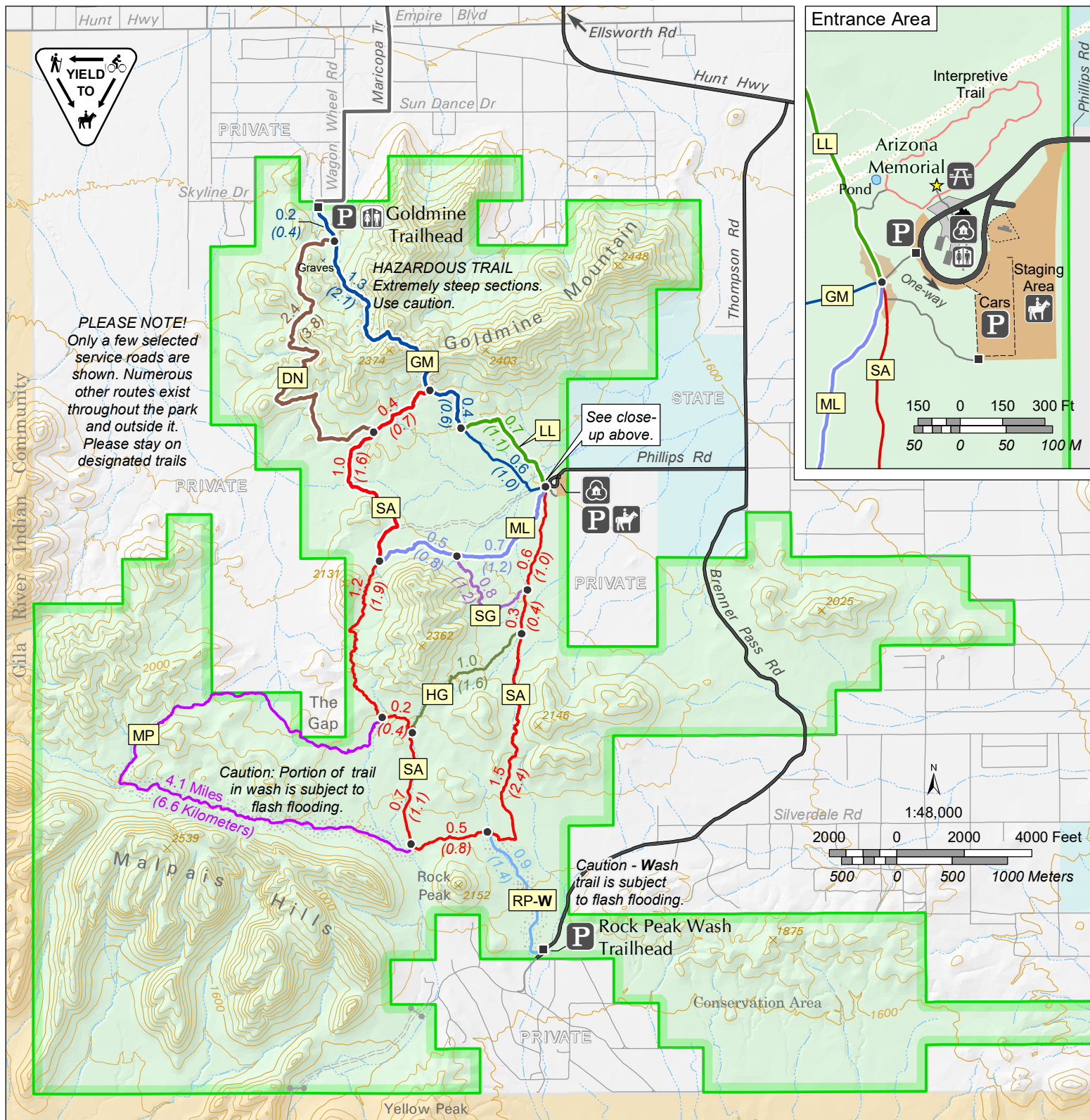


San Tan Mountain Regional Park



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- Lengths shown at left are one-way.
- Lengths on map are for segments between trail junctions (●), or junction and trailhead.
- Due to rounding, segment lengths on map may not add up to trail totals at left.
- Elev Diff is difference in elevation between low and high points, which may or may not match end points of trail. Gross change may be greater.

M = Multiple Use (all non-motorized access allowed)
● Easy
■ Moderate
◇ Moderate - Difficult
◆ Difficult

Welcome to San Tan Mountain Regional Park

Consisting of 10,198 acres, this southeast Valley Park is a fine example of the lower Sonoran Desert. The park ranges in elevation from about 1,400 feet to over 2,500 feet. Goldmine Mountain is located in the northern area, with a spectacular San Tan Mountain escarpment in the southern portion of the park. The vegetation varies from creosote flats to dense saguaro forests. Various types of wildlife may be observed, including reptiles, birds, mammals and arthropods.

Park Rules

PLEASE OBSERVE PARK RULES! Park rules are posted throughout the park; they are also available as a handout.

Park Information

San Tan Mountain Regional Park was established in 1986, through a cooperative agreement with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and an intergovernmental agreement between Maricopa and Pinal County. San Tan is located at the crossroads of diverse communities, regions, and cultures. The park is in demand to meet the needs of a regional area extending south from central Maricopa County and the East Valley of metropolitan Phoenix, into northern Pinal County. It is important that certain irreplaceable natural open space resources be preserved and that conservation management guidelines be established by the residents of the region to insure the integrity of the San Tan Mountains against degradation.

