

CORRAL CANYON LOOP **42****IN BRIEF**

This accessible 2.4-mile hike begins directly across the street from Dan Blocker State Beach in Malibu. It has a moderate elevation gain of 500 feet and wide-open views of the Pacific Ocean. Combine it with a visit to Malibu Seafood, a popular beachfront eatery next to the trailhead, and you've got a perfect southern California day trip.

DESCRIPTION

Once targeted for a luxury home development and golf course, Corral Canyon Park was acquired by the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy in 1998 and is now billed as the last undeveloped coastal canyon in Los Angeles County to flow freely into the ocean. The loop trail opened in 2003 and is a well-maintained single-file path that cuts through coastal sage scrub, native grassland, and a small forest of coast live oak, sycamore, and willow trees. The trail's location, across the street from a popular Malibu beach and next door to a popular outdoor seafood restaurant, makes it an ideal destination hike. After hitting the trail, you can

Directions 

This trail is located along Pacific Coast Highway, between Malibu Canyon and Kanan roads. From the Santa Monica Freeway (I-10), take Pacific Coast Highway (PCH) north about 15 miles. After passing the Pepperdine University campus, look for signs for Corral Canyon and Malibu Seafood on the right and park in the lot just before Malibu Seafood. There is a small lot near the trailhead; limited free parking is also available in pullouts on either side of PCH. You can also access this trail via public transportation; for more information go to www.met.net.

**KEY AT-A-GLANCE INFORMATION****LENGTH: 2.4 miles****CONFIGURATION: Loop****DIFFICULTY: Moderate****SCENERY: Chaparral, ocean and mountain views****EXPOSURE: Mostly sun****TRAFFIC: Light****TRAIL SURFACE: Packed dirt****HIKING TIME: 1 hour****ACCESS: Daily, dawn to dusk; \$4 fee at self-pay kiosk****MAPS: Posted at kiosk near trailhead; USGS****FACILITIES: Bathroom; picnic tables****GPS Trailhead Coordinates**

