OAK WALKS

Spend time in an oak woodland or forest. Some of these areas listed below are described in “Oaks of California” (Pavlik, B.M., Muick, P., Johnson, S., and Popper, M., published by Chacuma Press and California Oak Foundation, 1991, rev. 2006). The list, which is by no means complete, also includes areas that have been preserved since “Oaks of California” was published.

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA COAST

NORTHERN COAST RANGES

Anderson Marsh State Historic Park, Clear Lake
https://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=483 and
https://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=21883

Angelo Coast Range Reserve, University of California, Branscomb,
http://angelo.berkeley.edu/

Richardson Grove State Park, Garberville, https://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=422

Rodman Preserve and Nature Education Center, north end of Clear Lake,
http://www.lakecountylandtrust.org/rodman-preserve.html

Schoolhouse Peak, Redwood National Park, near Orick,
(Information about the trail is in the Bald Hills Road section on page 7.)

Tuleyome’s website has a listing of trails in Colusa, Lake, Napa, Sacramento, Solano, and Yolo counties, many of which provide opportunities to view oaks:
http://tuleyome.org/trails/

SONOMA AND NAPA COUNTIES

Jack London State Historic Park, Glen Ellen,
https://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=478

Napa County Regional Park and Open Space District (a number of parks and open spaces with hiking http://napaoutdoors.org/parks-trails/, including Moore Creek Park, Napa River Ecological Reserve, Oat Mine Trail, and Robert Louis Stevenson State Park)

Napa Valley State Parks, http://napavalleystateparks.org/

Rector Reservoir Wildlife Area, east of Yountville,
https://www.wildlife.ca.gov/Lands/Places-to-Visit/Rector-Reservoir-WA

Sonoma County Regional Parks, http://parks.sonomacounty.ca.gov/

Sonoma Valley Regional Park, Glen Ellen (Also see the link above for other regional parks with oak woodlands and oak-forested lands)
http://parks.sonomacounty.ca.gov/Get_Outdoors/Parks/Sonoma_Valley_Regional_Park.aspx

Sugarloaf Ridge State Park, Kenwood, CA https://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=481

Trione—Annadel State Park, Santa Rosa, https://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=480
Westwood Hills Park, City of Napa, https://www.visitnapavalley.com/listing/westwood-hills-park/328/

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA INLAND

UPPER SACRAMENTO VALLEY/CASCADE RANGE

Bidwell Park, Chico, http://bidwellpark.org/

Gray Davis Dye Creek Preserve, east of Corning, http://www.millcreekconservancy.com/dye-creek.html (Individuals or organized groups may participate in scheduled docent-led hikes in the fall and spring. To obtain information about these tours, or if you have other questions about Dye Creek Preserve, contact the preserve manager at 530-527-4261.)

McArthur-Burney Falls Memorial State Park, northeast of Burney, https://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=455


Spenceville Wildlife Area, 18 miles east of Marysville, https://www.wildlife.ca.gov/Lands/Places-to-Visit/Spenceville-WA

Tehama Wildlife Area, 3 miles south of Paynes Creek, https://www.wildlife.ca.gov/Lands/Places-to-Visit/Tehama-WA


Visit Tuleyome’s website for a listing of trails in Colusa, Lake, Napa, Sacramento, Solano, and Yolo counties, many of which provide opportunities to view oaks: http://tuleyome.org/trails/


Woodson Bridge State Recreation Area, between Chico and Red Bluff, https://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=459

SACRAMENTO AREA

American River Parkway, Sacramento, http://www.regionalparks.saccounty.net/Parks/Pages/AmericanRiverParkway.asp

Cosumnes River Preserve, Galt, http://www.cosumnes.org/
Independence Trail, Bear Yuba Land Trust, between Nevada City and Downieville, 
http://www.bylt.org/trail/independence-trail-west/

Osborn Hill Trail, Empire Mine State Historic Park, Grass Valley, 
https://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=499

Nimbus Flat and Lake Natoma, Folsom Lake State Recreation Area, 25 miles east of Sacramento, https://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=500

Placer Land Trust’s website lists hiking trails in Placer County on lands that the Trust has preserved: http://www.placerlandtrust.org/trails/

