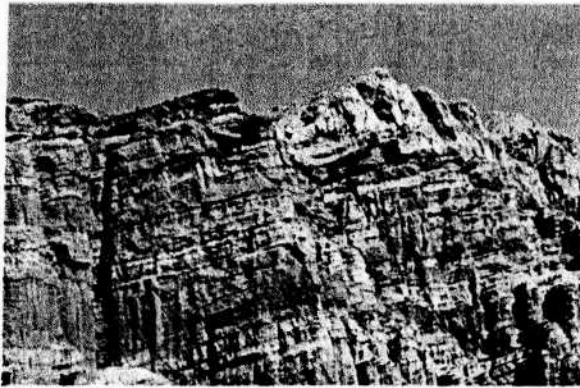


# RED ROCK CANYON STATE PARK

## WELCOME



This beautiful and scenic wonder of California was established as a state park in 1968 when legislation was passed and signed to create Red Rock Canyon State Park, the first state park in Kern County.

The spectacular gash situated at the western edge of the El Paso Mountain range was on the Native American trade route for thousands of years. About 1850, it was used again; this time by the footsore survivors of the famous Death Valley trek. Members of the Arcane and Bennett families along with some of the Illinois Jayhawkers passed through Red Rock Canyon.

Later, in the 1860's, some prospecting was done. Then, in 1893 placer gold activity began with hundreds of miners

sifting the sands in the canyon. The canyon was also used as a passage for driving large flocks of sheep northward; as a stagecoach stop; as a railroad route; and as a truck stop.

In more recent times, Red Rock Canyon has been the location for many movies, videos, and commercials. In addition, the canyon is considered a wonderful classroom for the study of geology, paleontology, and photography as well as an ideal place for family camping and exploration.

The unique and colorful layers of white, pink, red, and brown cliffs grace both the east and west sides of Highway 14. These fluted folds are the result of wind and rain eroding the softer materials beneath the dark caprocks, which were formed by a harder lava flow layer.

First time visitors may think of the desert as an empty and uninteresting badland. However, appreciation and interest grows as one becomes more acquainted with the area and the extreme conditions in which the different biotic communities exist.

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To learn more about this unique and fragile area, you are encouraged to drop by the visitor center, attend the weekend campfire programs, and enjoy the nature walks.