UTM Zone (WGS84) 11S

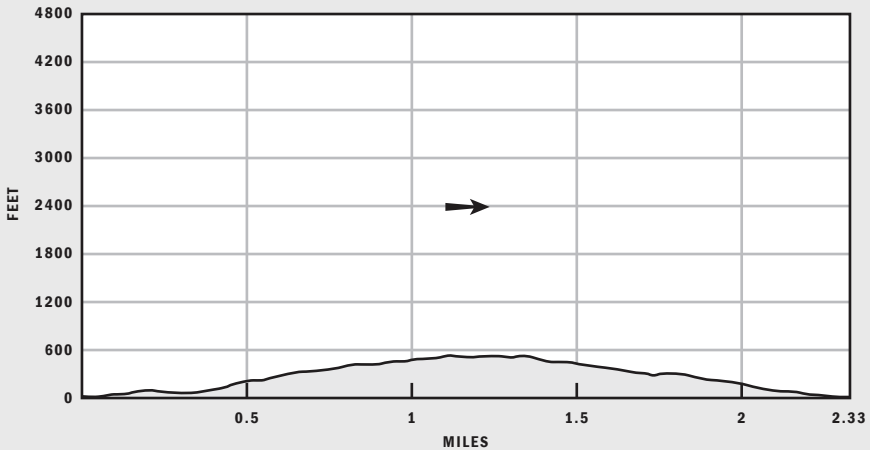
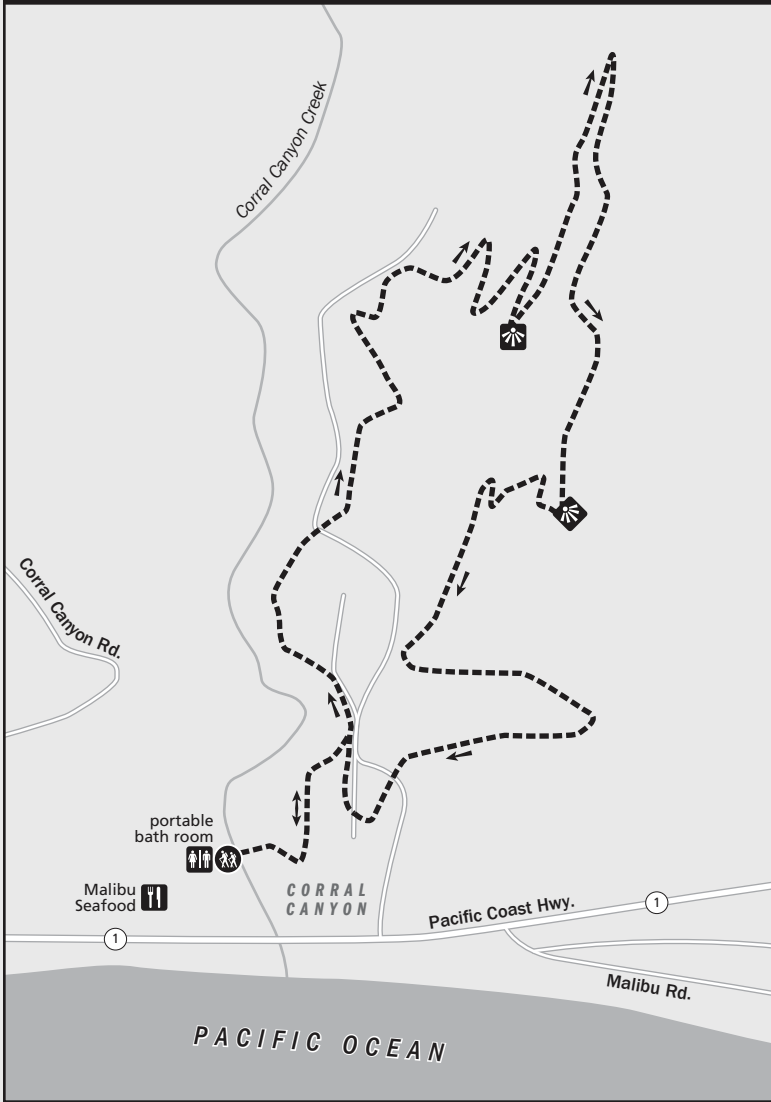
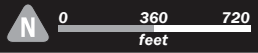
Easting 0340021

Northing 3767104

Latitude N 34.032412°

Longitude W 118.73291°

42 Corral Canyon Loop



The entrance to Corral Canyon is just off Pacific Coast Highway.

indulge in a delicious lunch of fresh fish or take a cool dip in the ocean that you just admired from the hills.

Look for the trailhead at the southeast end of the parking lot and follow the path as it descends into a thick forest of oak and willow trees. Soon you'll cross a pocket of coastal salt marsh and a seasonal river that flows into the ocean to your right. From here, the trail heads east toward the mountains and soon comes to an unmarked junction. Stay to the left and follow the (mostly flat) trail as it continues to head east. After about 0.4 miles, you will pick up some elevation gain as the trail starts to zigzag east, then south, and gives way to some fine ocean and mountain views.



At about 0.75 miles, you will come to a small pullout with terrific views of the ocean and Pacific Coast Highway. From here, the path heads east briefly then turns sharply and heads west toward the water. The final mile heads west, then south, and is accompanied by ocean views and a gradual descent back to the trailhead.

NEARBY ACTIVITIES

Lunch at Malibu Seafood (25653 Pacific Coast Highway; (310) 456-3430) is the perfect way to cap a hike in Corral Canyon. A roadside institution with picnic tables that overlook the ocean, it serves a wide variety of fresh seafood, from lobster and salmon to crisp-fried fish and chips. It's open daily from 11 a.m. (call for closing times). Also nearby is Dan Blocker State Beach, a small stretch of public sand that was once owned by the actor who played Hoss from TV's *Bonanza*.