Peter J. Shields Oak Grove, University of California, Davis 
http://publicgarden.ucdavis.edu/public-garden/explore-the-oak-grove

Tuleyome’s website lists trails in Colusa, Lake, Napa, Sacramento, Solano, and Yolo counties, many of which provide opportunities to view oaks: 
http://tuleyome.org/trails/

CENTRAL CALIFORNIA COAST

SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA

Bear Valley, Point Reyes National Seashore 
https://www.nps.gov/pore/planyourvisit/hiking_guide.htm

Black Diamond Mines Regional Preserve, East Bay Regional Park District 
http://www.ebparks.org/parks/black_diamond

Briones Regional Park, East Bay Regional Park District 
http://www.ebparks.org/parks/briones

Del Valle Regional Park, outside Livermore, East Bay Regional Park District, 
http://www.ebparks.org/parks/del_valle

Fioli Estate, National Trust for Historic Preservation, Woodside, 
http://www.filoli.org/

Golden Gate Park, San Francisco Recreation & Parks (also see Strybing Arboretum, below), 
http://sfrecpark.org/destination/golden-gate-park/oak-woodlands-natural-areas/

Indian Valley Open Space Preserve, Novato, 
https://www.marincountyparks.org/depts/pk/divisions/open-space/indian-valley


Visit Marin County Parks and Open Space’s website for a listing of trails, many of which provide oak viewing opportunities, 
http://www.marincountyparks.org/Depts/PK/Divisions/Open-Space

Mount Diablo State Park, http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=517

Oakwood Valley Trail, Marin Headlands District, Golden Gate National Recreation Area, near Waldo, http://www.parksconservancy.org/visit/park-sites/oakwood-valley.html

Ohlone Regional Wilderness, Access through Del Valle Regional Park, Sunol Regional Wilderness, or Mission Peak Regional Preserve, East Bay Regional Park District, http://www.ebparks.org/parks/ohlone
Olompali State Park, Novato, http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=465

Putah Creek Wildlife Area, 10 miles to the west of Winters, https://www.wildlife.ca.gov/Lands/Places-to-Visit/Putah-Creek-WA

Regional Parks Botanic Garden, Berkeley, East Bay Regional Park District, http://www.ebparks.org/page156.aspx

Russian Ridge Open Space Preserve, Santa Cruz Mountains in San Mateo County, Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District, http://www.openspace.org/preserves/russian-ridge (Visit Midpeninsula Open Space District’s website for additional hiking ideas: https://www.openspace.org/preserves)

Strybing Arboretum and Botanical Gardens, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco http://www.sfbotanicalgarden.org/

Sunol Regional Wilderness, Sunol, East Bay Regional Park District, http://www.ebparks.org/parks/sunol

Tilden Regional Park, Berkeley, East Bay Regional Park District, http://www.ebparks.org/parks/tilden.htm

Wildcat Canyon Regional Park, Richmond, East Bay Regional Park District, http://www.ebparks.org/parks/wildcat

SAN JOSE AREA

Almaden Quicksilver County Park, Santa Clara County Department of Parks and Recreation, San Jose, https://www.sccgov.org/sites/parks/parkfinder/Pages/AlmadenPark.aspx

Castle Rock State Park, Los Gatos, https://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=538

Henry W. Coe State Park, Morgan Hill, https://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=561

Joseph T. Grant Park, San Jose, Santa Clara County Department of Parks and Recreation, https://www.sccgov.org/sites/parks/parkfinder/Pages/JosephDGrant.aspx

Visit the Peninsula Open Space Trust (POST) website for a listing of hikes, many of which offer oak viewing opportunities, https://openspacetrust.org/hikes/

Visit Santa Clara Valley Open Space Authority’s website for a listing of hikes through oak landscapes, including Coyote Valley Open Space Preserve, Rancho Cañada del Oro, and Sierra Vista, http://www.openspaceauthority.org

Uvas Canyon Park, Santa Clara County Department of Parks and Recreation, Morgan Hill, https://www.sccgov.org/sites/parks/parkfinder/Pages/UvasCanyon.aspx

MONTEREY/SALINAS VALLEY AREA


Pfeiffer Big Sur State Park, Big Sur, https://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=570

