

THE RANCH MANUAL

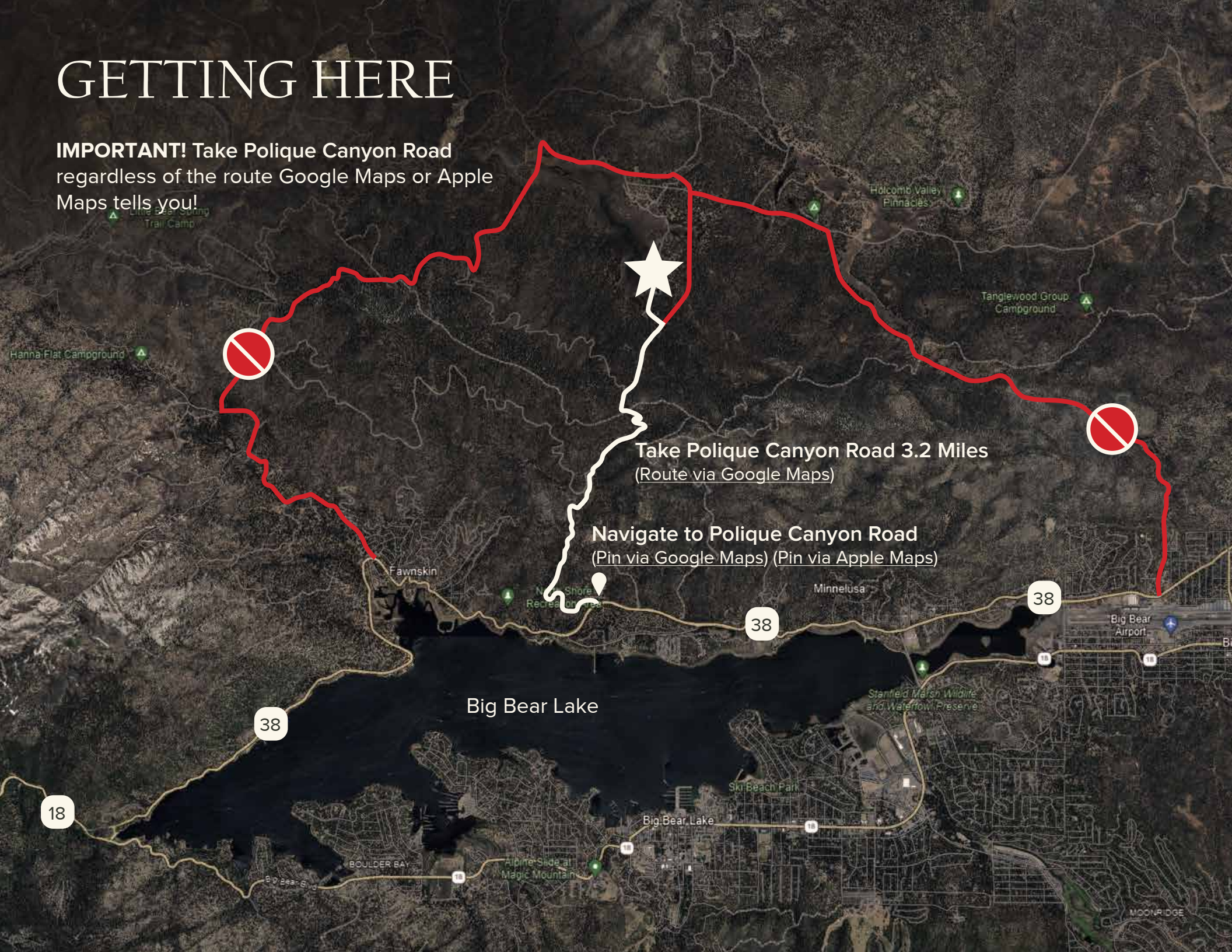
EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO ENSURE A ENJOYABLE STAY

- Getting Here
- Checking In
- Campground Map
- Local Conveniences
- Things to Do
- Rules & Regulations
- Emergencies

HOLCOMB
VALLEY RANCH

GETTING HERE

IMPORTANT! Take Polique Canyon Road regardless of the route Google Maps or Apple Maps tells you!



GETTING HERE

CAUTION! Polique Canyon Road is a bumpy, dirt road.

