QUICK GUIDE TO

ZUMA RIDGE MOTORWAY

Quick Guide courtesy of County of Los Angeles

SANTA MONICA MOUNTAINS NATIONAL RECREATION AREA

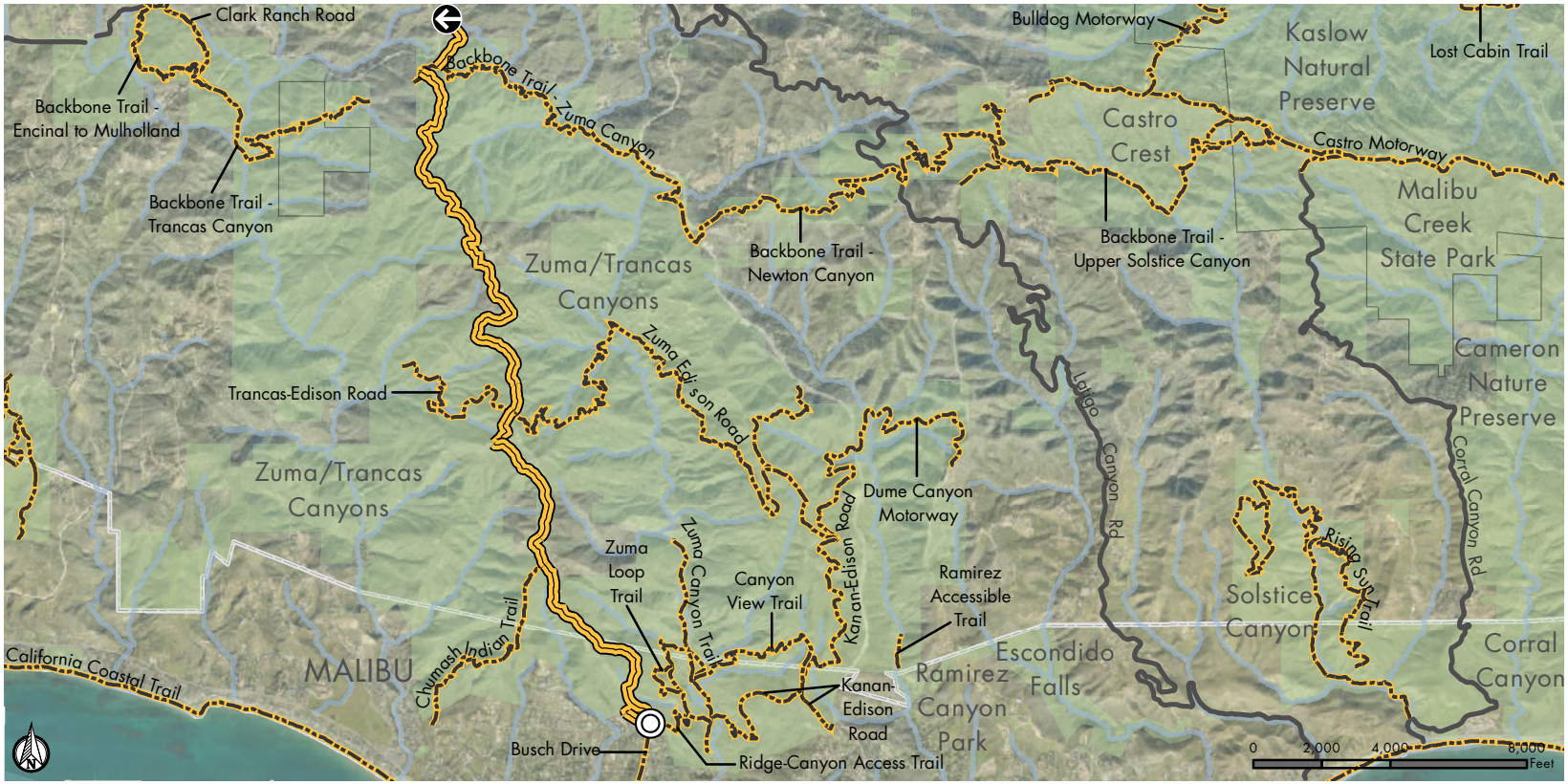
ZUMA/TRANCAS CANYONS

Length: 5.74 miles

Elevation Gain: 1,985 feet

DESCRIPTION: Zuma Ridge Motorway is part of the original fire road system constructed in the Santa Monica Mountains in the 1920s. The road traverses from the top of Busch Drive in Malibu to Encinal Canyon Road and meanders northerly along the ridge between Zuma and Trancas Canyons. Views become more expansive as the trail climbs, and you can just imagine how remote the area must have been when the road was first constructed.