Located just south of the Maricopa/Pinal County line near the Town of Queen Creek, San Tan Mountain Regional Park has been used for decades for various recreation activities such as hiking, equestrian riding, and mountain biking. The park is rich with unique historical, cultural, and biological resources. The park's master plan seeks to provide programmed recreation activities that meet the needs of the existing users, future park visitors, and the growing East Valley population while protecting the park's natural, Sonoran Desert mountain environment.

A Visitor Center with restroom facilities, souvenir items, fascinating wildlife displays and local artifacts is available at the main park entrance located on Phillips Road. Relax outside near the Visitor Center by viewing the Buddy Pond, enjoying a snack at one of our picnic tables, observing the chuckwalla or desert tortoises playing in their outdoor enclosures, or paying tribute at the Nathan Martens Arizona Memorial (honoring the fallen soldiers from the Iraq and Afghanistan Wars). Additional amenities are slated for future development.

Camping

Camping is prohibited. San Tan Mountain Regional Park is currently a day-use only park.

Hours of Operation and Contact Information

Sunday thru Thursday: 6 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Friday and Saturday: 6 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Entry fees are required for park usage (per park rules).
Please use the self-pay station if the Visitor Center is closed.

San Tan Mountain Regional Park

6533 W. Phillips Rd., Queen Creek, AZ 85142
Telephone: (480) 655-5554
E-mail: santanpark@mail.maricopa.gov

Maricopa County Parks and Recreation Department

Unit Operations Center
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www.youtube.com/MaricopaCountyParks



Interactive Trail Map

Trails

There are currently nine designated trails at the park. The park is open to non-motorized use, including hiking, bicycling, and horseback riding. Help us protect the beauty of the desert by staying on designated trails.

Trail descriptions (trail lengths are listed as one-way, unless otherwise noted and most can be combined with other trails for added mileage):

Note: Travel can be arduous if you are not prepared. Always carry plenty of water, use protection from the sun, and let someone know where you are going.

DYNAMITE TRAIL (DN)

Trail Length/Distance: 2.4 miles (3.8 kilometers)

Trail Rating: Moderate ■

Description: Enjoy a thrilling journey as you explore Goldmine Mountain. The trail connects to the Goldmine Trail near the Goldmine Trailhead and winds you along the mountain side to the San Tan Trail near the central part of the park.

GOLDMINE TRAIL (GM)

Trail Length/Distance: 2.5 miles (4.0 kilometers)

Trail Rating: Difficult ◆

Description: If you desire adventure, then you will love the Goldmine Trail as it takes you to the highest point on any trail at roughly 2,300 feet in elevation. The trail begins at the San Tan Trailhead near the Visitor Center and ends at the Goldmine Trailhead located near Skyline Drive on the north side of the Park. Enjoy a nice workout with breath-taking views from Goldmine Mountain. Be sure to visit the graves of two miners, Mansel Carter and Marion Kennedy, buried near the Goldmine Trailhead.

HEDGEHOG TRAIL (HG)

Trail Length/Distance: 0.9 mile (1.6 kilometers)

Trail Rating: Moderate ■

Description: Observe the marvelous array of hedgehog cacti scattered along the trail as you take in beautiful views of the mountains. The Hedgehog Trail connects to the San Tan Trail at two different points.

LITTLELEAF TRAIL (LL):

Trail Length/Distance: 0.7 mile (1.1 kilometers)

Trail Rating: Easy ●

Description: Embark on a quest to discover the beauty of the Littleleaf Palo Verde Tree. The Littleleaf Trail is located north of the San Tan Trailhead and connects to the Goldmine Trail.

MALPAIS TRAIL (MP)

Trail Length/Distance: 4.2 miles (6.6 kilometers)

Trail Rating: Moderate - Difficult ◇

Description: Pronounced [mahl-pah-ees], this trail invigorates the mind and stimulates the heart through an awe-inspiring experience along the base of the Malpais Hills. The trail connects to two different points along the San Tan Trail in the southwest area of the park.

MOONLIGHT TRAIL (ML)

Trail Length/Distance: 1.3 miles (2.0 kilometers)

Trail Rating: Moderate ■

Description: Allow your senses to be tickled with the beauty of the surrounding landscape and potential for viewing wildflowers. The Moonlight Trail begins at the San Tan Trailhead near the Visitor Center and guides you along the base of a mountain located in the central valley of the park and connects to the San Tan Trail at the west end.

ROCK PEAK WASH TRAIL (RP-W)

Trail Length/Distance: 0.9 mile (1.4 kilometers)

Trail Rating: Moderate ■

Description: Enjoy the beauty of Rock Peak and the potential for wildlife sightings. The trail starts at the Rock Peak Wash Trailhead near Brenner Pass Rd and follows a wash at the base of Rock Peak before it connects to the San Tan Trail on the north end.

SAN TAN TRAIL (SA)

Trail Length/Distance: 6.4 miles (10.3 kilometers)

Trail Rating: Moderate - Difficult ◇

Description: The trail starts at the San Tan Trailhead and encompasses a large portion of the park and intersects with other trails at various points. Enjoy scenic mountain views at the south end of the park near Rock Peak and the Malpais Hills or hike to the central valley of the park to explore its unique beauty.

STARGAZER TRAIL (SG)

Trail Length/Distance: 0.8 mile (1.2 kilometers)

Trail Rating: Easy ●

Description: Trail meets up with portions of Moonlight and San Tan Trails as it takes you on a unique adventure through the central valley of the park to explore exhilarating views of saguaro forests, the Queen Creek area, and other fine viewing treasures.



Maricopa County
Parks and Recreation Department