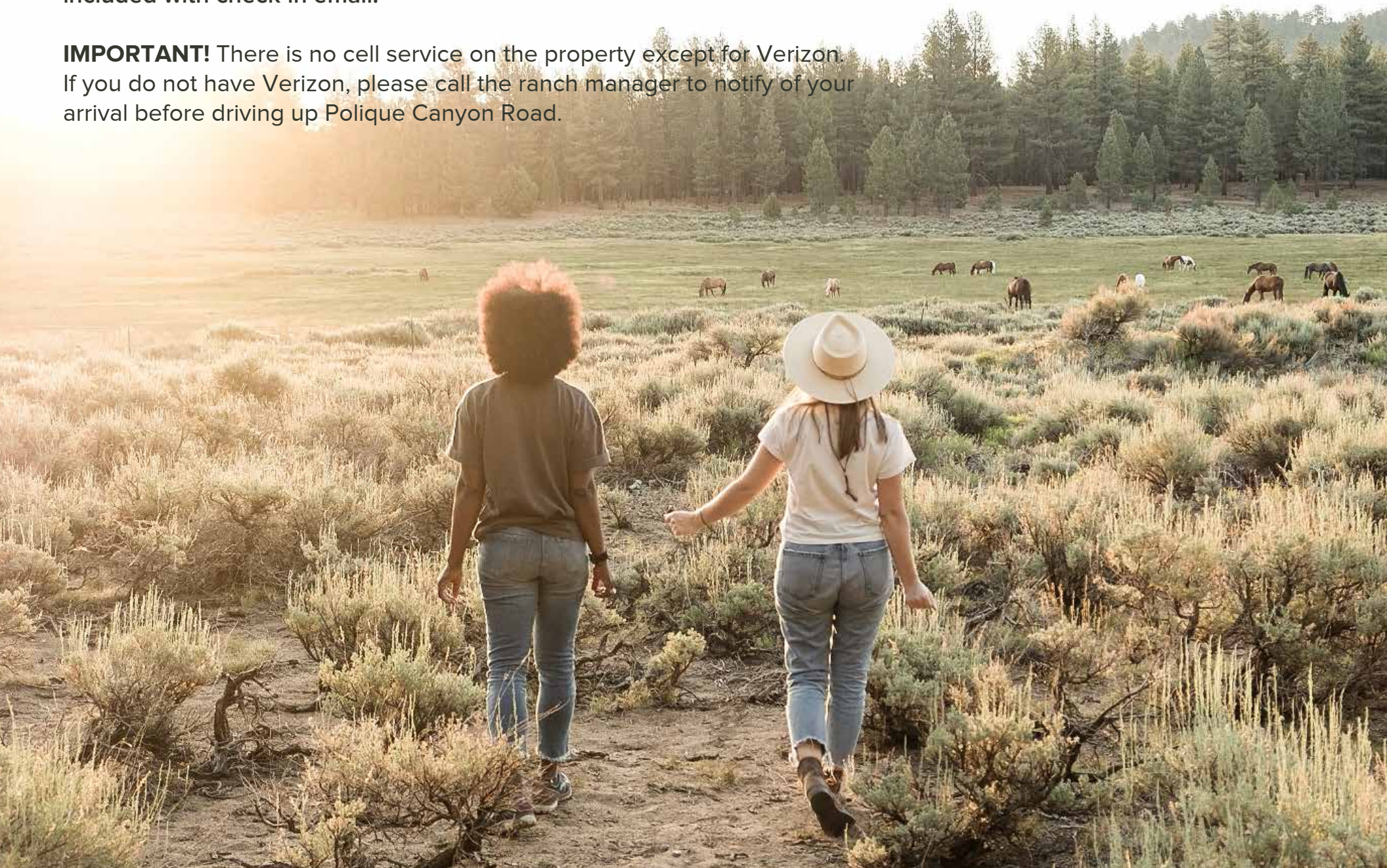
Trucks and SUVs with higher clearance are recommended but any common passenger vehicle should get you here. Regardless of what vehicle you're in, please drive slowly and be careful to avoid rocks, potholes and swales.



