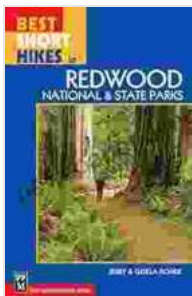


Best Short Hikes in Redwood National and State Parks: An Unforgettable Journey

Immerse yourself in the majestic beauty of Redwood National and State Parks, where towering redwoods stand as silent guardians of an ancient forest. With miles of hiking trails crisscrossing the parks, this article presents a curated guide to the best short hikes, catering to every adventure level. As you embark on these trails, prepare to be captivated by the grandeur of these coastal forests, brimming with scenic wonders and an abundance of natural history.



Best Short Hikes in Redwood National and State Parks

by Jerry Rohde

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1. Lady Bird Johnson Grove Trail (0.8 miles, easy)



For a leisurely walk amidst towering redwoods, embark on the Lady Bird Johnson Grove Trail. This family-friendly path winds through a magnificent grove of ancient trees, their massive trunks reaching towards the sky. As you traverse the trail, marvel at the intricate tapestry of ferns and wildflowers adorning the forest floor.

2. Tall Trees Grove Trail (0.9 miles, easy)



Witness the towering heights of redwoods on the Tall Trees Grove Trail.

If you seek to stand in the presence of some of the tallest trees on earth, venture onto the Tall Trees Grove Trail. This easy hike meanders through a grove of awe-inspiring redwoods, including Hyperion, the current titleholder as the world's tallest living tree. As you walk beneath these natural skyscrapers, feel a sense of wonder and the vastness of nature's grandeur.

3. Cathedral Trees Trail (0.6 miles, easy)



For a serene walk beneath a towering canopy, wander along the Cathedral Trees Trail. This short and accessible trail winds through a grove of majestic redwoods, their branches forming a natural cathedral above. As sunlight filters through the canopy, creating a dappled effect on the forest floor, absorb the tranquility and spiritual essence of this sacred grove.

4. Roosevelt Elk Trail (2.5 miles, moderate)



Embark on the Roosevelt Elk Trail for wildlife sightings and coastal views.

If you desire a hike with a touch of coastal charm, set sail on the Roosevelt Elk Trail. This moderate trail offers a diverse landscape, from vibrant coastal forests to windswept bluffs overlooking the Pacific Ocean. Along the way, keep an eye out for majestic Roosevelt elk roaming in the meadows, and savor the symphony of crashing waves and bird calls.

5. Stout Grove Trail Loop (1.8 miles, moderate)



Nestled within Redwood National Park, the Stout Grove Trail Loop invites you into an enchanting wonderland. This moderate trail traverses a vibrant tapestry of lush fern meadows, towering redwoods, and babbling brooks. As you traverse the loop, let the symphony of nature soothe your spirit and transport you to a realm of tranquility.

6. Fern Canyon Trail (0.5 miles, easy)



Discover a hidden gem on the Fern Canyon Trail.

Prepare to be enchanted as you venture along the Fern Canyon Trail. This easy hike leads to a hidden gem – a narrow canyon adorned with a profusion of ferns that cascade down the canyon walls like a verdant waterfall. The trail invites you to step into a primeval world, where nature's artistry is on full display.

7. Coastal Trail Loop (2.8 miles, moderate)



For a hike that combines the grandeur of redwoods with the allure of the Pacific Ocean, embark on the Coastal Trail Loop. This moderate trail offers a symphony of coastal landscapes, from towering redwoods to secluded coves and windswept beaches. As you traverse the loop, inhale the invigorating scent of the ocean and revel in the panoramic views of the rugged coastline.

8. Prairie Creek Trail (2.9 miles, easy)

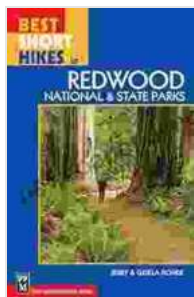


Stroll alongside the serene Prairie Creek on the Prairie Creek Trail.

For a leisurely walk beside a tranquil river, venture along the Prairie Creek Trail. This easy and scenic trail follows the meandering Prairie Creek, offering a serene respite from the hustle and bustle of daily life. As you traverse the trail, let the gentle murmur of the river lull you into a state of relaxation, while the towering redwoods on the banks create a majestic backdrop.

Redwood National and State Parks offer a treasure trove of short hikes that cater to every adventure level. From easy family-friendly strolls to moderate trails that immerse you in the heart of the redwood forests, there's a trail for every soul seeking connection with nature. As you embark on these hikes, remember to tread lightly, honoring the delicate balance of these ancient

ecosystems. Embrace the opportunity to lose yourself in the towering redwoods, where nature's symphony unfolds in all its splendor.



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