



SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY
Field Stations Program
College of Sciences

Santa Margarita Ecological Reserve

The Chaparral Docent-led Hike



All hikes begin promptly at 8:00 am

This hike leaves from the north side of the reserve and traverses through chaparral for a total round trip of 3 miles. The route is on a single track trail with uneven footing and mild gains in elevation. After the hike, you will have the option of driving or hiking ½ mile to the **North Field Station** facility where there are picnic tables, a restroom and most importantly a beautiful view of the Temecula Gorge.

To register for this hike, go to fsp.sdsu.edu/hikes.

For additional information about hikes, contact Beth Cobb at smerdocenthikes@gmail.com.

These exclusive docent-led hikes are a fun way to visit this special place which is not open to the public. In addition to protecting local flora and fauna, the reserve provides environmental research opportunities for students and researchers worldwide.

Directions to the Chaparral Hike Trailhead

Click link below to get directions:

[Chaparral Hike Trailhead \(Google Maps\)](#)

Written Directions:

1. Take the I-15 freeway to Temecula.
2. Exit at Rancho California Road and go west (a LEFT turn coming from San Diego).
3. Go 2.3 miles into the foothills of the Santa Ana Mountains.
4. Turn LEFT onto Via Santa Rosa (the first LEFT you can make after ascending into the foothills).
5. Go 1.5 miles and turn RIGHT onto Via Tornado.
6. Go 0.8 mile to the entrance gate.
7. The trailhead is just inside the gate. A docent will assist with parking.

The address is 45985 Via Tornado, Temecula, CA 92590