

William Heise County Park

Legend

- ▲ Tent Site Only

● Partial Hookup Campsites (electric only)

● Non-Hookup Campsites

🏠 Wilderness Cabins (no mattresses or linens supplied)

🎪 Amphitheater

🗑️ Dump Station

🏠 Entry Kiosk

🐎 Horseshoe Pit

👮 Ranger Station
- 🍷 Picnic Area

🎡 Playground

🚻 Restrooms

🚿 Restrooms with Showers

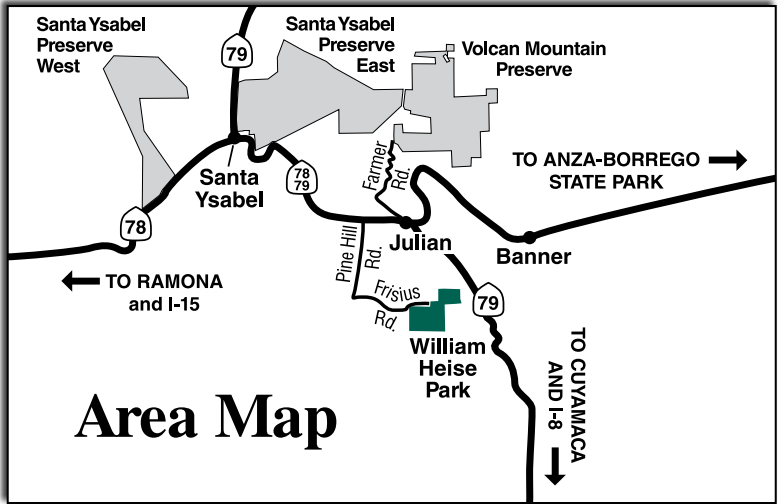
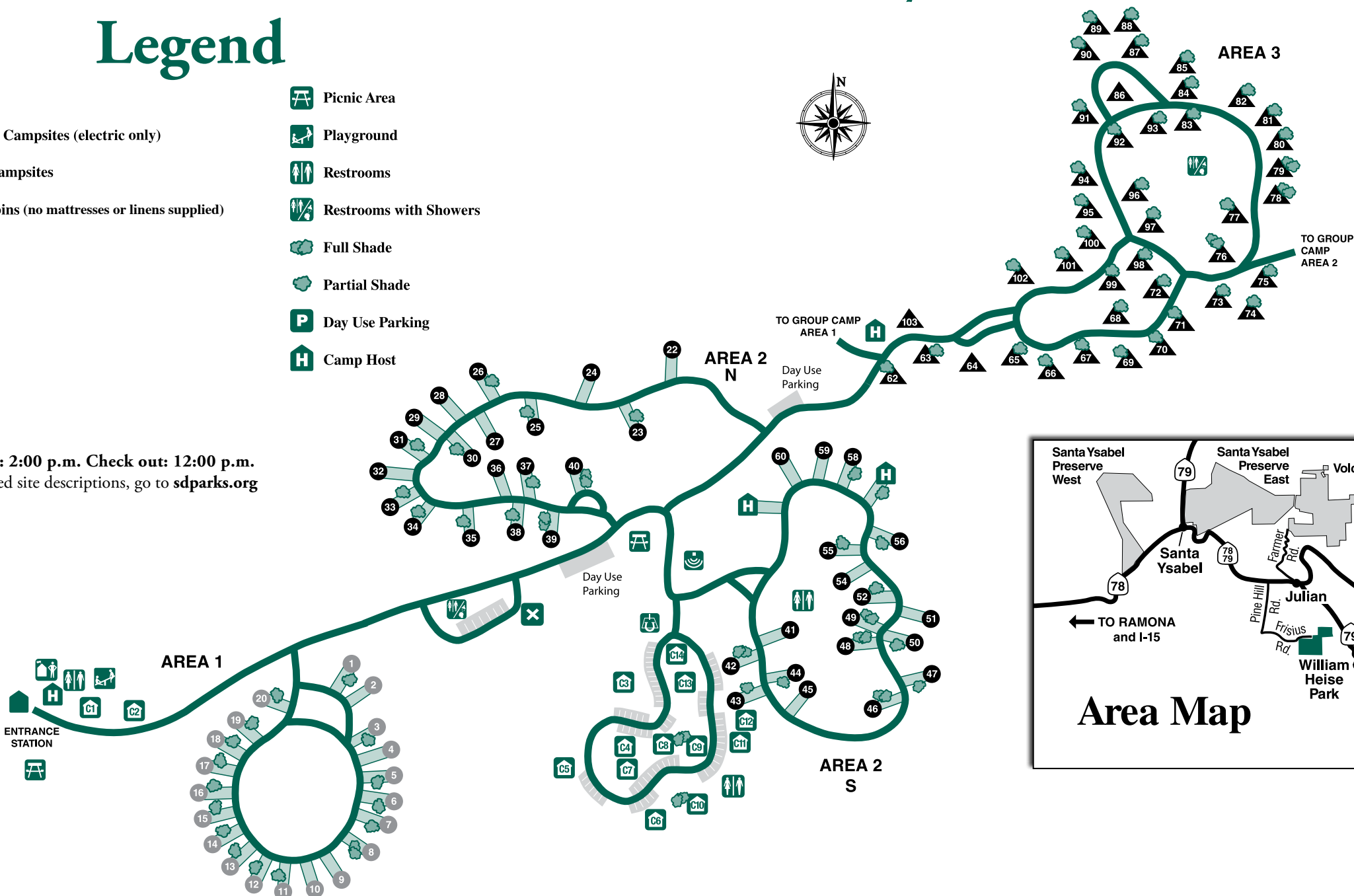
🌳 Full Shade