**We hope you enjoy your visit and  
please come again.**

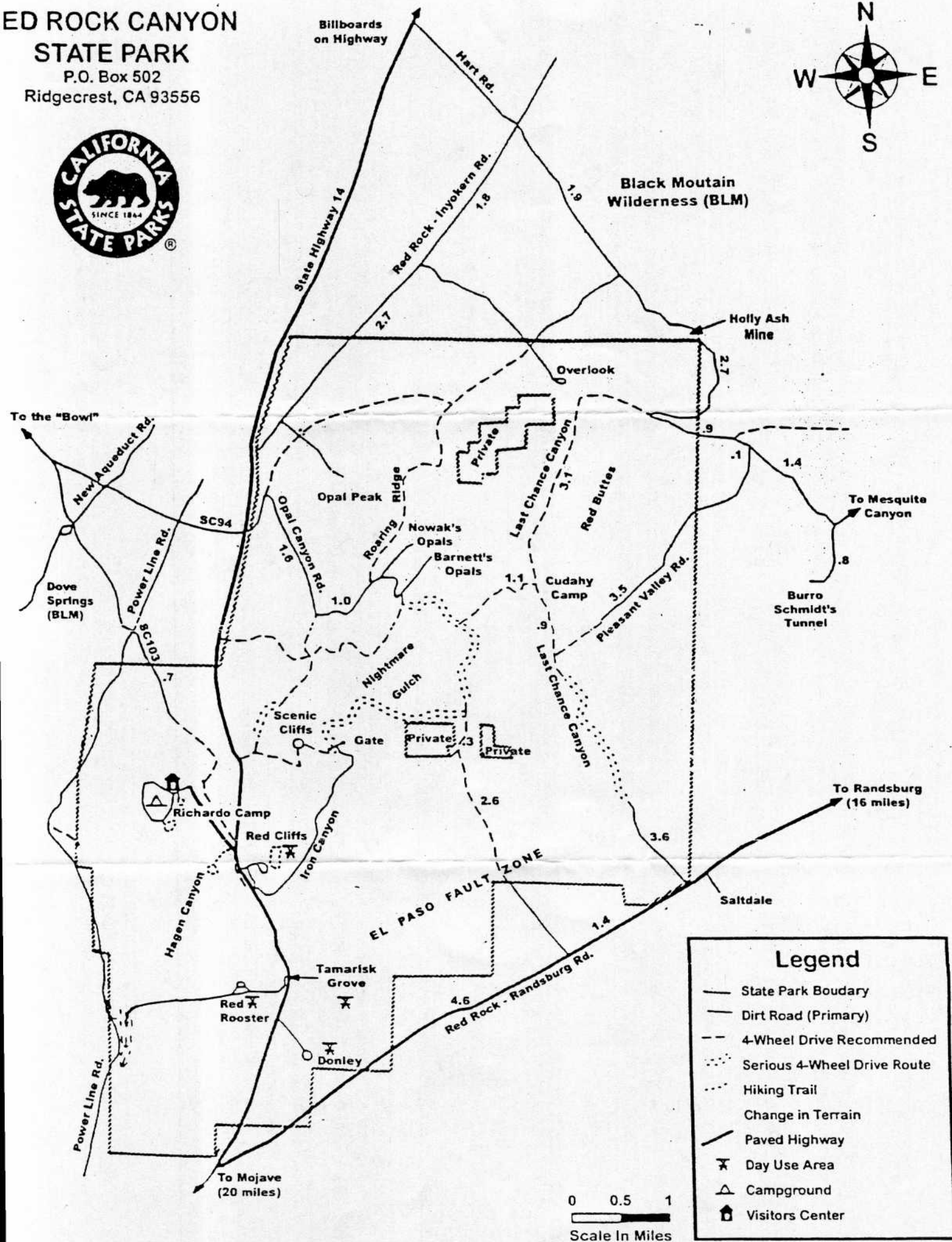
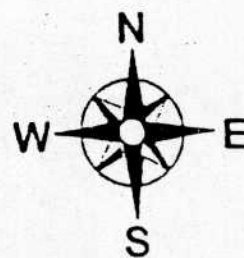
To help preserve the area for your camping pleasure and for future generations, **please follow these rules:**

- All plants, animals, natural and cultural features are protected and may not be removed.
- Park vehicles and trailers within rock lined areas only.
- Bicycle riders must stay on all roads (improved and primitive).
- Shooting and hunting, possession of loaded firearms or explosive devices are not permitted.
- Fires are allowed only in the provided metal fire rings.
- Dogs must remain on a 6 foot leash and are not allowed on established trails or out of the campground or parking areas.
- Observe reasonable quiet times from 8:00 P.M. through 10:00 A.M. Please, no generator operation during these hours.
- All licensed vehicles; street legal and OHV with green stickers, may travel on the primitive (dirt) road system within the park. All drivers of these vehicles must be licensed drivers. Exception – Cantil Wash and the frontage road south of Cantil Wash is open to unlicensed operators of OHV green sticker vehicles when accompanied by a parent or guardian and operating pursuant to the requirements of CVC 38503-38506

# RED ROCK CANYON

## STATE PARK

P.O. Box 502  
Ridgecrest, CA 93556



### Legend

- State Park Boundary
- Dirt Road (Primary)
- - - 4-Wheel Drive Recommended
- ⋯ Serious 4-Wheel Drive Route
- ⋯ Hiking Trail
- Change in Terrain
- Paved Highway
- ⌘ Day Use Area
- △ Campground
- 🏠 Visitors Center