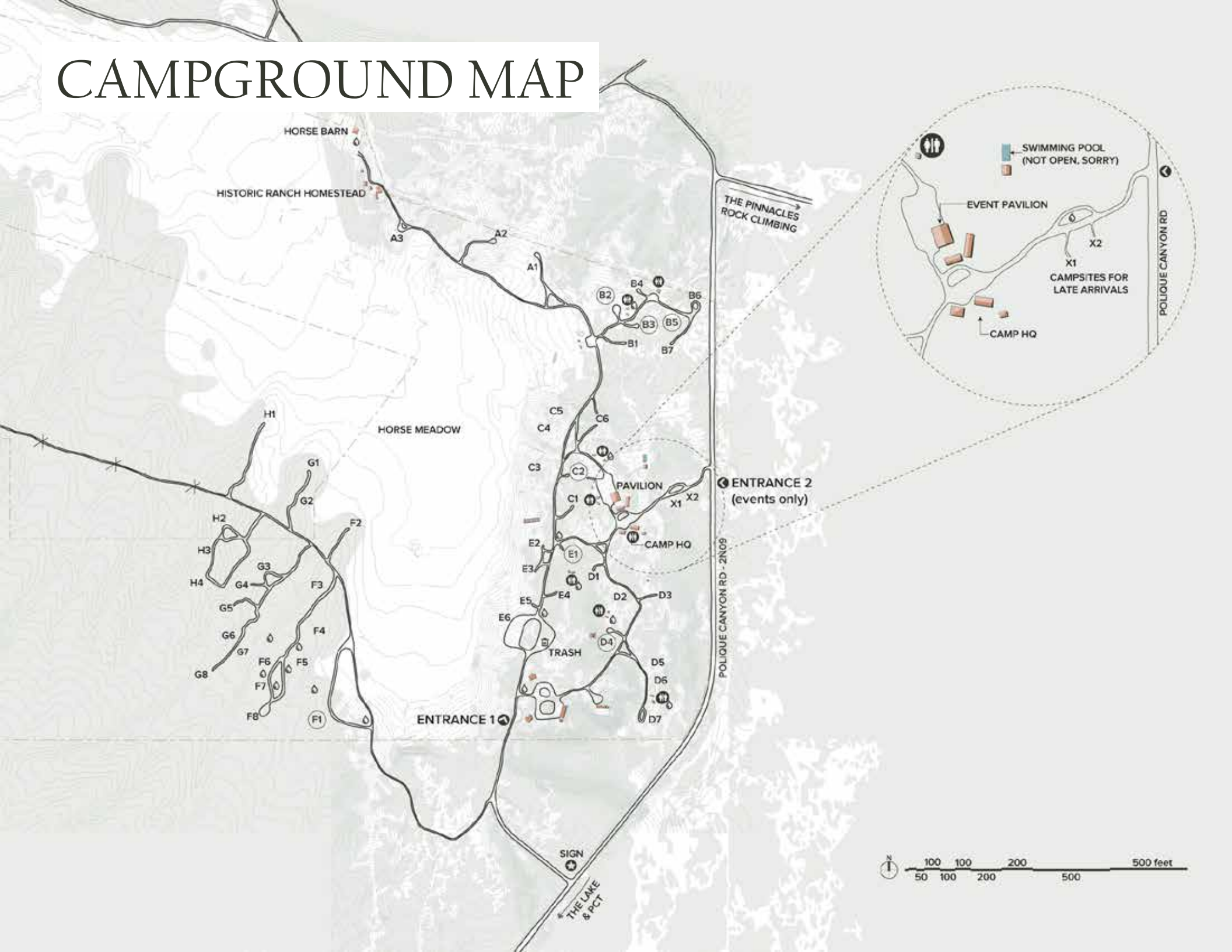
CHECKING IN

Once you arrive, call or text the ranch manager. The phone number will be included with check-in email.

IMPORTANT! There is no cell service on the property except for Verizon. If you do not have Verizon, please call the ranch manager to notify of your arrival before driving up Polique Canyon Road.



CAMPGROUND MAP



CAMPING TIPS

Never leave your campfire unattended, and always fully extinguish your camp fire before going to bed. Watch this demonstration by the US Forest Service to learn how to property extinguish a fire.

Quiet hours are 10pm to 8am. Nothing spoils the desire for a peaceful escape to nature like noisy neighbors. Please keep quiet for the benefit of everyone's experience.

Holcomb Valley Ranch is at an elevation of 7,500 feet. The sun can be intense and the temperatures can shift from hot to cold quickly. Check the weather and be prepared.

