

**SUTTER BUTTES INTERPRETIVE CHARTER HIKES
TUESDAY, APRIL 7, 2026**

**2 OPTIONS: EASY/MODERATE 3-4 MILES
MODERATE+ 5-6 MILES**

**SPACE IS LIMITED. MUST RSVP BY FRIDAY, APRIL 3 TO JERRY JOHNSON 916-367-1097, TEXT PREFERRED .
*Specify Easy/Moderate or Moderate+ option.***

SPECIAL LOW RATE FOR OUR GROUP: \$30/PERSON, CASH OR CHECK TO MIDDLE MOUNTAIN FOUNDATION AT TRAILHEAD.

GENERAL LOCATION: Sutter Buttes, near Yuba City

DIFFICULTY-2 OPTIONS: Easy/Moderate OR Moderate+

HIKE DISTANCE/ELEVATION GAIN: Easy/Moderate 3-4 miles/about 600 ft. elevation gain
OR Moderate + 5-6 miles 800+ ft. elevation gain.

PACE: Relaxed/Moderate OR Moderate +

TRAIL CONDITIONS: Uneven terrain, no groomed trails. Trekking poles recommended. The climbs are steady and gradual rather than abrupt and steep.

DESCRIPTION: Enjoy this very special access to explore Sutter Buttes, “said to be the world’s smallest mountain range”! These are interpretive hikes, so there will be discussions of natural history topics along the way. Middle Mountain Foundation Docents and Land Owner Ty Shaeffer are our guides. The Shaeffer Ranch has been in Ty's family for generations. The family has a long history in the town of Gridley and on this property. The ranch has two rampart ridges and a lovely valley in between the hills. The ramparts are hills that radiate from the center of the Buttes and provide lovely views of the surrounding area and north up the valley.

FACILITIES: Restrooms at meeting place. Porta-potties at trailhead.

DRIVE TIME/MILES: 55 minutes each way—about 40 miles to meeting place. Another 11 miles to trailhead. Donation to driver \$15.

HIKE LEADERS: Jerry Johnson/Middle Mountain Foundation Docents and Land Owner Ty Shaeffer.

MEETUP/LEAVE TIME: Meet 7:15 AM/Leave 7:30 AM
Meet at far right rear of Orchard Creek Parking Lot, Rows 12-14

RISKS: Some poison oak. Uneven terrain.

PREPARATION FOR HIKE:

- 1) If you have any health issues please consider your condition before hiking.
- 2) Bring a copy of your ID (drivers license), health insurance card, and name and phone number of emergency contact.
- 3) BRING PLENTY OF WATER! 50 oz/1½ liters recommended for 5-mile hike—more if longer. Bring lunch, sunscreen, hat, insect repellent. Trekking poles advised.
- 4) Bring another pair of shoes with your hiking boots, along with a bag to store your dirty gear. Please be considerate of your driver's car and wear clean shoes home.

QUESTIONS: Jerry Johnson, gfjohnson140@gmail.com

Rain on hike day will cancel hike.

DRIVING DIRECTIONS: Chevron/Power Market in the town of Live Oak. The address is 9811 Live Oak Blvd (Hwy 99), Live Oak, CA 95953. It is on the east side of the road with Elm as the cross street. Our guide will meet us there. The business has a nice deli with hot items and sandwiches, coffee, and a restroom. Also a good chance to make sure you have enough fuel. Please leave no vehicles in their lot – street parking is fine.

Expect to drive about 11 miles/18 minutes from the meeting place to the ranch entrance. You'll travel in a caravan out to the hike start/Buttes parking area on the property.