

CRONAN RANCH - WEST RIDGE / EAST RIDGE LOOP

TUESDAY, APRIL 22, 2025

GENERAL LOCATION: Off Hwy 49 - 12 miles south of Auburn and approx. 5.2 miles past Cool

DIFFICULTY: Moderate overall. Moderately strenuous climb from the parking lot before descent to river and a section of moderate incline from the river back. Trail along the river is flat.

HIKE DISTANCE: 6.5 miles. Bring a minimum of 40 oz. of water.

ELEVATION: Trailhead 900 ft. / West Ridge Trail gain 300 ft.
Total Elevation gain Appx 900 ft

PACE: Moderate

DESCRIPTION: Enjoy a relaxing hike through the rolling terrain of Cronan Ranch Regional Park with its stunning scenery and spectacular views of the Sierra Foothills and South Fork of the American River. Most of the journey will be in the open with some oak woodland, and the trails are well groomed. We'll take the West Ridge Trail from the parking lot to the river where we'll travel along riverfront trails. Lunch at the river before the return to the parking lot on the East Ridge Trail.

DRIVE TIME/MILES: Approx. 45 minutes travel time – approx. 25 miles. Expected return to SCLH midafternoon. Suggested contribution for the driver \$7.00.

HIKE LEADER/SWEEP: Pam Miller / Carol Yoder.

MEETING TIME: 8:15 AM for 8:30 AM departure.
Gather in last rows of the parking lot behind the OC Lodge fitness center.

FACILITIES: Clean restrooms at the parking lot and along the river.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION IN PREPARATION FOR HIKE

- IF YOU HAVE ANY HEALTH ISSUES, PLEASE CONSIDER YOUR CONDITION BEFORE HIKING.
- Bring a copy of your ID (driver's license), health card(s), and an emergency contact name and phone number with you on the hike.
- Always bring 2 pairs of shoes, along with a plastic bag to store your muddy/dusty hiking boots after the hike. DO NOT get your driver's car dirty by wearing your dirty boots on the drive home.
- **PLENTY OF WATER!** Recommend 50 oz. /1.5 liters minimum for 5-mile hike – more if longer hike
- Bring lunch, sunscreen. Dress in layers and wear a hat. Hiking boots and trekking poles recommended for the ups and downs. Potential of some mud on the trail if rainy weather continues.

Bring something to sit on for lunch by the river.

- Always watch for poison oak off the trail and check for ticks after the hike.

QUESTIONS: Contact Hike Leader Pam Miller at pamelam134@gmail.com

HIKE ROUTE:

<https://www.alltrails.com/explore/recording/cronin-ranch-with-sclh-hikers-a512294>

Driving Directions to Cronan Ranch Regional Park

5084 Pedro Hill Road, Pilot Hill

From Orchard Creek take Hwy 193 to I-80. North on I-80 to Auburn and take Elm Street exit. Stay to the left. Turn left at the light, down the hill, and left onto High Street. Follow signs to Hwy 49 South driving down into the canyon. Turn right on the bridge over the North Fork of the American River.

(FYI: The turn to Pedro Hill Road is 11.3 miles from this bridge.)

Proceed on the route from the bridge through the town of Cool. At the stop sign intersection of Hwy 49 and 193 in Cool, drive 5.2 miles for the right turn on Pedro Hill Road. It's easy to miss the small sign so keep watching the mileage.

. Address for GPS: 5084 Pedro Hill Road, Pilot Hill 95664.