You likely won't see a bear. It's extremely rare, but it's not unheard of. Do some research before your trip to ensure your safety.

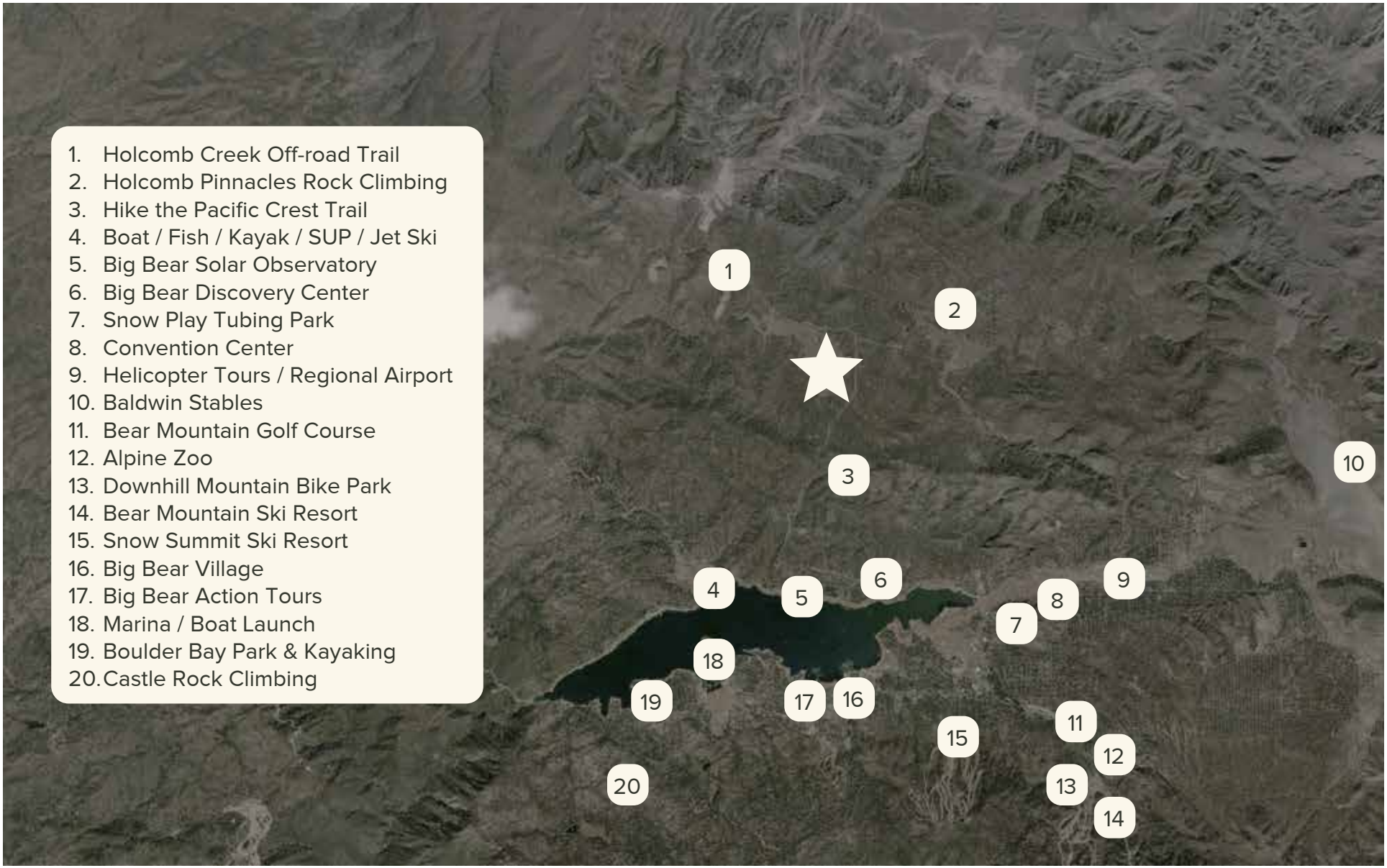


LOCAL CONVENIENCES

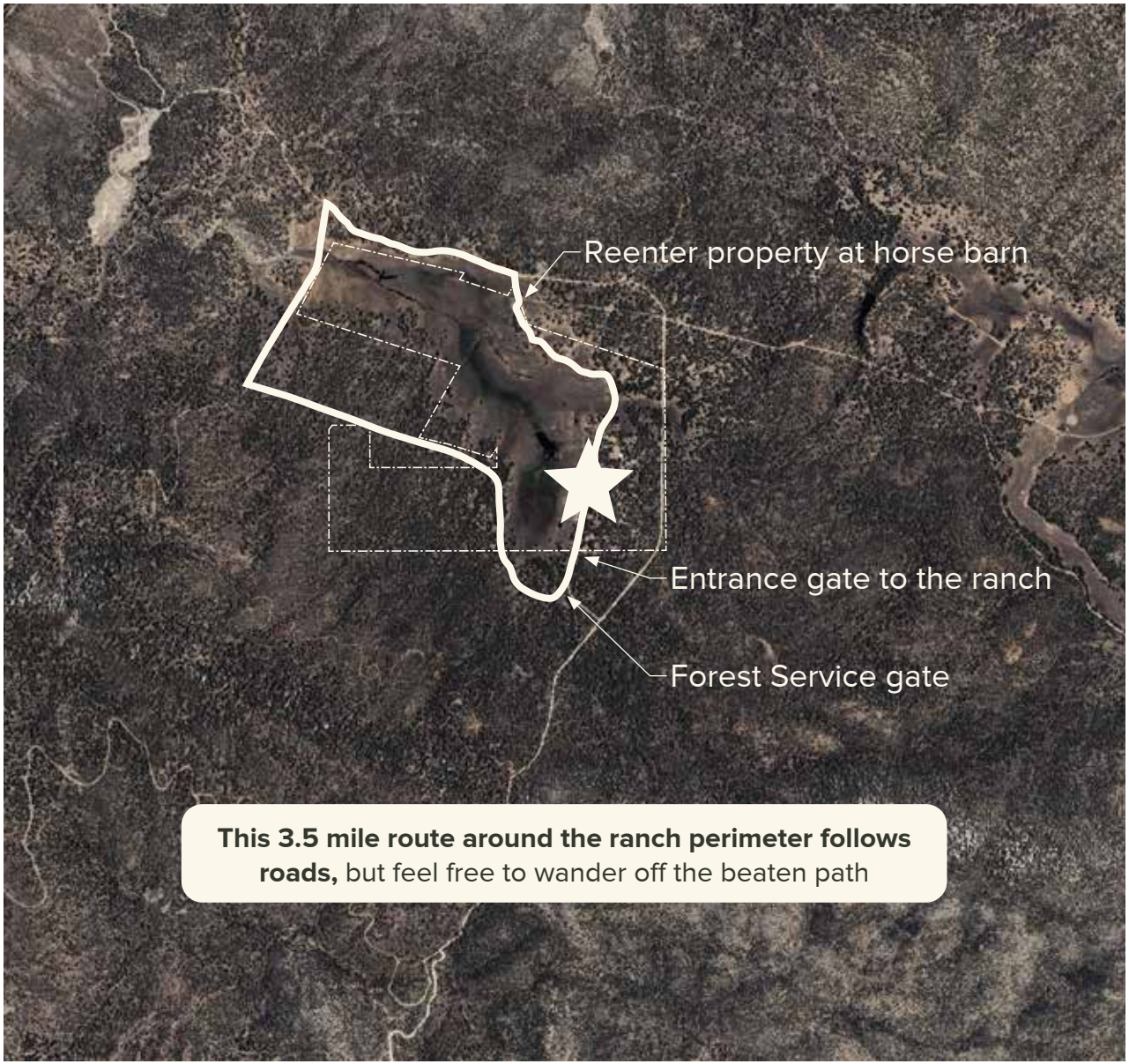
FIREWOOD is available for purchase at Holcomb Valley Ranch.
We recommend preordering firewood when making your reservation, and firewood will be delivered to your campsite. One less thing to think about.



