



SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY
Field Stations Program
College of Sciences

Santa Margarita Ecological Reserve **The Chaparral 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 some areas of 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.

Directions to the Chaparral Hike Trailhead

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. While driving on Via Tornado you will pass a sign that says “Dead End” and “Pavement Ends”, but this is in fact the right way.
7. Go 0.8 mile to the entrance gate.
8. The trailhead is just inside the gate. A docent will assist with parking.

The address is 45985 Via Tornado, Temecula, CA 92590

➤ ***Proceed to the end of Via Tornado until you reach the large yellow gate***