

## AHMANSON RANCH

January 7, 2004 9:30

Tom Frye, Leader

DISTANCE: About 7 or 8 miles

ALTITUDE GAIN: About 7 hundred feet

DIRECTIONS: The Trail Head is at the North end of Las Virgenes Road, about a mile north of its intersection with #101 Freeway in Calabasas.

We've been there before.

REST ROOM: Las Virgenes Road intersects with Thousand Oaks Blvd. before the Trail Head. Turn right and go 1/2 Mile to Gates Canyon Park, on the left.

THE HIKE: After going through the trail head gate, we start up the dirt road and through a large gate. Soon, at a "Y" in the road, we double back sharply to the right and find a road going north/east up a canyon.

We pass on by a junction to our left. Then, at about 1 and 1/2 miles into the hike we make a sharp turn at the junction to our right. Once again, we ignore the road coming in from the left as we dip into a canyon and up the other side to Lasky Mesa.

At the Mesa, after the trail turns to the left, instead of following the signed road, we bear obliquely to the right on the well traveled road leading to the Ranch, once again we ignore the road to our left. We can stay on this road until the end of the hike as it swings north, then west, then south.

ALTERNATE EXTENSION TO THE HIKE: Where the road turns west in sight of the Victory Blvd. Gate, there is a road that goes to the Van Owen Entrance. This will add 2 miles and a 2 or 3 hundred feet to the hike. This Castle Peak area is scenic and well worth seeing if you are a Super Hiker who travels fast enough to have the time to do it.

WE WILL HAVE MAPS

# Tom Frye's Hike January 7, 2004 9:30

About 15 miles of dirt ranch roads that crisscross the property have been rechristened as trails, and no new trails are planned. Beware: To protect the many endangered and sensitive species, wandering off designated trails is prohibited.

### Trails

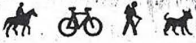
**Elevation:** 869 to 1,842 feet

**Difficulty:** Easy to moderate

**Open:** Sunrise to sunset

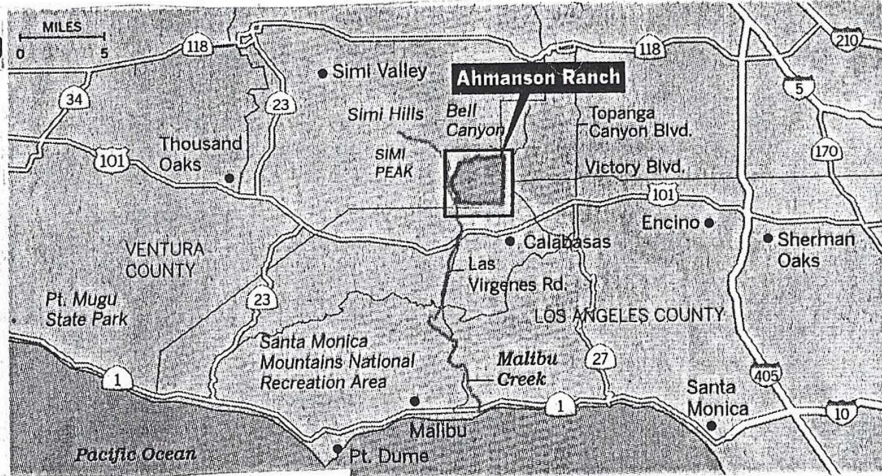
**Guide maps:** Ask volunteers who patrol the park on bicycle for maps. Kiosks with maps will be installed.