THINGS TO DO


1. Holcomb Creek Off-road Trail
2. Holcomb Pinnacles Rock Climbing
3. Hike the Pacific Crest Trail
4. Boat / Fish / Kayak / SUP / Jet Ski
5. Big Bear Solar Observatory
6. Big Bear Discovery Center
7. Snow Play Tubing Park
8. Convention Center
9. Helicopter Tours / Regional Airport
10. Baldwin Stables
11. Bear Mountain Golf Course
12. Alpine Zoo
13. Downhill Mountain Bike Park
14. Bear Mountain Ski Resort
15. Snow Summit Ski Resort
16. Big Bear Village
17. Big Bear Action Tours
18. Marina / Boat Launch
19. Boulder Bay Park & Kayaking
20. Castle Rock Climbing
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WALK AROUND THE RANCH

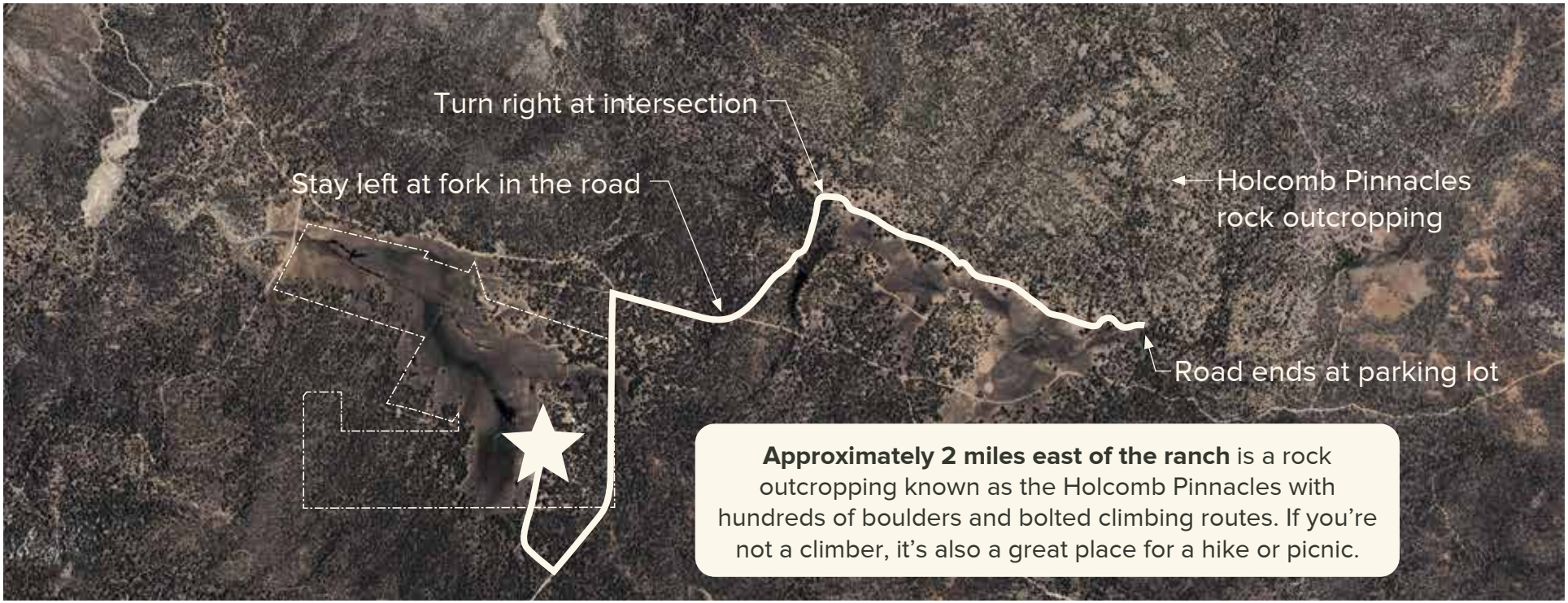


This 3.5 mile route around the ranch perimeter follows roads, but feel free to wander off the beaten path





