

Bedwell Bayfront Park

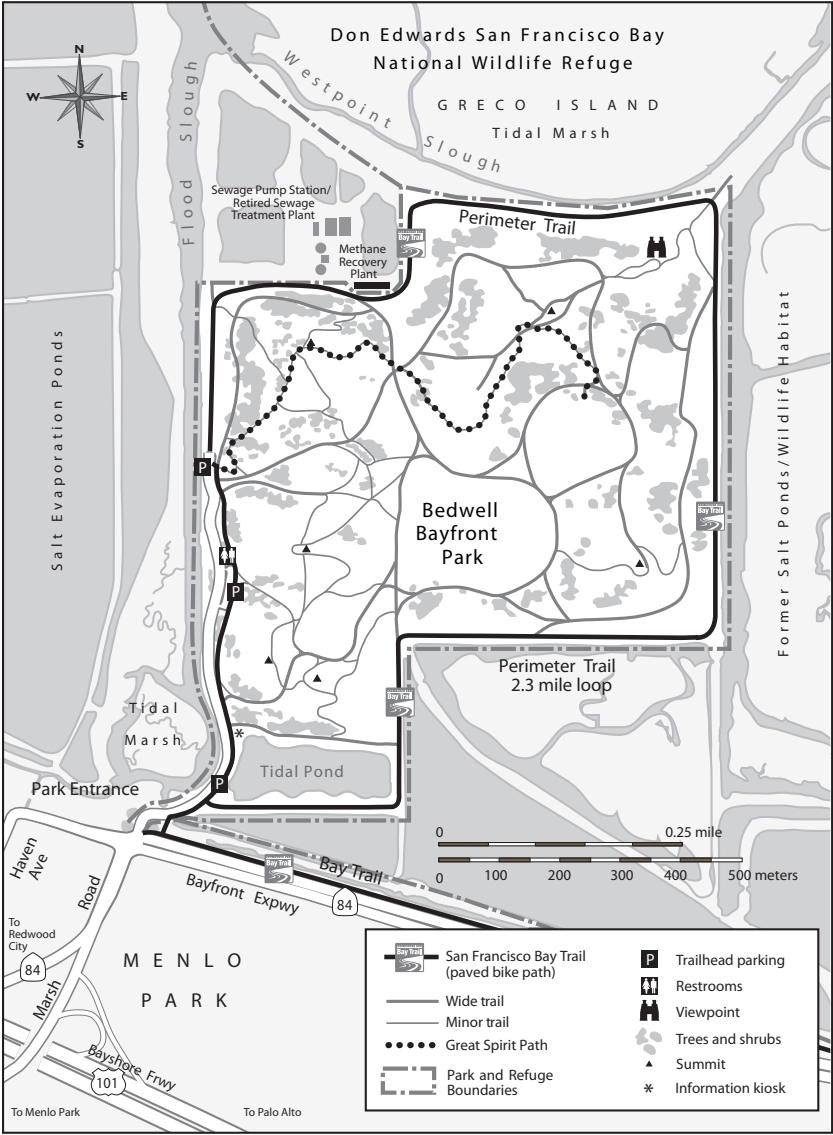
MENLO PARK'S GEM



The park is surrounded on three sides by the Don Edwards San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge.



Bayfront is home to some 160 species of birds, including this Great Egret.



The park's hills are popular with birdwatchers, hikers, dog walkers and bicyclists.



A burrowing owl at Bedwell Bayfront.



Visitors of all ages enjoy the park.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT
www.FriendsofBayfrontPark.org

BIRD WATCHING

San Francisco Bay is a key link in the great Pacific flyway for migrating birds. Over the course of a year, some **160 species of birds** can be seen at Bedwell Bayfront Park. About 30 species of birds breed at the park. Others — including many shorebirds, ducks and passerines — use the park for resting and refueling during the spring and fall migrations.

A checklist of common park birds is available at www.FriendsofBedwellBayfrontPark.org.

SOUTH BAY SALT POND RESTORATION

The largest tidal wetland restoration project on the West Coast is happening right next to Bedwell Bayfront Park, in the Don Edwards San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge. The park offers unparalleled views of some of the Refuge's natural wetlands as well as of the salt ponds being restored.

To learn more about this project, visit the Refuge Visitors' Center in Newark or www.SouthBayRestoration.org.

PARK TRAILS AND THE BAY TRAIL

The park has an extensive trail system, most of which is unpaved. Some of the interior trails are steep, crossing the park's hills, and lead to several viewpoints. Some park trails are suitable for wheelchairs.

The relatively flat 2.3-mile trail around the perimeter of Bedwell Bayfront Park is part of the **San Francisco Bay Trail**, which will encircle San Francisco and San Pablo Bays with a continuous 400-mile network of bicycling and hiking trails, connecting the shoreline of all nine Bay Area counties and linking 47 cities. Some 240 miles of the Bay Trail have been completed.

THE GREAT SPIRIT PATH

This unique art installation in the park is a stone poem in four stanzas inspired by Native American pictographs and designed by Menlo Park artist Susan Dunlap.

Installed along a 3/4-mile long trail in the park, the Great Spirit Path is composed of 53 rock sculptures grouped into clusters, each representing a phrase in the poem.

The largest sculpture of its kind anywhere, it is made of 892 rough natural stones weighing more than 505 tons.

HISTORY

A former landfill site, Bedwell Bayfront Park was created after the landfill was closed and capped off in the mid-1980s. The park opened to the public soon afterwards. Bayfront's hilly terrain, specifically designed for passive recreation, now serves as a landmark high point along the edge of San Francisco Bay.

Various development proposals have threatened the park's open space and wildlife, including proposals for a golf course and playing fields. These have been withdrawn or defeated by voters, and the park today remains as public open space.

GENERAL PARK INFORMATION

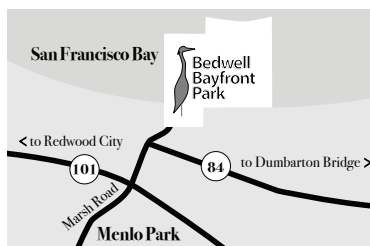
Bedwell Bayfront Park is located at the east end of Menlo Park on San Francisco Bay at Highway 101 and Marsh Road.

The park opens daily at 7am; closing time (sunset) changes seasonally, and is posted.

Parking is available along the entrance road and in two paved lots near the back of the park. To prevent theft, lock your vehicle and take valuables with you.

Restrooms are near the first large paved parking lot.

Dogs must be on leash at all times, per Menlo Park Ordinance.



FRIENDS OF BEDWELL BAYFRONT PARK

The all-volunteer organization is dedicated to protecting and enhancing the unique open space that is Bedwell Bayfront Park, now and for future generations. The group sponsors guided nature walks, introductions to park birds, and other educational activities.

Formed in 2005, Friends of Bedwell Bayfront Park is supported by contributions from individuals who enjoy and value the park and want to ensure its future. You can support this work by making a tax-deductible contribution or by volunteering your time.



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www.FriendsofBedwellBayfrontPark.org

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MENLO PARK'S

Bedwell Bayfront Park



AT THE EDGE OF SAN FRANCISCO BAY,

Bedwell Bayfront Park is Menlo Park's largest park, and its only open space on the Bay.

The park's 160 acres are surrounded on three sides by the Don Edwards San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge.

Easily accessible, the park's many trails and hills provide unparalleled views of the refuge and south Bay. People of all ages enjoy the park for hiking, running, bicycling, dog walking, bird watching, kite flying, and photography.