Camping

Mt. Pinos Ranger District Los Padres National Forest

Recreation Information

- Developed Campgrounds have tables, fire rings and more modern vault or flush toilets. Access is from a paved road, and interior roads and spurs are usually paved or treated for dust control. Most are Campfire Use Sites. Developed Campgrounds on the Mt. Pinos Ranger District do not have drinking water.
- ▶ Primitive Camps have a metal or concrete fire ring, *may* have tables and primitive vault toilets, and do not have water. Most Primitive Camps on the Mt. Pinos Ranger District are Campfire Use Sites.

Camping outside of Developed Campgrounds and Primitive Camps is allowed except within **Restricted Use Areas** and within ¼ mile of a Developed Campground or Primitive Camp. Within **Restricted Use Areas** camping is allowed only in Developed Campgrounds and Primitive Camps.

Maximum number of people allowed per site is five. Vehicle parking is allowed only in designated areas. Most all of the campgrounds are located on roads that are subject to seasonal closures. Please call the District Office prior to planning your trip.

A **California Campfire Permit** is required at all times for *all* fires, including wood fires, barbecues and stoves, outside of designated Campfire Use Sites.

Campfire Use Sites are Forest Service recreation sites where you may use an open wood fire or a barbecue. Campfire Use Sites are listed on the Forest Recreation Map, and the list is available at Forest Service offices and on the Forest website.

Seasonal Fire Restrictions prohibit the use of wood fires and barbecues outside of Campfire Use Sites. They also restrict smoking to within vehicles and Campfire Use Sites or cleared areas. Under some conditions, wood fires and barbecues may be prohibited in *all* areas of the national forest, including within Campfire Use Sites.

Developed Campgrounds

- Chuchupate: Pinon pine shaded campground, 24 sites, paved road, 3 vault toilets.
- Hardluck: Streamside campground with no shade, 26 sites, paved road, 2 vault toilets. Seasonal closure.
- McGill: Jeffrey pine shaded campground, 73 sites, 2 group camps (60 and 80 person sites), paved road, 10 vault toilets. (Reservations for group camps should be made through the national reservation system at 1-877-444-6777).
- Mt. Pinos: Jeffrey pine shaded campground, 19 sites, paved road, 4 vault toilets.
- Reyes Creek: Oak/Cottonwood shaded streamside campground, 30 sites, chipseal road, public coral, 8 vault toilets, Handicap fishing pier, Piedra Blanca-Gene Marshall National Recreation Trail trailhead.

Primitive Camps

Drive in Camps

- △ Aliso: Oak shaded campground, 8 sites. Aliso and McPherson Trail trailhead.
- Ballinger: Badland terrain with little shade, 11 sites, primarily motorcycle use area, designated trail system, no cross-country use, 4 vault toilets.
- ▲ Caballo: Pinon pine shaded campground, 5 sites, rough dirt road, some ruts, accessible by 2WD, 2 vault toilets.
- **△ Campo Alto:** Jeffrey pine shaded campground, paved road, 12 sites, 1 group area, 4 vault toilets.
- △ Cherry Creek: Oak/Mixed conifer shaded campground, 2 sites, 4WD access only.
- △ Chula Vista: Jeffrey Pine Shaded campground, 12 walk-in sites, 500 ft. from Parking lot, 4 vault toilets.
- **△ Cottonwood:** Streamside location, 1 site, difficult 4WD access only.





- **Dome Springs:** Badland terrain, 4 sites, sandy access road, passable with 2WD, 1 vault toilet.
- **Dutchman:** Open Jeffrey pine shaded campground, 5 sites, passable with 2WD.
- ▲ Halfmoon: Jeffery pine shaded campground along creek, 10 sites, graded dirt road, 2 vault toilets.
- ▲ Kings: Pinon/Chaparral vegetation, 7 sites, motorcycle use, 2WD access, 1 vault toilet, Snowy Trail trailhead.
- ▲ Marian: Open Jeffrey pine shaded campground, 5 sites, rough dirt road access, some ruts accessible by 2WD.
- **Nettle Spring:** Pinon shaded campground, 5 sites, dirt road, 2 vault toilets.
- Ozena: Scattered cottonwood, 10 sites, paved road, 2 vault toilets.
- ▶ Pine Springs: Pinon shaded campground, 12 sites, graded road, 2 vault toilets.
- Pleito: Oak/Mixed conifer shaded campground, 2 sites, difficult 4WD access only.
- Salt Creek: Oak/mixed conifer shaded campground, 2 sites, 4WD access only.
- Sunset: Scrub oak, scattered pine, canyon type campground, 3 sites, difficult 4WD access only.
- ▲ Thorn Meadows: Open Jeffrey pine shaded campground, 5 sites, graded dirt road, public corral, 1 vault toilet.
- ▲ Tinta: Pinon shaded campground, 3 sites, sandy river crossing, 1 vault toilet, Tinta motorcycle Trail trailhead.
- **△ Toad Springs:** Pinon shaded campground, 5 sites, graded dirt road.

■ Valle Vista: Pinon/Oak shaded campground, 7 sites, 2 vault toilets.

Hike in Camps

- Upper Reyes: Oak woodland camp, 4 sites, water in Reyes Creek (Purify), Piedra Blanca-Gene Marshall National Recreation Trail 22W03, Sespe Wilderness.
- Bear Trap: Conifer shaded camp, 2 sites, water in creek (purify), Piedra Blanca-Gene Marshall National Recreation Trail 22W03, Sespe Wilderness.
- **△ Cedar Creek:** Incense Cedar and pine shaded camp, 3 sites, water in Cedar Creek is seasonal (purify), Cedar Creek Trail 21W10, Sespe Wilderness.
- ▲ Fishbowls: Conifer shaded camp, 2 sites, water in creek is seasonal (purify), Fishbowls Trail 21W05, Sespe Wilderness.
- Buck Creek: Douglas fir and various pine shaded camp, 1 site, water in creek is seasonal (purify), Buck Creek Trail 18W01, Sespe Wilderness.
- Little Mutau: Hardwood shaded camp, 1 site, water in seasonal creek (purify), Little Mutau Trail 20W10, Sespe Wilderness.
- ▲ Lily Meadows: Jeffery and sugar pine shaded camp, 2 sites, carry water, North Fork Trail 22W02, Chumash Wilderness.
- ▲ Mesa Springs: Pinon pine and Chaparral camp, 2 sites, water in spring (purify), San Emigdio Mesa Trail 22W21, Chumash Wilderness.
- ▲ Sheep Camp: Jeffery pine shaded camp, 4 sites, water in spring ¼ mile above camp (purify), North Fork Trail 22W02, Chumash Wilderness.
- Painted Rock: Potrero Grassland, 3 sites, water at Montgomery spring (purify), Rocky Ridge Trail 27W04.

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