CLIMB THE HOLCOMB PINNACLES



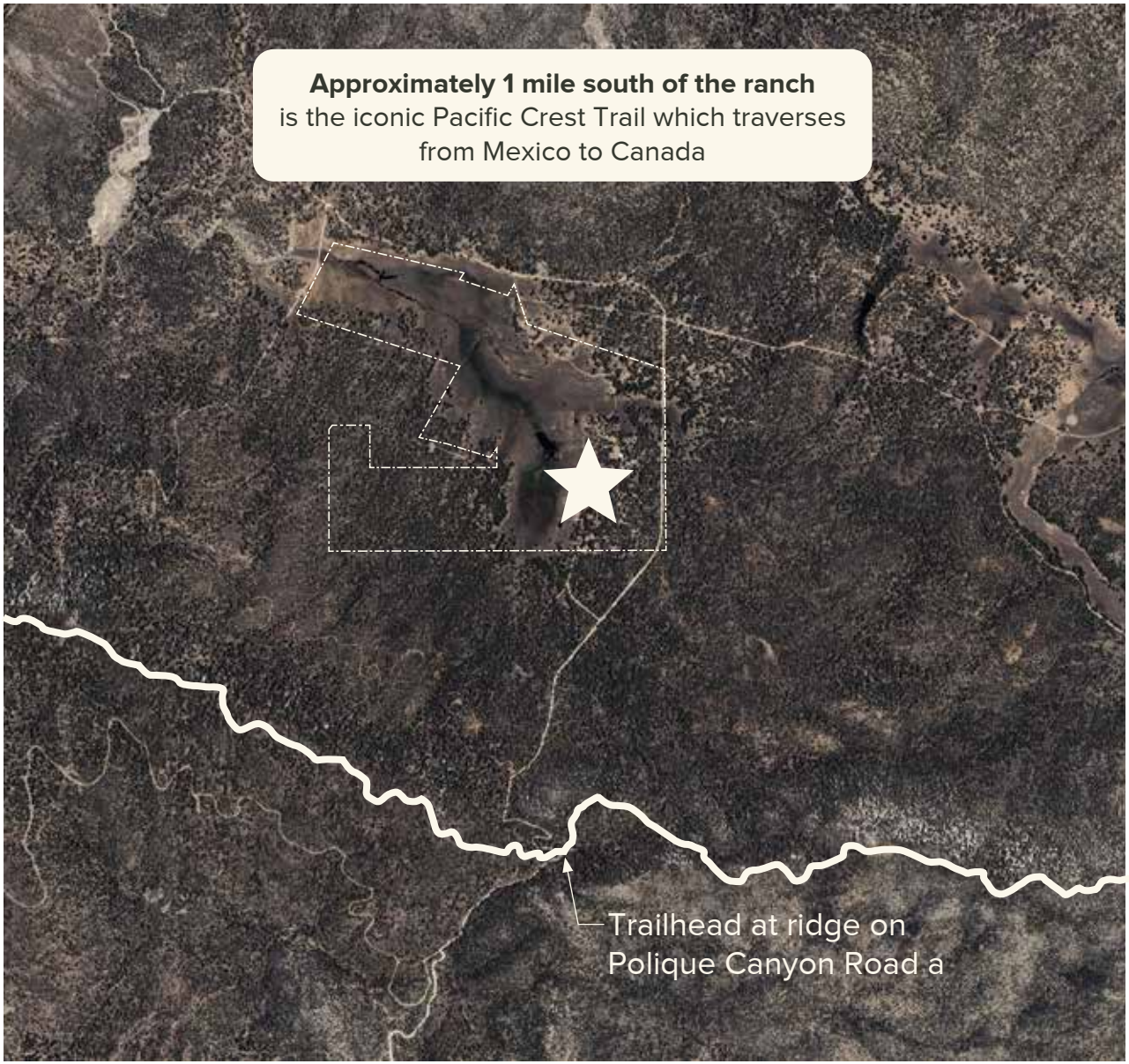
Approximately 2 miles east of the ranch is a rock outcropping known as the Holcomb Pinnacles with hundreds of boulders and bolted climbing routes. If you're not a climber, it's also a great place for a hike or picnic.