🌿 Partial Shade

🅑 Day Use Parking

🏠 Camp Host

Check in: 2:00 p.m. Check out: 12:00 p.m.
For detailed site descriptions, go to sdparks.org



RULES & REGULATIONS

- CAMPFIRES:

CAMPFIRES:
- PETS:

PETS:
- WASTE WATER:

WASTE WATER:
- VEGETATION & NATURAL FEATURES:

VEGETATION & NATURAL FEATURES:
- TREES:

TREES:
- GENERATORS:

GENERATORS:
- NOISE:

NOISE:
- FIREARMS & WEAPONS:

FIREARMS & WEAPONS:
- YOUTH:

YOUTH:
- ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES:

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES:
- CAMPING:

CAMPING:
- DRONES:

DRONES:

NOTE: Residence in the park is contingent upon guests maintaining their immediate camping area in a safe and clean condition and complying with all park rules. Failure to comply will result in a suspension of camping privileges and loss of prepaid fees.

RESERVATIONS & INFORMATION



COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO
Department of Parks and Recreation
5500 Overland Avenue, Suite 410
San Diego, CA 92123
Reservations & Information:
Toll Free • (877) 565-3600
Local • (858) 565-3600

Visit us at sdparks.org

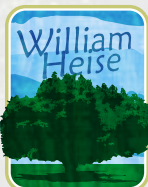
Multi-purpose Trails



William Heise County Park is home to a number of trails that vary in both difficulty and geography. The Desert View Trail meanders past the Self-Guided Nature Trail to a scenic overlook where on a clear day, views of the Salton Sea to the east and the Pacific Ocean to the west can be seen. If you choose to extend your hike, you have the option to connect to the 1.65-mile Canyon Oak Trail. The 5.75-mile Kelly Ditch Trail takes adventurers south all the way to Lake Cuyamaca and offers equestrian and biking options in addition to hiking. The Fern Trail is a 0.5-mile connector of the Kelly Ditch that takes you into a riparian area alongside the tranquil waters of the Cedar Creek. You can expect to find shady, vibrant green foliage with a nice view to the west on the 1-mile Cedar Trail. View the map for locations of these and other trails on site.

WILLIAM HEISE COUNTY PARK

A San Diego County
Camping Park



William Heise County Park

Situated 4,200 feet above sea level in a forest of pines and oaks along the northern extremity of the Cuyamaca Mountain Range in the unincorporated community of Julian sits William Heise County Park.

The day-use and camping park spans over 1,000 acres bringing unique features to life, every season, from playful winter snowfall and vibrant spring wildflowers to starry summertime skies and the changing colors of fall. Every trip is a new experience, with new places to visit and new sites to see.

Mule deer are frequently seen throughout the park as well as large flocks of Rio Grande Turkey. Other common visitors include the gray fox, bobcats, raccoons, steller's jay, hawks, golden eagles and the occasional mountain lion.

