

As the oldest regional park in California (founded in 1897), Irvine Regional Park offers a wonderful blend of rustic charm with modern amenities and a wide array of recreational activities within a natural setting.

Additional park amenities include three reservable picnic areas for large groups, several play-grounds, a small fishing lake, paved and unpaved trails, ball fields, horseshoe pits and a sand volleyball court. A nature center which provides natural and cultural history is open on weekends as staff is available.

Several popular concession attractions are provided for your enjoyment. They include the Irvine Park Railroad, tandem bicycle rentals, aquacycle rentals, snack bars, pony rides, guided trail rides on horseback, riding lessons and a boarding stable. Contact phone numbers are listed on the map side of this brochure.

is known for its heritage oak and sycamore trees and is nestled within Santiago Canyon beneath the Santa Ana Mountains in the City of Orange. The park provides a myriad of recreational opportunities including picnicking, barbecuing and sports activities.



The Orange County Zoo has since become a home for native wildlife that has been injured or is non-releasable into the wild. This includes black bear, mountain lion, bald eagle, golden eagle, coyote, bobcat, raccoon, porcupine, barn owl, mule deer and more. Domestic sheep, goats, pigs, chickens, and rabbits can be found in the Children's Zoo and offer children the chance to pet and feed the goats and sheep.

Once called Irvine Park Zoo, the facility's roots can be traced back to 1905 when red foxes were kept in cages for hunting near the park. It evolved into a small informal collection of animals featuring a pair of mule deer. By 1935, a formal zoo began to take shape and exhibits featuring an alligator, deer, and birds were built.



Orange County Zoo
1 Irvine Park Road
Orange, CA 92869
Admission:
\$2.00 per person (3 and over)
Ages 2 and under free
No food or animals allowed
inside zoo
Open Daily: 10:00 am - 3:30 pm
Zoo Office: (714) 973-8493
Zoo Fax: (714) 633-8493
www.ocparks.com/oczoo

is located amongst Irvine Regional Park's majestic oak and sycamore trees. This natural setting provides an ideal location for exhibiting animals and plants native to the southwestern United States.



Irvine Regional Park was once part of a land grant called Rancho Lomas de Santiago. Ownership of the rancho changed several times until 1866 when four partners purchased this territory for sheep herding. One of the partners, James Irvine, later bought out the others and became the sole owner of the 109,000-acre Irvine Ranch. His son, James Irvine II, inherited this massive ranch and turned it into one of the most productive agricultural empires in the state.

On October 5, 1897, James Irvine II donated 160 acres of oak woodland to the County of Orange. He requested that the trees receive good care and that the park be kept as natural as possible. It became known as Orange County Park, the first regional park in California. In 1926, Orange County Park was renamed Irvine Park in honor of its donor.

The park has undergone several changes in its century-long history. A lake was excavated in 1913. The boathouse, constructed a year later, is the oldest building in the park. In the 1930s the dance hall, exhibits building and soda fountain were built as public use of the park continued to grow.

The dance hall, gutted by an electrical fire during a U.S.O. dance in 1943, has been replaced by an outdoor "band shell." The exhibits building is now the park nature center and the soda fountain serves as administrative offices.

Irvine Park was once a popular setting for movies such as "Topper," starring Cary Grant and Constance Bennett, filmed in the park in 1937. In 1943,

Irvine Park posed as Scotland for "Lassie Come Home," which featured a young Roddy McDowall and Elizabeth Taylor.

The park also has served the community and the nation. From 1926 to 1932, a Tuberculosis Health Camp operated within the park to help prevent the disease with healthy outdoor recreation. Irvine Park closed during World War II to host the United States Military at "Camp Rathke", an army training facility.

Through donations and land purchases, Irvine Park has grown to 477 acres. In 1982, the park's structures underwent a major restoration and rehabilitation. Irvine Park is listed on the National Register of Historic Places, recognizing its place in local and national history.

On October 5, 1997, Irvine Park celebrated its 100th anniversary. Memorializing the event is an 8-foot-tall bronze statue of James Irvine II erected near the band shell, and an installation of a facsimile of the original Orange County Park Archway at the original 1898 entry.

Irvine Regional Park has enriched our heritage and will offer a recreational retreat well into the park's second century.

Courtesy of the County of Orange Board of Supervisors



Irvine Regional Park
1 Irvine Park Road
Orange, California 92869
(714) 973-6835
Fax (714) 633-7960
email: irvinepark@ocparks.com

Park Reservations
1-800-600-1600

County of Orange
OC Community Resources
OC Parks
13042 Old Myford Road
Irvine, California 92602-2304
(714) 834-2400
1-866-OC PARKS
www.ocparks.com





THE FOLLOWING ACTIVITIES ARE STRICTLY PROHIBITED:

Fires and fireworks – Fire prevention must be the first concern of every visitor.

Possession or use of firearms or weapons.

Possession or consumption of any intoxicant.

Use of skateboards, motorized vehicles and equipment.

Attaching hammocks to trees.

Wood gathering.

This is a natural area characterized by certain inherent dangers. These dangers may include mountain lions, rattlesnakes, poison oak, poisonous insects, extremes in weather and rugged terrain. Your safety cannot be guaranteed. Stay alert to potential danger!

This park depends on you to help protect wildlife, vegetation and geologic features. Please do not damage or remove any of these features from park premises. Please also adhere to the following park rules and guidelines for a cleaner, safer and enjoyable experience. We appreciate your patronage.

Dogs must be kept on a 6-foot leash at all times. O.C.C.O. 2-5-39

Speed limit is 10 m.p.h.

Park users must remain on the trails and within designated areas at all times.

No swimming in the lake. Licensed fishing in lake only.

Barbecues are permitted only in approved camp appliances.

Amplified sound systems, concessions and other carnival-type activities require written park permission.

Bicycle helmets required for all persons under 18 years of age.

Oversize vehicle parking: Train lot only.

- Restroom
- Park Office
- Multi-use Trail
- Hiking Trail
- Vehicle Road
- Railroad Tracks
- Walkway
- Santiago Creek
- Train & Food Concession
- Parking
- Tot Lot
- Ball Field
- Group Area
- Band Shell
- Party Pavilion
- Snack Bar
- Bike/Paddleboat Rentals
- Maintenance Yard
- Nature Center
- Pony Rides
- Locked Gate
- Horseshoe
- Pit
- Historic Archway

Park Hours:
FALL - WINTER: 6:00 am to 6:00 pm
SPRING - SUMMER: 6:00 am to 9:00 pm

Park Office (714) 973-6835
 Horse Boarding Stables (714) 997-7720
 Horse Rentals (714) 538-5860
 Paddle Boat & Bike Rentals (714) 997-3636
 Pony Rides (626) 443-7746
 Snack Bar (714) 997-3656
 Irvine Park Railroad (714) 997-3968
 Nature Center (714) 973-3187
 Orange County Zoo (714) 973-6847

