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Follow Our News



Signposts on Claremont Avenue lead hikers to miles of trails in historic Claremont Canyon and beyond.

Signpost 29 Trails:

Take a Hike Without Going Far Afield

By Sandy Friedland

Buy Our Map



The best map of Berkeley's paths and streets just got even better! Order your copy of our fresh-off-the-presses 8th edition of *Berkeley and Its Pathways*. [Get your copy.](#)

Join or Renew



Your generosity enables us to build more paths and continue

Driving on Claremont Avenue, between Grizzly Peak Boulevard and the Claremont Hotel, you may have noticed three black-and-white signposts numbered 27, 28, and 29. UC Berkeley owns more than 200 acres in Claremont Canyon, and they installed the signposts as geographic markers in case of wildfires. (Signs with lower numbers begin near the football stadium and continue up Centennial Drive to, and along, Grizzly Peak Boulevard.)

Signpost 29, about 1.25 miles past the hotel on the south side of Claremont Avenue, is also the gateway to three short but interesting hiking trails. They offer a convenient way to take a quick hike or to access other trails for a longer, more challenging one.

Volunteers from the [Claremont Canyon Conservancy](#), in cooperation with UC, built the two shorter trails, Summit House and Willow. In addition, the Conservancy recently completed an 0.4-mile link to the longer Gwin Canyon Trail. The top two-thirds of that trail belong to the East Bay Regional Park District. [Read More.](#)

A version of this article originally appeared in the Claremont-Elmwood Social magazine.



**Visit us at the 45th Annual Solano Stroll
Sunday, Sept. 8, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.**

The [Solano Stroll](#) is always one of our favorite events of the year. Please stop by our booth to chat and learn more about our activities and volunteer opportunities. Also be sure to check out our new BPWA T-shirts — kid sizes, too! — plus our maps, hats, books, and posters. You can also join or renew your membership at the Stroll. Our booth will

to offer our path-oriented events. [Join now.](#)

Get to Know Us



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.](#)

be near the intersection of [Solano and Ensenada Avenues](#).

BPWA's Annual Meeting

Thursday, Oct. 17, 6 to 7:30 pm

Mark your calendars for BPWA's annual meeting on Thursday, Oct. 17, 6 to 7:30 p.m. at the Hillside Club, 2286 Cedar St. All are welcome. Check your email for additional information in the coming weeks.



Board members and walkers celebrate the opening of the Path Wanderers' Handrail Corridor.

Wanted: New Board Members

Do you treasure the public paths and stairways of Berkeley? If so, please consider joining our Board of Directors, the dynamic, dedicated volunteers who keep BPWA going strong — and have fun in the process.

The BPWA board meets 10 times a year to plan our events, manage our budget, allocate money for path-

building and handrails, and tackle the other tasks involved with keeping our 500-plus-member nonprofit organization running smoothly. Our board also fosters relationships with Berkeley agencies, including most recently the Office of Emergency Services.

If you can dedicate a few hours a month to the paths, we'd love to have you! (We'll train you, too!)

We are currently looking for:

- Treasurer
- Events coordinator
- Secretary

A good way to get to know us is to stop by our booth at the Solano Stroll on September 8. Please [email](#) us if you are interested in joining the board starting in January 2020.

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 page](#) for last-minute weather cancellations. Questions about a walk? Write walks@berkeleypaths.org.



A groovy gate at 1144 Sterling Ave. in Berkeley's Cragmont neighborhood.

Cragmont Literary Lanes

Saturday, September 7, 10 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Leader: Bob Johnson

Start: [Intersection of Grizzly Peak and Keller](#)

Join Bob Johnson, co-author of [Berkeley Walks](#), for a jaunt through the Cragmont neighborhood in the north Berkeley Hills. Cragmont is characterized by modest cottages and larger homes, great views of the Bay and beyond, curvy roadways, and numerous paths and streets named for poets and authors of the 19th and early 20th centuries, including Ina Coolbrith, Brett Harte, and Robert Louis Stevenson. "Cragmont" refers to the large craggy rock outcrops in the area, some of which have been made into small parks. This 2-mile walk includes 4 paths and some uphill, but mainly follows the contours of the hills.



Lands End Path is a stop on the new 17-mile Crosstown Trail in San Francisco; we'll hike the entire length in 4 segments.

San Francisco Crosstown Trail Part 1:

Lands End to Golden Gate Park (Hike 1 of a 4-Hike Series)

Sunday Sept. 22, 10 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Leader: Alina Constantinescu

Start: Outside the [Lands End Lookout Visitors Center](#) at 680 Point Lobos Ave. in San Francisco. On-site parking is

free, though it's not always easy to find a spot. Muni bus 38 stops 2 blocks away.