Royal Oaks Park, Monterey County Department of Parks, Watsonville,  
https://www.co.monterey.ca.us/parks/royaloaks.html

Toro County Park, Monterey County Department of Parks, Salinas,  
https://www.co.monterey.ca.us/parks/toro.html

SAN LUIS OBISPO AREA

City Park, Recreation Department, Paso Robles,  

Cuesta Ridge Botanical Special Interest Area, Santa Margarita, Los Padres National Forest,  
https://www.fs.fed.us/wildflowers/regions/Pacific_Southwest/CuestaRidge/index.shtml

Dune Vista Trail, Lopez Lake (San Luis Obispo County Parks), about 10 miles outside of Arroyo Grande,  
http://www.hikeslo.com/duna-vista/

Eagle Rock Nature Trail, Chorro Regional Park, between San Luis Obispo and Morro Bay,  
https://www.hikespeak.com/trails/eagle-rock-nature-trail-el-chorro/

El Moro Elfin Forest, Los Osos, San Luis Obispo County Parks and California State Parks,  
http://www.elfin-forest.org/

Fiscalini Ranch, Friends of the Fiscalini Ranch Preserve, Cambria,  
http://www.ffrpcambria.org/visitors.html

Los Osos Oaks State Reserve, just outside of the town of Los Osos,  
https://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=597

Northern flank of Cerro San Luis, San Luis Obispo,  

Poly Canyon, Cal Poly Campus, San Luis Obispo,  

Reservoir Canyon Nature Reserve, accessible on Reservoir Canyon Road, north of San Luis Obispo, via Highway,  
http://www.slocounty.info/blog/reservoir-canyon-trail also see:  
http://www.sanluisobispo.com/sports/article91806812.html#storylink=cpy

Santa Margarita Lake Natural Area, outside of Santa Margarita, San Luis Obispo County Parks,  
http://slocountyparks.org/camp/santa-margarita-lake/

Three Bridges Oak Preserve (anticipated to open in spring 2017), Atascadero Land Preservation Society, approximately 2 miles to the west of Atascadero,  

CENTRAL CALIFORNIA INLAND

NORTHERN SIERRA/YOSEMITE

Calaveras Big Trees State Park, Four miles northeast of Arnold,  
http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=551

Indian Grinding Rock State Park, Pine Grove,  
http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=553
Squaw Leap, Bureau of Land Management, near Auberry,  
https://www.recreation.gov/recreationalAreaDetails.do?contractCode=NRSO&recAreaId=44

Yosemite Valley, Yosemite National Park,  
https://www.nps.gov/yose/learn/nature/plants.htm

SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY

Caswell Memorial State Park, Ripon, https://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=557
Kaweah Oaks Preserve, east of Visalia, Sequoia Riverlands Trust,  
http://sequoiariverlands.org/what-you-can-do-see/kaweah-oaks-preserve.html
Mooney Grove Park, Tulare County Department of Buildings and Parks, Visalia,  
http://www.tularecounty.ca.gov/cao/index.cfm/general-services/parks-and-recreation/park-information-hours/ and  
http://www.tularecountytreasures.org/mooney-grove-park.html
Oak Grove Regional Park, Stockton, San Joaquin County Department of Parks and Recreation,  
Visit the Tulare County Parks website for a listing of county parks, many of which offer oak-viewing walks,  
http://www.tularecounty.ca.gov/cao/index.cfm/general-services/parks-and-recreation/county-parks/
Yaudanchi Ecological Reserve, near Porterville, Tulare County  
https://www.wildlife.ca.gov/Lands/Places-to-Visit/Yaudanchi-ER

SOUTHERN SIERRA/SEQUOIA AREA

Middle Fork Canyon of Kaweah River, Sequoia National Park,  
https://www.nps.gov/seqe/planyourvisit/middle-fork-trail.htm

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

SANTA BARBARA AREA

Nojoqui Falls Park, Santa Barbara County Parks, Goleta,  
https://www.countyofsb.org/parks/day-use/nojoqui-falls.sbc
Santa Cruz Island Preserve, Channel Islands National Park,  
https://www.nps.gov/chis/planyourvisit/santa-cruz-island.htm
Santa Barbara Botanic Garden, Santa Barbara, http://www.sbbg.org/
Toro Canyon Park, Santa Barbara County Parks, http://www.countyofsb.org/parks