DIRECTIONS: From PCH, turn inland at the light at Busch Drive, across from Zuma Beach. Travel to the top of Busch Drive to reach Zuma Ridge Trailhead (aka Busch Trailhead). Zuma Ridge Motorway heads north from the Trailhead. There no parking at the north end of the motorway at Encinal Canyon Rd.

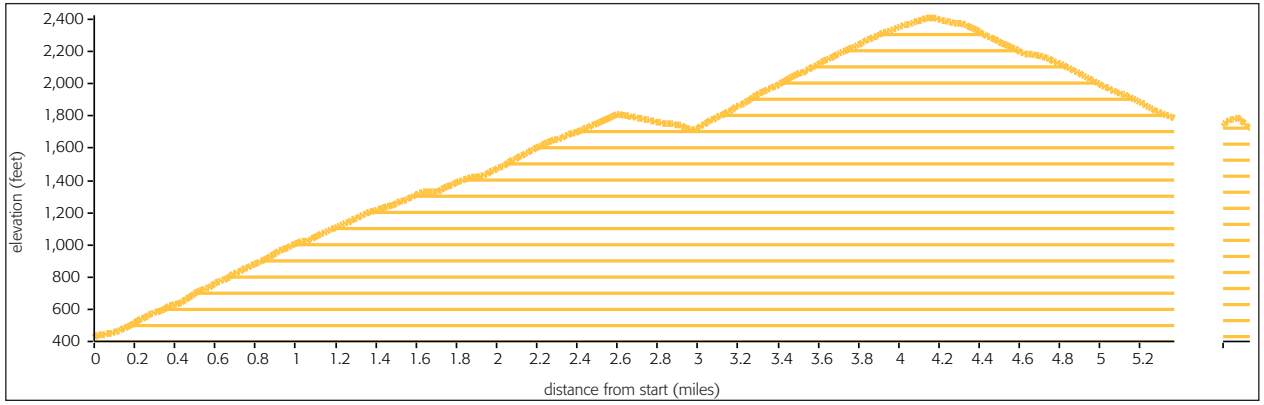


Access & Features

- Trailhead
- End of Public Trail
- Trail Access Point

Trail Type

- Trail Road (unpaved)



QUICK GUIDE TO

ZUMA/TRANCAS CANYONS TRAILS

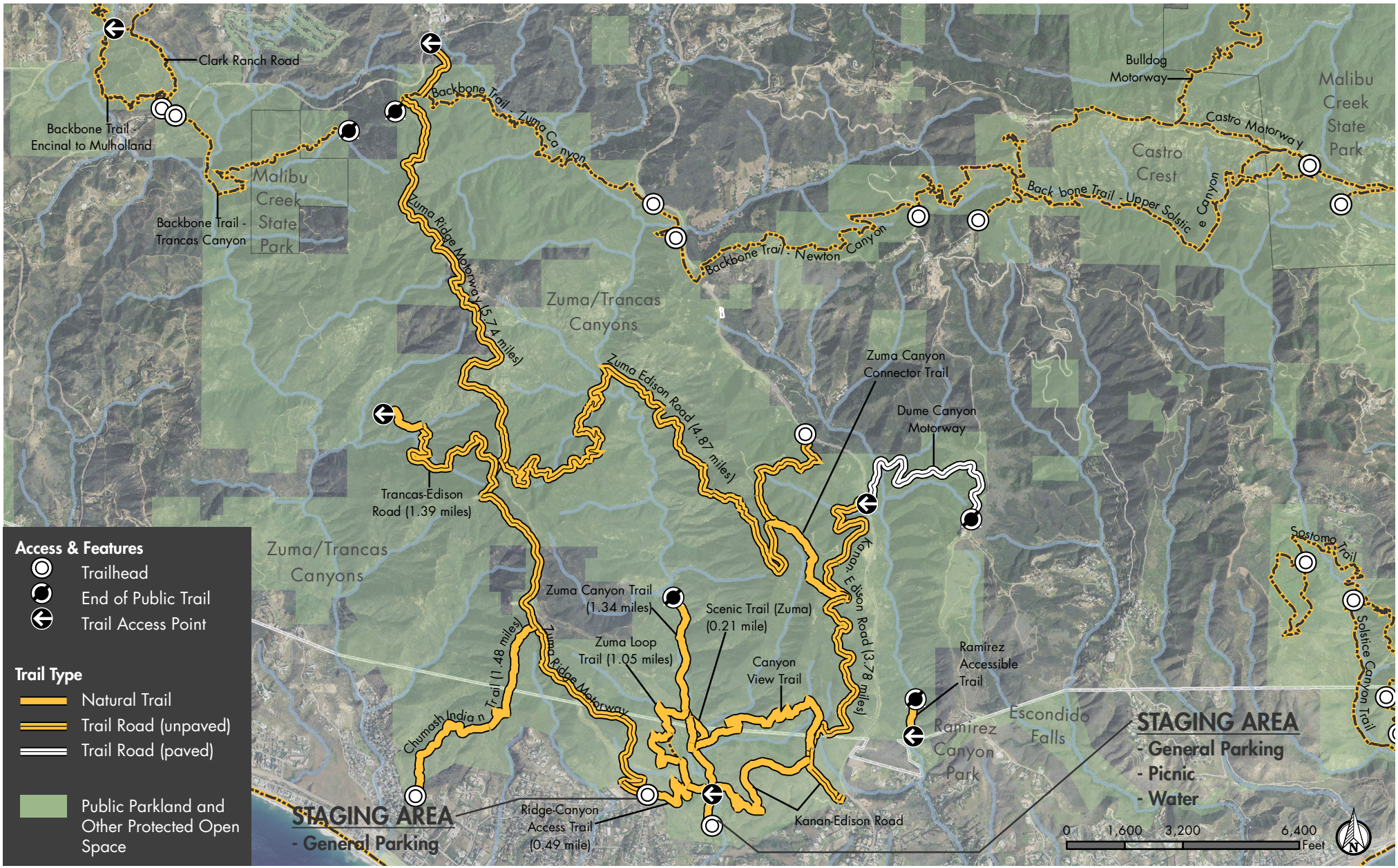
SANTA MONICA MOUNTAINS NATIONAL RECREATION AREA