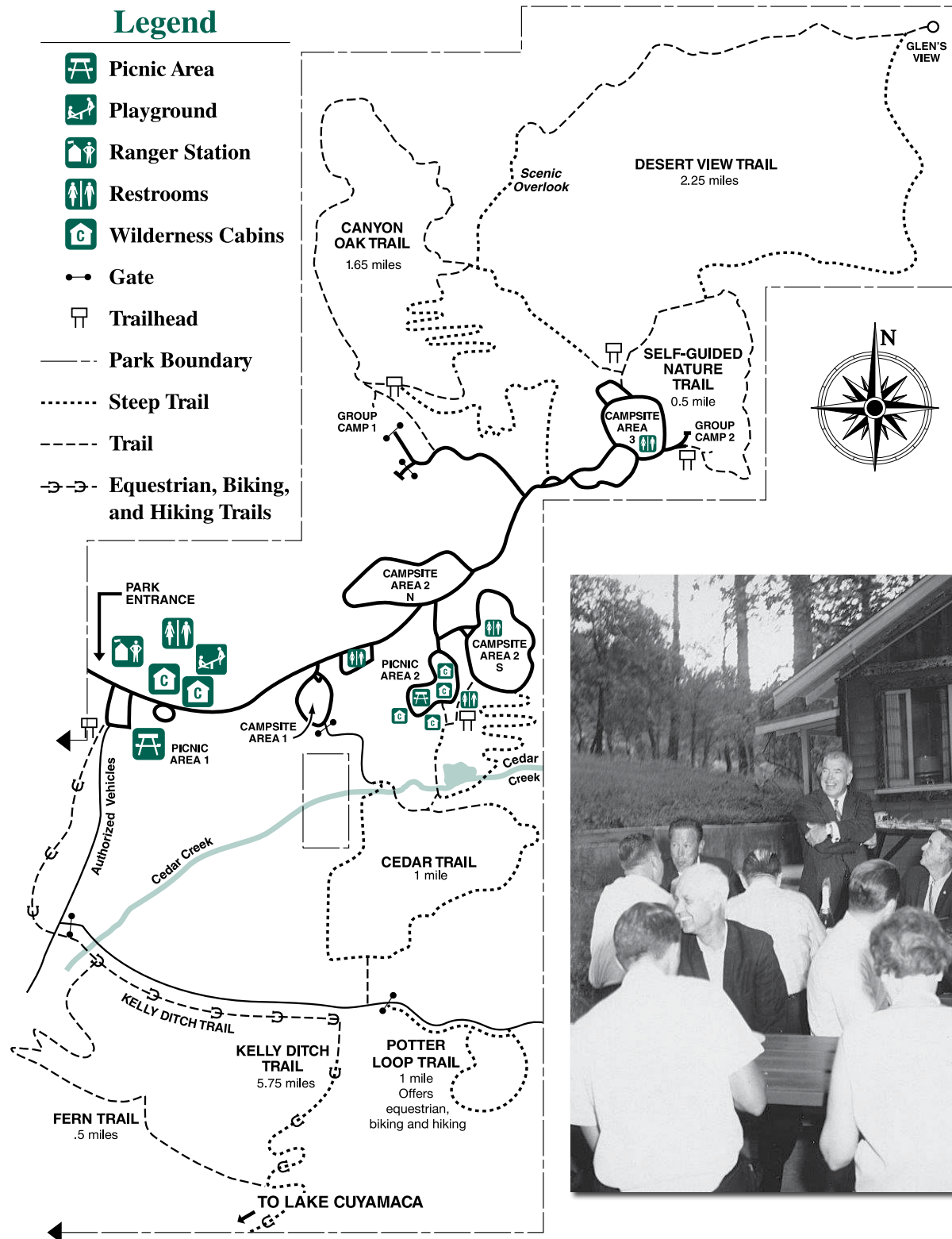


In 2003, the Cedar Fire tore through the park, burning much of the oak, pine and cedar forests along with other park vegetation. Over a decade later, new growth and sustainability practices put in place by park staff have restored this recreational hotspot to its original grandeur.