SANTA MONICA MOUNTAINS

Charmlee Park, Malibu, Mountains, Recreation, and Conservation Authority,  
https://www.nps.gov/samo/planyourvisit/charmleewilderness.htm
Cheeseboro Canyon, Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area, Agoura,  
https://www.nps.gov/samo/planyourvisit/cheeseboropalacomado.htm
Cold Creek Canyon Preserve, between Malibu and Calabasas. Contact Mountains Restoration Trust, 1-818-591-1701, for information: [http://www.mountainstrust.org](http://www.mountainstrust.org)

Malibu Creek State Park, Cornell, [http://www.malibucreekstatepark.org/](http://www.malibucreekstatepark.org/)

Nicholas Flat, Leo Carrillo State Beach, 28 miles northwest of Santa Monica on Pacific Coast Highway, [http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=616](http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=616)

Point Mugu State Park, Malibu, [http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=630](http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=630)

Topanga State Park, Topanga, [https://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=629](https://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=629)

**Los Angeles/Orange County Area**

Arboretum of Los Angeles County, Arcata, [http://www.arboretum.org/](http://www.arboretum.org/)


Descanso Gardens, La Canada Flintridge, [www.descansogardens.org](http://www.descansogardens.org)

Fullerton Arboretum, California State University, Fullerton, [http://fullertonarboretum.org/home.php](http://fullertonarboretum.org/home.php)

Eaton Canyon Natural Area, Pasadena, [http://www.ecnca.org/index.html](http://www.ecnca.org/index.html)

Irvine Regional Park, Orange, [http://www.ocparks.com/parks/irvine/](http://www.ocparks.com/parks/irvine/)


**Tehachapi, San Gabriel, and San Bernardino Mountains**


Chilao, Angeles National Forest, 27 miles north of La Cañada Flintridge, [https://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/angeles/about-forest/?cid=stelprdb5162107](https://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/angeles/about-forest/?cid=stelprdb5162107)

Fort Tejon State Park, 70 miles northwest of Los Angeles, near the top of Grapevine Canyon, via the Fort Tejon exit off I-5, [http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=585](http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=585)


Libre-Sawmill Place, Angeles National Forest (*This area is generally accessed from major entries along California State Highway 138 and County Road N2,*),
Angeles National Forest offers many other opportunities to view oaks:

https://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/angeles/landmanagement/planning/?cid=stelprdb5329364

Placerita Canyon Park, Newhall, http://www.placerita.org (Please note the Sand Fire of August 2016, and subsequent landslides, did considerable damage to the trails at Placerita Canyon Natural Area.)

Placerita Canyon State Park, Calabasas CA,
https://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=622

RIVERSIDE AND SAN DIEGO COUNTIES

Crestridge Ecological Reserve, California Department of Fish and Wildlife and Endangered Habitats Conservancy, between El Cajon and Alpine,
https://www.wildlife.ca.gov/Lands/Places-to-Visit/Crestridge-ER

Cuymaca Rancho State Park, Julian, CA, https://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=667


Hollenbeck Canyon Wildlife Reserve Area, approximately 5 miles east of Jamul,
https://www.wildlife.ca.gov/Lands/Places-to-Visit/Hollenbeck-Canyon-WA

Inaja Trail, 6 miles west of Julian, Cleveland National Forest,
https://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/cleveland/news-events/?cid=FSEPRD481881

Los Peñasquitos Canyon Preserve, between Rancho Peñasquitos and Sorrento Hills to the north and Mira Mesa to the south, City and County of San Diego,

Love Valley Trail, Palomar Mountain, Cleveland National Forest,
http://www.sandiegouuniontribune.com/sdut-1sz12hike21261-love-valley-meadow-offers-romantic--2009feb12-htmlstory.html also see

Otay Mountain Ecological Preserve, south of Jamul,
https://www.wildlife.ca.gov/Lands/Places-to-Visit/Otay-Mountain-ER


William Heise Park, San Diego County Department of Parks & Recreation, Julian,