End: Golden Gate Park, Park Presidio Blvd. at Fulton St., on the route for Muni bus 5 and 2 blocks from bus 38.

This fall, the Wanderers are determined to hike the entire length of San Francisco's latest urban adventure: the [Crosstown Trail](#). We plan to cover the 17-mile route in a series of four hikes, scheduled once a month from September through December. For our September hike, we'll start at Lands End, hike a spectacular stretch of the Coastal Trail through the Golden Gate National Recreational Area, go through the Sea Cliff neighborhood to the Presidio, and wind down along the Park Presidio Greenway to Golden Gate Park. We estimate to arrive at Golden Gate Park around 12:30 p.m. At this point, hikers can choose to return to Lands End (or other destinations) via public transit or car share. This walk is 4.7 miles with 550 feet of elevation gain.

Optional: Those who would like an extended hike can continue with the group and hike the route in reverse, back to the starting point. Bring a picnic lunch if you are sticking around for the return hike. We will take a lunch break at the Rose Garden in Golden Gate Park before heading back to the start. Estimated end-time for the round-trip option is 3:30 p.m.

Save-the-date for the remaining hikes in the series:

Sun., Oct. 27; Sat., Nov. 16; and Sun., Dec. 15.



Hind House at 208 The Uplands, in 1909.

Great Estates of Claremont-Rockridge

Saturday, October 5, 2019 10 a.m.– 1 p.m.

Leader: Ron Sipherd

Start: [Claremont Avenue at the Uplands](#) (opposite Star Grocery)

Circa 1900, the scenic Claremont-Rockridge neighborhood boasted several imposing mansions with extensive grounds that belonged to some of the Bay Area's wealthiest tycoons. Many other very nice homes belonged to the merely affluent. We will discover what remains of these grand houses and try to imagine the splendor of bygone days. The 3-mile walk includes some concrete stairs and moderate uphill climbs. Preview the route at: <http://ronksville.com/pix/walks/estates/>.

Note: This walk is dog-friendly! Well-behaved dogs on leash permitted.



The chapel at Zaytuna College, the first accredited Muslim undergraduate college in the United States.

A Brisk Hills Walk

Sunday, Oct. 13, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Leader: John Ford & Bonnie Forer

Start: [2113 Vine St.](#) (Patio in front of Vintage Berkeley, across from the original Peet's on Walnut Street.)

We'll take a zig-zag walk up to the border of Tilden Park utilizing 9 paths, with about 1,000 feet of elevation gain in a about 2 miles. Then we'll move north along the ridge with some more up and down, plus another 7 paths and a walk through the Zaytuna College campus (formerly a Lutheran seminary). We'll work our way back down from the hills taking several other paths (which ones depend on the energy level of the group at that point). This is a challenging 9-mile walk with optional lunch in the Gourmet Ghetto as our reward at the end.



Stow Lake in San Francisco's Golden Gate Park is a stop on leg 2 of BPWA's multi-month Crosstown Trail adventure.

San Francisco Crosstown Trail Part 2: Golden Gate Park to Forest Hill (Hike 2 of a 4-Hike Series)

Sunday, October 27, 10 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Leader: Alina Constantinescu

Start: Sidewalk on SE corner of Park Presidio Boulevard and Fulton Avenue, by the sign for the Rose Garden.

Street parking in the neighborhood is free, though it's not always easy to find a spot. Muni bus 5 and 28 are nearby.

End: Laguna Honda Boulevard by the Forest Hill Muni Light Rail Station.

On our October hike, we make our way across Golden Gate Park through the Rose Garden and Stow Lake and then head to the Forest Hill neighborhood via Grandview and Golden Gate Heights parks. There is quite a bit of climbing on this section as we go up and down seven (not-so) secret staircases, including two mosaic-tile beauties that are sure to delight. Our estimated arrival at Forest Hill is around 12:30 p.m. At this point, hikers can choose to return to Golden Gate Park (or other destinations) via public transit or car share.

Optional: Those who would like an extended hike can continue with the group and hike the route in reverse, back to the starting point. Bring a picnic lunch if you are sticking around for the return hike; we will take a lunch break at

Forest Hill before heading back to the start. Estimated end time for the round-trip option is 4 p.m.

Save-the-date for the remaining hikes in the series:

Sat., Nov. 16, and Sun., Dec. 15.

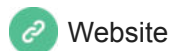
Join Our Work Parties



Diane deLara spruces up Orchard Lane.

Help us Keep our Paths Clear for Emergencies Monday, Sept. 23 @ 11 a.m.

Help us transform a weed-obscured path into a safe and lovely walkway. Please email [Mary Lynch](mailto:Mary.Lynch@earthlibrary.org) 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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