



EPISODE TRANSCRIPT

EPISODE INFORMATION

Episode Title: Coyote Point
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Web Page: <https://sanmateofocus.com/coyote-point>

TRANSCRIPT

I'm Judy Gordon, and *this* is San Mateo Focus. San Mateo Focus is a weekly podcast that gives you a shot of San Mateo information.

The San Mateo recreational area called [Coyote Point](#) is worth more than one episode. The nature center, [CuriOdyssey](#), will be explored in a future episode. Today, we'll give an overview of what's at Coyote Point, along with some history.

With over 600 four-to-five star reviews on Yelp and TripAdvisor, I checked to see what words were frequently used to describe the experience at Coyote Point. Eucalyptus, airplane watching, kids, hike, view, jog, relaxation, vistas, and finally, windy were used over and over.

Coyote Point was originally an island, but the coastline was backfilled to create a cattle pasture by a previous owner of the land. The same owners seeded eucalyptus trees on the area's knoll. Here's some history that was unexpected. In 1922, a group of promoters organized and built the Pacific City Amusement Park Corporation. The area embraced the natural beach running north from the knoll about 3,000 feet with ninety acres of land adjoining the beach. The main features of the park were a boardwalk, children's playground, and concessions consisting of a scenic railway, merry-go-round, Ferris wheel, dancing pavilion and several food concessions. It was a hit. In the first 15 days, more than 300,000 people flooded into the new park. Unfortunately, the developers had apparently not taken into account the rapid growth of the area. San Mateo and Burlingame's sewer disposal couldn't keep up, and the stench of raw sewage flushing into the bay settled over the park. Besides the smell, People came expecting beach weather and complained about the strong, cool afternoon winds.

Even so, It was reputed to have had one million visitors during the first season. During its second season the amusement park experienced a fire, which destroyed about a quarter of the development. It never opened again.

Today, Coyote Point's 149 acres of land include many picnic areas, three playgrounds, trails, a gravel beach, and fishing spots. The 538 underwater acres of the Recreation Area offer opportunities for kite boarding, sailing, and kayaking. Board sports equipment is available for rental. The Recreation Area includes the Coyote Point Marina, the Coyote Point Pistol and Rifle Range, the private Coyote Point Yacht Club, and CuriOdyssey – a museum for environmental education.



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Located on the San Francisco Bay, it is on the border of Burlingame and San Mateo. The distinctive point, covered by that grove of eucalyptus trees, can be seen from airplanes approaching San Francisco International Airport and is a good location for both aircraft spotting and birdwatching. The consistent wind makes Coyote point a great place for kite flying too.

The entrance fee is \$6 per vehicle for a general user. An Entry fee waiver is available for a variety of different people and groups, including veterans, seniors, and Members of CuriOdyssey.

As of June 15, 2019, dogs are allowed on leash in designated and posted trails and areas as part of the San Mateo County Parks dog pilot program. To protect the animals at CuriOdyssey and your pet, dogs are prohibited in CuriOdyssey and in the areas where signs are posted at trails and by symbols on trails that indicate no dogs allowed. It's a good idea to check the website to make sure that the program is still in effect before you head out with your dog.

The grounds consist of four trails that are shared by hikers, runners, and bicyclists and range in length from four tenths of a mile, to 1.1 miles.

Planning a wedding, or another special event? Here's the deal about events at Coyote Point:

Although it is a members' club, The Coyote Point Yacht Club is available for rental for non-members. With beautiful views of the Bay, there are two areas available: an upstairs, formal dining area, and a downstairs, informal room. The downstairs room is used for smaller, casual events, while the upstairs is more suitable for larger gatherings such as weddings, or memorials.

Okay, that's all the time we have for this episode. Have a great week. Thanks to Jack Radsliff for the original music to this podcast. If you'd like more information about our sponsor or the topics in today's episode, go to sanmateofocus.com.