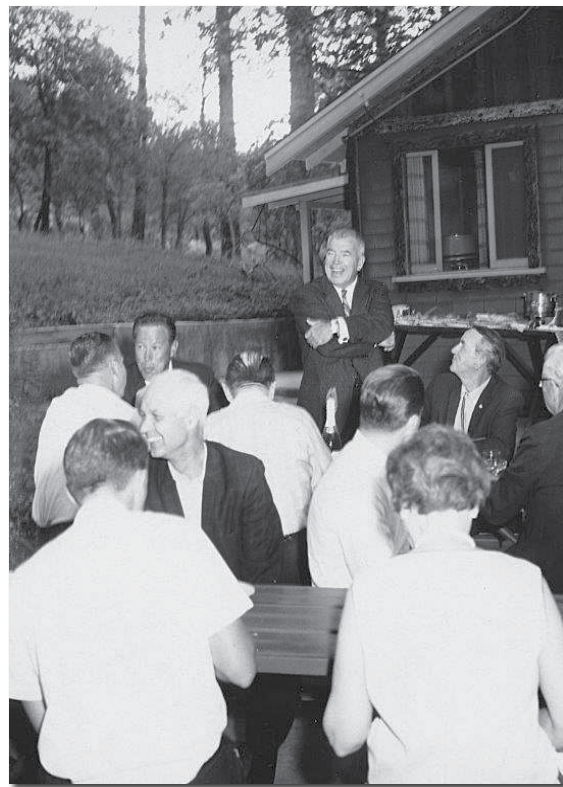


Guests who visit the park during the day can traverse more than 12 miles of multi-use non-motorized trails, make use of two large shaded picnic areas, or relax on one of several benches placed around the park in picturesque locations.

Nighttime visitors can camp in one of 42 tent sites, 20 partial hook-up and 37 non hook-up sites that are perfect for RVs (up to 40 feet), trailers and tents. Each site includes a table, a fire ring, a tent or RV pad and a parking space. Water is available nearby and firewood may be picked up at the ranger station. Coin-operated showers are available – the cost is 50 cents per 4 minutes of shower time. Quarters are also available at the ranger station.



Heise offers 14 cozy wilderness cabins with propane fireplaces, interior lighting, a table and chairs, a food pantry, bunk beds and a large room accommodating up to six people. One small tent is allowed on site. Be sure to bring your own bedding for the wooden bed frames, as mattresses and blankets are not included. Pets are not allowed in or around the cabins.



History

The earliest inhabitants to this area were the Kumeyaay people. Remnants of their lives survive in the park – from rocks with smoothed holes used for grinding and cooking to pieces of ancient pottery. Fast forward to 1870 when gold was discovered in Julian. Two popular gold mines were managed on property that is now called William Heise County Park – named after an inventor of ambulance equipment who purchased the land and its sealed mines in 1941. In 1967 he sold his 134-acre plot to the County of San Diego for \$67,000 and the park opened to the public in 1970. In 1988, land to the south of the picnic area, including the ranger station, was sold to the County, expanding the park's footprint and opening dozens of additional opportunities for day-use and camping travelers.

Enjoy Julian

The nearby town of Julian is at the center of the historic mining district. In 1870, the discovery of gold in the region brought an influx of people, business and recreational amenities. The Julian Pioneer Museum features exhibits that portray those early times, along with original storefronts, antique shops and other historic attractions. Today, Julian is a bustling little town with several wineries, year-round tourism and annual events like the Apple Days Festival in the fall.

Mountain Lions

Nearly half of California is prime mountain lion country. Also known as a cougar, puma or panther, these protected species tend to live solitary, reclusive lives, and are avid hunters of larger game like deer and sheep. While your chances of encountering a mountain lion are extremely slim it's important to be prepared: Do not hike alone; Keep children close; Never approach or run from a mountain lion; If you see a mountain lion, stand tall, face the animal, make eye contact and make sure it has an escape route to avoid confrontation. Report any mountain lions to park staff or call 911.



Rattlesnakes

Rattlesnakes are an important part of our local ecosystem and a protected species in County Parks. They help to control the population of small mammals like mice and rats. If you encounter a rattlesnake, likely on hot days or in summer, consider yourself lucky! Know what they look like and be aware when you visit any of the trails on site. Avoid heavy brush and carry a hiking pole or walking stick during the day – at night, use a flashlight. Always tell park staff when you encounter a rattlesnake so they can safeguard the area and the snake.

