

# The Mercury News

## EAST BAY TIMES

### 2018 dates for free admission to redwood parks



Redwoods soar toward the sky in Big Basin Redwoods State Park, (Shmuel Thaler – Santa Cruz Sentinel/file)

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January 8, 2018

Go take a hike! The Save the Redwoods League is partnering with California State Parks to offer free day-use admission to visitors on the second Saturday of each month.

Hikers, bikers and strollers can choose from more than 40 redwood meccas starting Jan. 13. The project is designed to reconnect the people of California with their natural legacy in honor of the Save the Redwoods League's 100th anniversary.

Save the Redwoods League has launched an ambitious plan to fully sequence the genomes of two species of trees: the coast redwood and giant sequoia. (Julie Martin, Save the Redwoods League) More than 16,000 free vehicle day-use passes will be available in 2018. The passes cover day-use admission and parking fees. Passes are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Among the gorgeous parks participating parks are Big Basin Redwoods State Park, Calaveras Big Trees State Park and Armstrong Redwoods State Natural Reserve. Some parks will also be offering free guided hikes. Space is limited so sign up fast at [FreeRedwoodsDays.org](http://FreeRedwoodsDays.org).

“People come from around the world to walk among California’s ancient redwoods,” said Sam Hodder, President and Chief Executive Officer of Save the Redwoods League. “As part of our Centennial celebration, Save the Redwoods League is thrilled to host a free day in the redwood parks once a month all year long. We invite you to stand under the world’s tallest living creatures – the most powerful forest in the fight against climate change – and learn why we are working so hard to protect and restore it. We are celebrating our 100th birthday in the redwood parks, and we want you to join us!”

If you want to hit the trail, here are the 2018 dates for Free Second Saturdays:

- January 13
- February 10
- March 10
- April 14
- May 12
- June 9
- July 14
- August 11
- September 8
- October 13
- November 10
- December 8

<http://bayareane.ws/2CUU8V3>