



# Santiago Oaks Regional Park

DAY USE: 7:00 A.M. – SUNSET | TRAILS: MAY BE CLOSED FOR UP TO THREE DAYS FOLLOWING RAIN

2145 N. Windes Drive  
Orange, CA 92869  
714-973-6620 or  
714-973-6622

REGIONAL  
PARK

Located in east Orange alongside Santiago Creek, the 1,760-acre Santiago Oaks Regional Park is a nature lover's paradise. This secluded refuge offers hikers, bikers and equestrians the natural charm of mountain vistas, an orange grove, a meandering creek and a mature forest of many different species of trees. Wildlife abounds, and a series of interconnecting trails leads through shady groves and to a lookout that features an awe-inspiring view of Orange and the surrounding foothills.

## WHAT THERE IS AT SANTIAGO OAKS REGIONAL PARK.



## A BRIEF HISTORY.

The land that is now Santiago Oaks Regional Park was part of a Spanish land grant, Rancho Santiago de Santa Ana. Santiago Creek, which passes through the park, was named by Gaspar de Portola in 1769 in honor of St. James (San Iago).

Historically, Santiago Creek has provided both water for agriculture and sand and gravel for construction. In 1879, local landowners sought to improve agricultural productivity by damming the creek. At a location within the present-day park, a clay dam was submerged to the bedrock floor to force more groundwater to the surface. When that dam was destroyed by flooding a few years later, it was replaced in 1892 with one made of river rock and concrete.

Land for Santiago Oaks Regional Park was acquired from various sources, including the Windes family, former residents of the area. The County purchased 95 acres in 1976, and limited public use of the area began the following year. In 1981, the ranch house built by Windes in 1938 was opened as the park's Nature Center. In 1988, the Smith home, a private residence within the park's boundaries, was purchased for use as the park office.

Additional land has been acquired to expand the park to more than 900 acres. In 1989, 148 acres on the north side of Santiago Creek and 81 acres adjacent to nearby Crawford Canyon Road were added. In 2003, the County acquired the Barham Ranch, located between Santiago Oaks and Irvine regional parks, and more than 500 acres were added to Santiago Oaks.

## WE COULD USE A HAND OR TWO.

There's nothing like hiking on a trail you helped repair with your own two hands. If you'd like to experience that for yourself, we'd love to have you join us on one of our volunteer days. Bring your work gloves and your desire to make a difference. For more information, visit [ocparks.com](http://ocparks.com).



## RANGER'S RECOMMENDATION.

"Be sure to head up to the Barham Ridge Trail lookout. You'll be treated to a gorgeous panoramic view of Orange County. It's well worth the effort."



## SHOW YOUR KIDS WHAT'S SO GREAT ABOUT THE OUTDOORS.

Enjoy a nice relaxing picnic, then maybe wander over to the playground or head down a trail. There's nothing that fosters an appreciation for the great outdoors like actually being in the outdoors.



## WE HAVE A PROPOSAL FOR YOU.

Getting married? Why not hold your wedding at Santiago Oaks Regional Park? The grounds are beautiful, there are facilities for your reception, and it will be a memorable way to begin your lives together. Please say yes.

## THE TREE THAT LIVES ON.

Estimated to be more than 250 years old, this beloved Heritage Oak tree burned down in a fire on March 11, 2007. Yet it lives on. Multiple sprouts have emerged from what is left of its trunk, and it seems to be determined to live another 250 years.



## THE HOUSE THAT BECAME A NATURE CENTER.

The ranch house originally built by Norment Windes in 1938 was re-opened in 1981 as the park's Nature Center. You can see exhibits on the natural and human history of the area, as well as wildlife displays. Nature walks and programs are available to the general public, as well as to schools and youth groups. For more information, visit [ocparks.com](http://ocparks.com).

## DOGS AND HORSES WELCOME.

Dogs and horses enjoy the great outdoors, too. Just remember to keep your dogs on a maximum 6-foot leash at all times, and your horses on the multi-use trails.



OFFICE HOURS: MON. – FRI. 8:00 A.M. – 4:00 P.M.  
866-OC PARKS | [santiagooaks@ocparks.com](mailto:santiagooaks@ocparks.com) | [www.ocparks.com/santiagooaks](http://www.ocparks.com/santiagooaks)

LIKE SANTIAGO OAKS REGIONAL PARK? YOU'LL LIKE THESE PARKS, TOO.  
ALISO AND WOOD CANYONS WILDERNESS PARK • CARBON CANYON REGIONAL PARK • PETERS CANYON REGIONAL PARK • LIMESTONE CANYON AND WHITING RANCH WILDERNESS PARK • IRVINE REGIONAL PARK

OC Parks has been entrusted with the care and protection of this park. Help us preserve our county's natural and cultural resources for you and your fellow guests' future enjoyment. Please check with your Park Ranger for this park's specific rules, or see them online at [www.ocparks.com](http://www.ocparks.com).