

# Peter Strauss Ranch

National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

Santa Monica Mountains  
National Recreation Area



## Hollywood Retreat

For nearly a century, people have enjoyed leisure and recreation at this site, but in November 2018, the Woolsey Fire burned through much of the area.

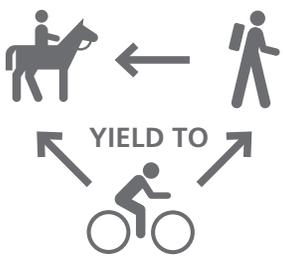
Although some nearby structures were spared, the most destructive fire of this region's history took one of the most beloved historical buildings in the area – the Peter Strauss Ranch house, built in 1927 and a National Historic Register site.

Named for Emmy Award-winning actor Peter Strauss, this park, formerly known as Lake

Enchanto, still delights nature lovers and intrigues history buffs. Oak woodlands, a seasonal creek, easy trails, a lawn area, and an amphitheater provide a wonderful location for visitors of all ages to have fun outdoors.

Near the restrooms, you will discover an Italian terrazzo tile concert area (1939) where country legends Johnny Cash and Willie Nelson performed. Also, you will see the relic of an enormous outdoor swimming pool with a small stage in the center.

## Information and Safety



### NATURAL AND CULTURAL RESOURCES

including rocks, plants, and animals are protected by law and may not be collected or disturbed. Do not climb on structures. Weapons, nets, and traps are not allowed in parklands.

**WATER** that comes from streams is not safe to drink due to possible contamination or the presence of the giardia protozoan.

**WILDFIRE** is a year-round concern. Smoking and fires of any kind are not permitted on the trail. For current restrictions and fire danger level, visit [www.nps.gov/samo](http://www.nps.gov/samo).

**TRAIL CLOSURES** will be in effect during and following extreme weather or hazardous conditions.

**PETS** must be under control and on a leash, not to exceed six feet, at all times. Pick up after your pet.

**VEHICLES** are restricted to designated roads and parking areas.

**PERMITS** may be required for certain activities such as special and group events, filming and photography. For more info, contact the Office of Special Park Uses at 805-370-2308 or visit [www.nps.gov/samo](http://www.nps.gov/samo).

