak in the northern Santa Cruz Mountains rewards you with 360° views. Take Creek Trail to the end; it becomes Ewing Hill Trail. Turn right at Black Mountain Trail and continue the steady uphill climb. As you near the summit, head for the airway beacons at the top. Reverse directions to return to Hidden Villa.



- No dogs on trails or in wilderness areas.
- No bikes, motorcycles, or smoking permitted.
- As indicated, some trails are closed to horses. Possible closure in wet weather. Hikers should stand on uphill side of trail to let horseback riders pass.
- Stay on trails to prevent erosion—do not slide down banks.
- Respect the wilderness. Plants, rocks, downed wood, and wildflowers belong to the land.
- Please don't litter—take out what you bring in.
- A reminder: poison oak, rattlesnakes, and ticks are common to the area. For prevention and safety information, visit our kiosk in the main parking lot.

- Hiking Trail (no bikes)
- - - Hiking & Equestrian Trail (no bikes)
- ▭ Hidden Villa
- ▭ Other Public Land
- Road
- Buildings
- ♿ Restrooms
- P Parking
- Contour interval 40 feet