

# King Gillette Ranch

National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior



Santa Monica Mountains  
National Recreation Area



## The Heart of the Mountains

One of the most stunning locales in the Santa Monica Mountains, 588-acre King Gillette Ranch, is situated in the heart of the Malibu Creek Watershed, by the confluence of some major tributaries, and adjacent to Malibu Creek State Park. This scenic parkland at the lower end of the Las Virgenes Valley is a haven for large mammals of the Santa Monica Mountains. At the same time, it offers a rare unspoiled view of California's rich cultural and historic resources, including some structures designed for razor magnate King C. Gillette in the 1920's by Wallace Neff, architect of California's Golden Age.

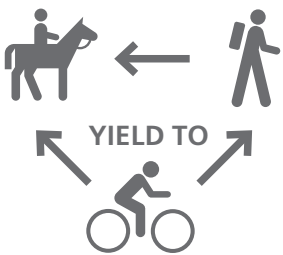
The broad meadows and low ridgelines serve as a wildlife corridor in the geographic center of the Santa Monica Mountains range. Several sensitive species are present. Raptors and other birds forage and nest among the plant communities of valley and coast live

oak savannah, grassland, coastal sage scrub, chaparral, riparian woodland, and southern willow riparian vegetation. Park features include Gillette's historic Spanish Colonial Revival style mansion and other structures that were part of the original landscape plan. These include a long tree-lined alleé and grand entry, a large constructed pond, a formal courtyard and terrace, bridges, and lawns.

A short, somewhat steep hike leads to a knoll, known as Inspiration Point, with 360-degree views. From here looking west, you can see the famous rock formations of Malibu Creek State Park. Other activities include strolling, bicycling, photography, and picnicking.

The site's facilities and grounds are available for special events. Please contact the MRCA Event Coordinator for more information: [KGRevents@mrca.ca.gov](mailto:KGRevents@mrca.ca.gov).

## Information and Safety



### DIRECTIONS

**From the 101 Freeway:** Exit Las Virgenes/Malibu Canyon. Head south on Las Virgenes Road for 3.0 miles and then left onto Mulholland Highway. The park entrance is 0.1 mile on the right.

**From Pacific Coast Highway:** Head north on Malibu Canyon Road for approximately 7.0 miles and turn right onto Mulholland Highway. The park entrance is 0.1 mile on the right.

**PARKING** Free 2-hour parking is available at the visitor center. For longer visits, cross the bridge and turn left to park in the large parking lot for a \$7 fee.

**TRAIL ETIQUETTE** improves everyone's trail experience. Hikers must yield to equestrians. Equestrians need to communicate with passing hikers and bicyclists. Horses are not allowed to graze or leave the trail. Remove manure from parking areas.

**BICYCLIST** must ride courteously and yield to hikers and equestrians. Maximum speed

is 15 mph or slower to protect visitor safety. Everyone: if listening to music, wear earbuds. Bicyclists may wear only one earbud.

**WILDFIRE** is a year-round concern. Barbeques and grills are not allowed in the picnic area. Smoking and fires of any kind are not permitted in the picnic area or on the trail. For current restrictions and fire danger level, visit [www.nps.gov/samo](http://www.nps.gov/samo).

**WASPS AND BEES** are plentiful during the summer. Cover food and sweet beverages while picnicking.

**PETS** must be on a leash not to exceed six feet and under control. Pick up after your pet. Pets are not allowed off trails or on Mountains Recreation & Conservation Authority's (MRCA) property.