**WASPS AND BEES** are plentiful during the summer. Cover food and sweet beverages while picnicking.

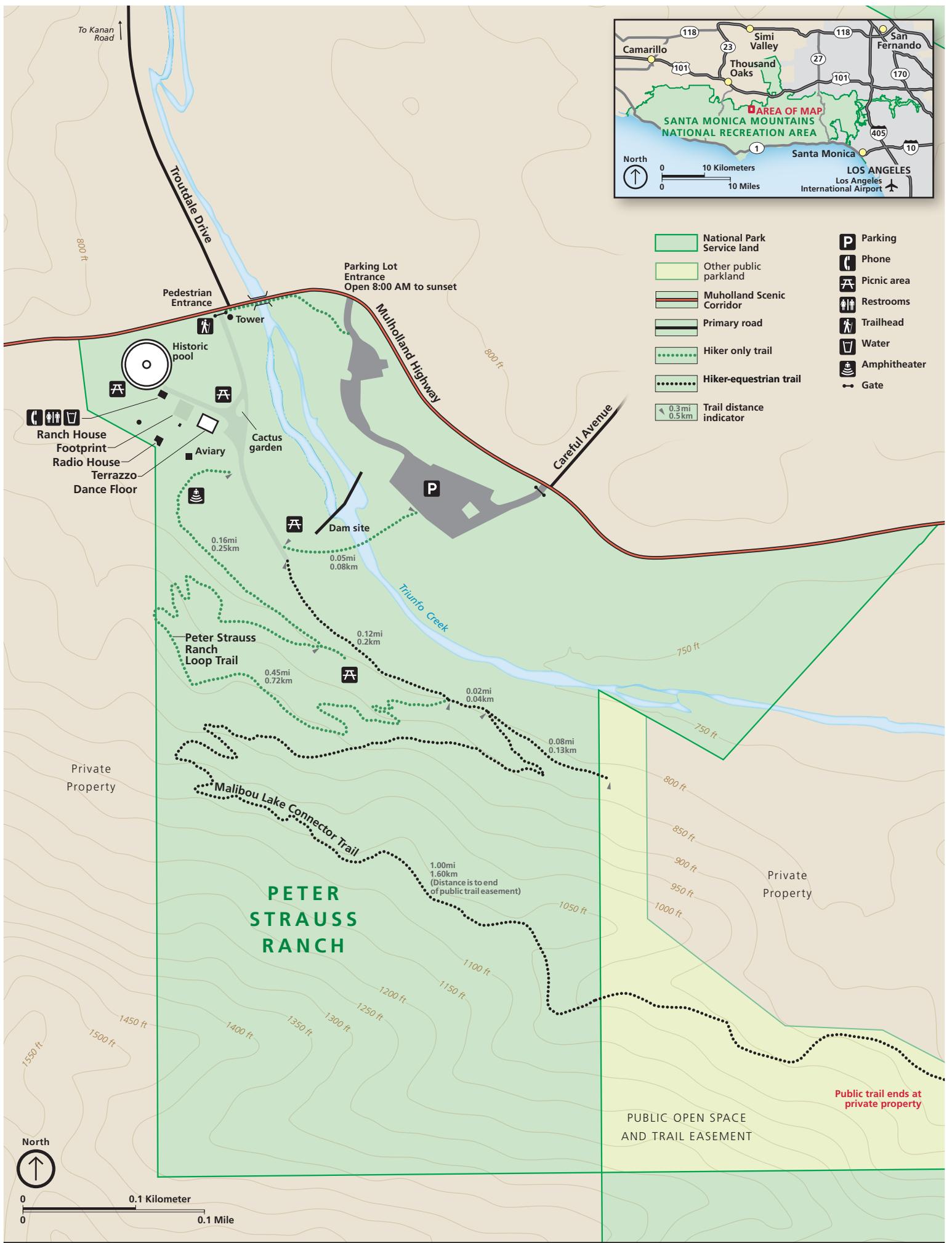
**Peter Strauss Ranch**  
30000 Mulholland Hwy  
Agoura Hills CA 91301



The main parking area is open from 8:00 a.m. – sunset. Visitors can access the park from the parking area by walking along a short connector trail. When Triunfo Creek is running high, please use the pedestrian path along Mulholland Highway.

FOR MORE INFORMATION  
Santa Monica Mountains  
Interagency Visitor Center  
26876 Mulholland Hwy  
Calabasas CA 91302  
805-370-2301  
[www.nps.gov/samo](http://www.nps.gov/samo)

**EMERGENCIES**  
Call 911. For a ranger, call  
Santa Monica Dispatch  
at 805-370-2399.



**Peter Strauss Trail ●**  
*0.6 mile round trip*— This pleasant trail is suited for the novice hiker. It traverses chaparral and oak riparian habitats. Watch out for poison oak.

**Lake Enchanto Dam**  
 Built in the 1940s, this dam created the centerpiece for “Lake Enchanto.” It was a popular spot for fishing, rowing, and swimming. The dam was breached in the late 1960s by severe flooding. Part of the dam structure still exists in the creek bed near the picnic area.

**Terrazzo Dance Floor/Patio**  
 Constructed in 1939 of Italian terrazzo with a pointed star to commemorate “Hollywood,” the patio was a popular place for Big Band concerts, dancing, and performances by popular musicians such as Johnny Cash, Willie Nelson and the Mandrell Sisters.

**Radio House**  
 Harry Miller purchased the property in 1923. Along with building the Ranch House, Miller also built the radio house for playing cards and listening to the radio.

**Swimming Pool**  
 Built in 1940, this was the largest pool on the West Coast. It had a capacity for 650,000 gallons of water.

**Parking Area**  
 The parking lot entrance is east of the pedestrian entrance. The parking lot is open 8 a.m. to sunset. Park and then walk across the bridge on Mulholland Highway to the foot entrance.

● Easy    ■ Moderate    ◆ Strenuous