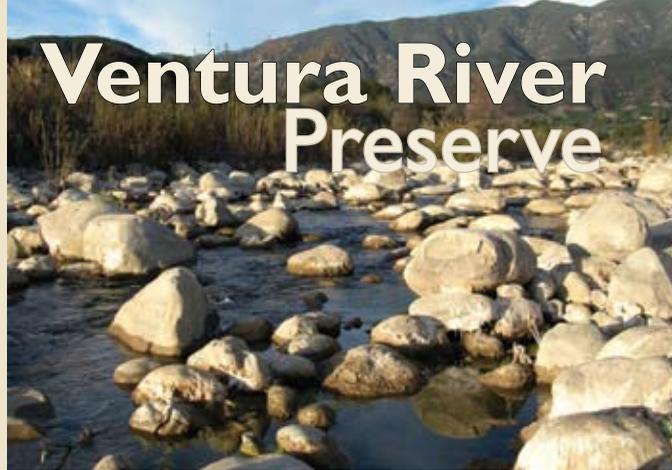


# Ventura River Preserve




**OJAI VALLEY  
LAND CONSERVANCY**  
*Protecting your views, trails, water & wildlife*




**OJAI VALLEY  
LAND CONSERVANCY**

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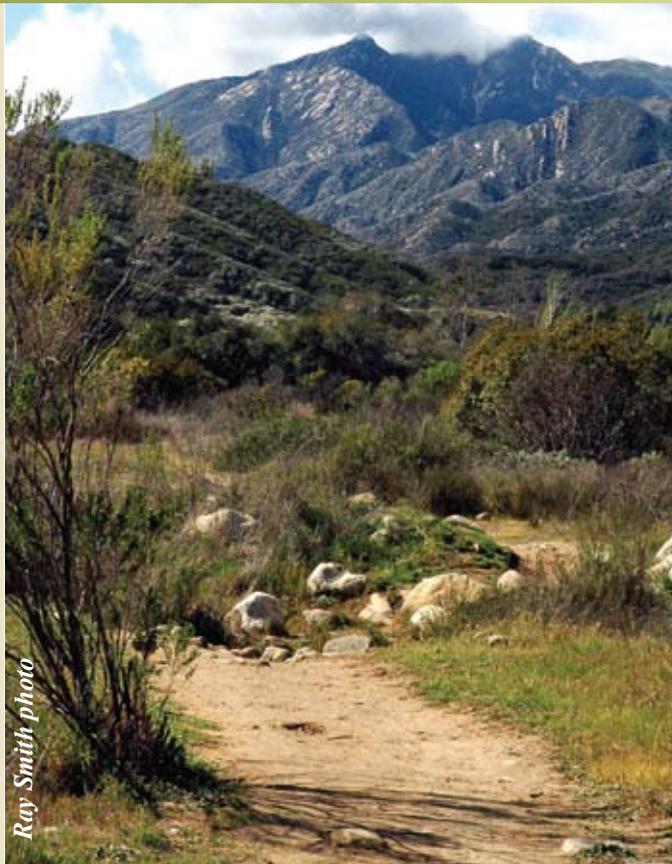
*Email*

info@ovlc.org

*Learn more and become a member at*

**WWW.OVLC.ORG**

*Special thanks to our individual donors  
and agency partners*



*Ray Smith photo*

## IT TAKES A COMMUNITY to protect lands like these **PLEASE JOIN US!**

Beginning with a grassroots community effort to protect this beautiful property from development, the Ojai Valley Land Conservancy, a nonprofit land conservation organization, now owns and stewards this nearly 1,600 acres. On this preserve and three other preserves downstream, the Ojai Valley Land Conservancy is protecting almost four miles of the 15 mile long Ventura River.

Each year the Ojai Valley Land Conservancy hosts thousands of hikers, equestrians, mountain bikers, dog walkers, school children and others on this preserve thanks to the generosity of our members.

If you would like to become a part of the community that makes this and other Ojai Valley nature preserves possible, become a member today. The Ojai Valley Land Conservancy is funded through private donations by its members and the community. Traditionally we have secured \$10 in grant funding for every membership dollar contributed. This funding is put to work to protect Ojai's natural places.

Family memberships are affordable and offer benefits including free guided hikes and eco-education programs.

Volunteers are always welcome and play an important role on the preserves and in the office.

**JOIN OR DONATE TODAY  
WWW.OVLC.ORG**



Resource Conservation District  
Ventura County



# Visiting the Preserve

Each year the Ojai Valley Land Conservancy hosts thousands of nature enthusiasts including hikers, equestrians, school children and community groups on the Ventura River Preserve. Three trailheads provide access to the preserve's nearly 20 miles of trails. For information about this preserve and regularly scheduled tours, hikes and eco-education programs, visit our website at

[WWW.OVLC.ORG](http://WWW.OVLC.ORG)



## CANYON TRAILS

For an invigorating hike, horseback or mountain bike ride with breathtaking views, Wills Canyon, Rice Canyon and the Oso Ridge offer several loop trails. The loops vary between 5 and 6 miles from the Riverview Trailhead. Plan for a 3-4 hour hike on these trails. The Oso Ridge trail, the steepest on the Preserve leads to the highpoint at 1,320 feet and offers stunning views of Lake Casitas and beyond to the Pacific Ocean on a clear day.

Canyon trails require river crossing to get to them, so are best suited for use in the drier months between April and December. Use caution when crossing the river as rocks can be unstable.

Because the preserve lies between the Los Padres National Forest and the Ventura River, an abundance of wildlife is drawn to the river through these canyons and may be seen while hiking. Plant communities range from oak woodlands and lush fern grottos on the north-facing slopes in Wills Canyon to native grasslands and wildflower meadows on dry south facing slopes.

## Trails and Waterways of the VENTURA RIVER PRESERVE



## RESPECT THIS PLACE LEAVE NO TRACE

Please help protect sensitive natural habitat and the safety and enjoyment for all by observing these guidelines while visiting...

- Enjoy the trails from dawn til dusk, no camping.
- Stay on marked trails and keep dogs on leash.
- Take all trash and belongings out with you.
- No smoking or fire of any kind, please.
- Wildlife is protected here, no hunting or fishing.
- Please don't let dogs or horses swim in the river.
- Keep safety in mind, and travel with a friend.



## RIVER TRAILS

The river trail system spans 3 miles of the Ventura River and offers several loop trails on both sides of the river. These trails on flat terrain lend themselves to easy hiking, horseback riding, birdwatching, nature photography, or just enjoying the river on a warm summer day.

Trails are marked at most junctions. Several trails are closed to protect wildlife corridors to the river.

Small wildlife is often seen while walking among Ventura River plant communities including chaparral, coastal sage scrub and alluvial scrub. This is a wonderful place to watch dozens of bird species commonly found on the preserve.

## TRAILHEADS

Three trailheads serve the trail system. Parking is available at all trailheads. The Oso and Old Baldwin Road trailheads offer equestrian trailer parking as well. The Old Baldwin trailhead features a paved ADA accessible trail. The Riverview trailhead provides central access to preserve trails.