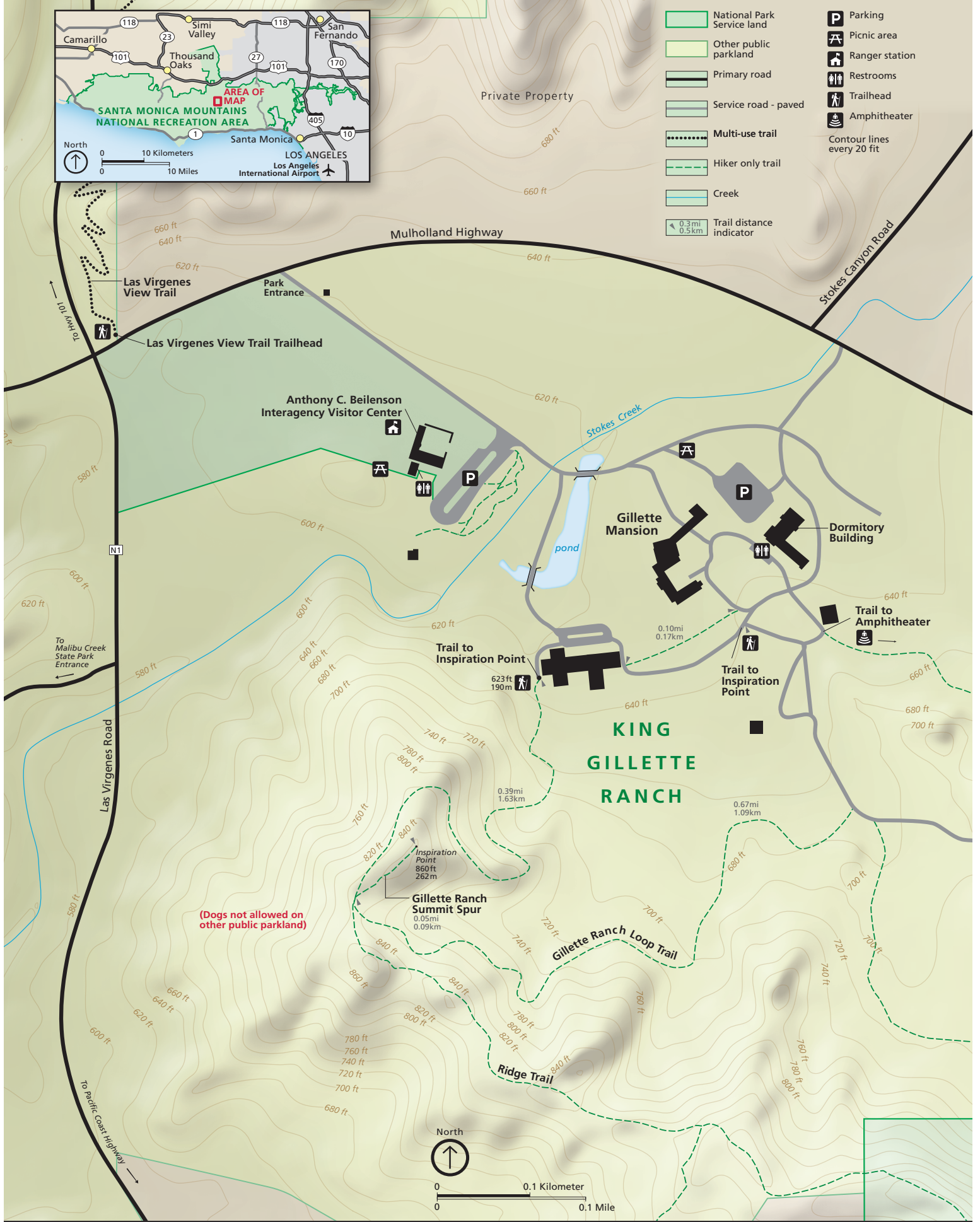
**BE PREPARED** by bringing water, food, map or some type of navigation device, a headlamp, and first-aid supplies on your hikes. Be alert for ticks, bees, rattlesnakes, and poison oak. Wear sturdy footwear, e.g. hiking boots or shoes with good tread.

**King Gillette Ranch**  
26876 Mulholland Highway  
Calabasas, CA 91302  
(805) 370-2301



FOR MORE INFORMATION  
Santa Monica Mountains  
Interagency Visitor Center  
26876 Mulholland Hwy  
Calabasas CA 91302  
805-370-2301  
[www.nps.gov/samo](http://www.nps.gov/samo)

EMERGENCIES  
Call 911. For a ranger, call  
Santa Monica Dispatch  
at 805-370-2399.



**Anthony C. Beilenson Interagency Visitor Center** (or the Santa Monica Mountains Visitor Center) was formerly the horse stable for the Gillette Mansion. The visitor center retains some of Wallace Neff's original design while serving as the recreational gateway to the Santa Monica Mountains. The building was awarded LEED Platinum certification and is the first "net zero" visitor center in the National Park Service. This means the total amount of energy used by the building on an annual basis is roughly equal to the amount of renewable energy created at the site.

**Trail to Inspiration Point** On this one-mile round trip hike, the trail climbs steeply to Inspiration Point. Enjoy an amazing vista of

the surrounding Las Virgenes Valley. Extend your hike by another 1.5 miles by taking the trail heading south along the ridge.

**Botanical Center** A walking path leads from the parking lot to the MRCA's working native plant nursery. Plants grown here are used to restore native habitat in MRCA and Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy parklands. Adjacent to the nursery is the White House, a single-family residence built before the Gillette Mansion was constructed.

**Pond** As part of the original landscape design, Stokes Creek was dammed to create a classic, country estate-style pond. Great blue herons, mallards, cormorants, and other birds are often seen here.

**Gillette Mansion** Designed by architect Wallace Neff, the 25-room mansion was built in 1928 as the primary residence of the founder of the Gillette Safety Razor Company, King Camp Gillette. Hollywood movie director Clarence Brown purchased the property in 1935 and added a pool, tennis courts, and an airplane landing strip. After a series of ownerships, the ranch became public parkland in 2005.

**Dormitory Building** The Claretian religious order purchased the ranch in 1952. The Claretians built the three-story seminary building, which included a dormitory, classrooms, and a chapel in 1955.