ZUMA/TRANCAS CANYONS

Quick Guide courtesy of County of Los Angeles

DESCRIPTION: Zuma/Trancas Canyons comprise a large area of continuous native habitat. "Zuma" is the Chumash word for abundance, which is fitting given the amount of plant and animal life in the area. Trails dive into remote canyon bottoms and travel along ridgelines with broad horizons. The Backbone Trail System ties in with Zuma Ridge Motorway. Cyclists are not allowed on any trails in lower Zuma Canyon. Equestrians are allowed on all trails, except Ramirez Accessible Trail.

DIRECTIONS: From PCH, turn inland at Busch Dr, across from Zuma Beach. Travel 1.3 mi. to the Zuma Ridge Trailhead, or turn right (east) onto Rainsford Pl, then left (north) on Bonsall Dr to the Zuma Canyon Trailhead. The trails in can also be accessed from the Kanan Backbone Trailhead. From the 101, exit Kanan Rd. Head south 8 miles to trailhead.



QUICKGUIDE INFORMATION

COURTESY OF THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES | DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

SAFETY FIRST

In case of EMERGENCY dial 911.

For non-emergencies on County trails call the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Parks Bureau Dispatch at (800) 834-0064.

HAZARDS ON THE TRAIL

Rattlesnakes occasionally sun themselves in the middle of the trail. If encountered, keep your distance and allow space for the snake to retreat.

Poison oak can be identified by groups of 3 leaves going up the branch. It's best avoided by staying on the trail and wearing long pants and long-sleeved shirts to prevent contact with skin.

Ticks are most often found in shaded, grassy areas off the beaten path. Stick to established trails and wear long pants to avoid contact. Check for ticks frequently, especially the scalp, waist and other dark places where they can hide.

SHARE THE TRAIL

*When trail conditions require a right of way for safe passage, **equestrian users have the primary right of way, hikers next and then mountain bikers**. When trail conditions allow and when there is width to safely pass, common courtesy should prevail for all users. Stand to one side of the trail and allow them to pass. When in a group, avoid blocking the trail. **Mountain bikers yield to all trail users.** Anticipate other trail users as you ride around corners. Mountain bikers traveling downhill must yield to all users, including other mountain bikers, headed uphill. In general, make each pass a safe and courteous one.*

WHAT TO BRING

- ✓ *Water for you and your animal(s)*
- ✓ *Trail map*
- ✓ *High energy snacks*
- ✓ *Waste bags for your dog*
- ✓ *First aid kit*
- ✓ *Extra clothing*
- ✓ *Sunglasses/hat*
- ✓ *Sunscreen*
- ✓ *Insect repellent*
- ✓ *Trekking poles (optional)*
- ✓ *Flashlight (optional)*

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

For information visit trails.lacounty.gov or any of our partners' websites at nps.gov, parks.ca.gov, smmc.ca.gov, lamountains.com, or rmc.ca.gov. Visitor Center for Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area, (805) 370-2300

MAP DISCLAIMER

This map was created for informational purposes only. Reasonable effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the maps, images, and data provided; nevertheless, some information may not be accurate.