**Parking:** On East Las Virgenes Road



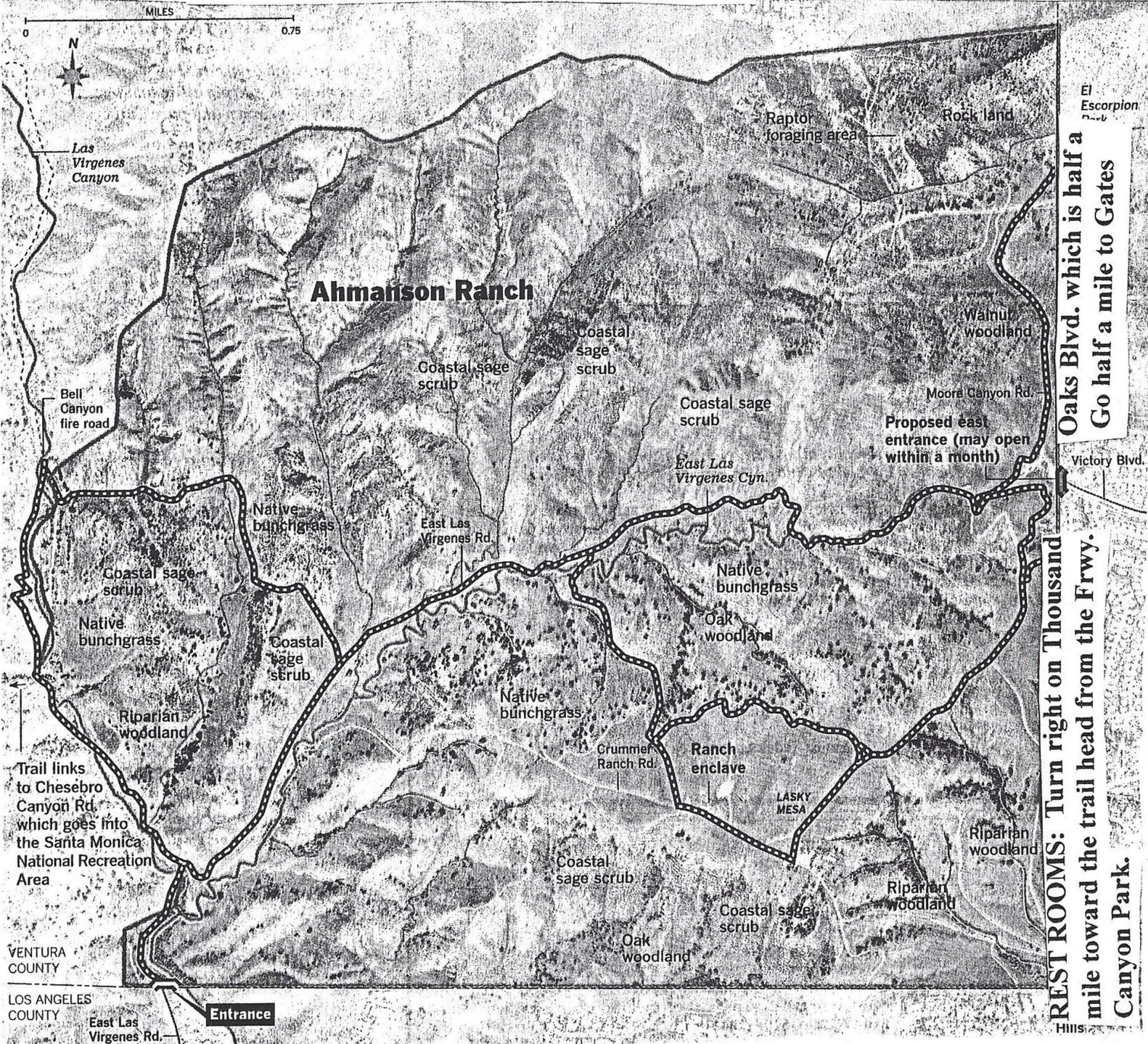
**Allowed:** Low-impact recreation, horseback riding, bicycling, hiking

**Forbidden:** Smoking, campfires, weapons



**Trail Head :** At the end of Las Virgenes Road about a mile N

The Ventura Frwy in Calabasas



Oaks Blvd. which is half a mile toward the trail head from the Frwy. Go half a mile to Gates Canyon Park.

**REST ROOMS:** Turn right on Thousand Oaks Blvd. which is half a mile toward the trail head from the Frwy. Go half a mile to Gates Canyon Park.

VENTURA COUNTY  
LOS ANGELES COUNTY  
East Las Virgenes Rd. **Entrance**