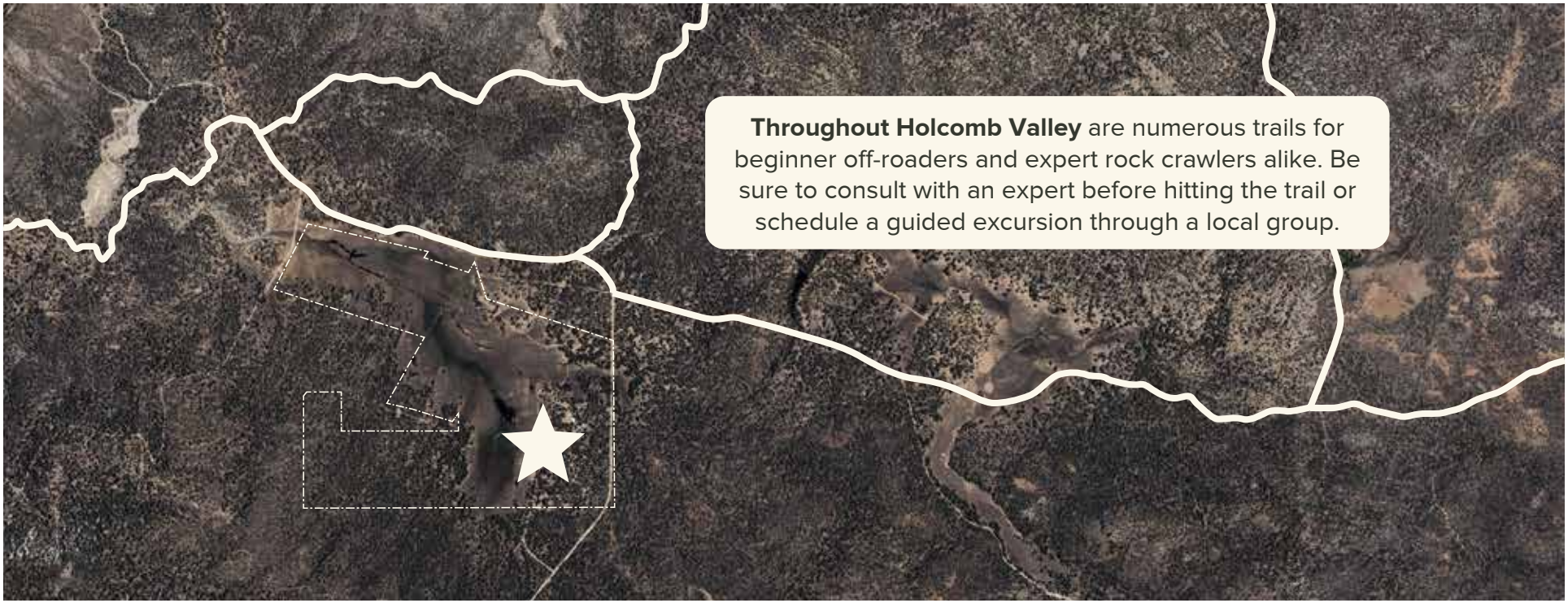
HIKE THE PACIFIC CREST TRAIL (PCT)







OFF-ROADING



Throughout Holcomb Valley are numerous trails for beginner off-roaders and expert rock crawlers alike. Be sure to consult with an expert before hitting the trail or schedule a guided excursion through a local group.







RANCH RULES

CAMPING

• Maximum number of people varies per site. We will coordinate with you to determine which campsites are best suited for your group size.
• Maximum number vehicles per site is four (4). Vehicles are determined by license plate. So one (1) car with a trailer is considered two (2) vehicles. Certain sites may accommodate more with permission from the owner in advance of your stay.
• Maximum length of vehicle plus trailer is 50 ft. Not all campsites are able to accommodate vehicles of this length. Please notify the owner in advance to reserve a suitable campsite.
• Camp only in those places specifically marked or provided as for camping.
• Do not leave camping equipment unattended for more than 24 hours without permission from the site host. Remove all personal property and trash when leaving.
• Speed limit: 10mph
• OHV's are allowed. They count as one of the allowed vehicles per campsite and must adhere to the speed limit and remain on established roads while on the property. May not be driven during quiet hours.
• Walk-to sites are tent only and require you to park your vehicle in a designated area and walk a short distance to the site.
• 4X4 sites require a high clearance 4WD/AWD vehicle.

QUIET HOURS

Please be considerate of other campers by keeping quiet from 10pm to 8am.





CAMPFIRES & FIRE SAFETY

Campfires must be contained within the fire rings provided. Living trees, shrubs and plants may not be cut or damaged. Remove all flammable material from around the campfire. Fires must be attended at all times and extinguished completely before leaving or going to sleep. Fires may be prohibited during burn ban conditions. Obey any special restrictions that have been issued or posted. The following is prohibited:
• Building, attending, maintaining, or using a fire outside of a fire ring or outside of a stove, grill or fireplace.
• Carelessly or negligently burning any hazardous objects or materials that are dangerous.
• Causing timber, trees, slash, brush or grass to burn except as authorized by permit.
• Leaving a fire without completely extinguishing it.
• Causing and failing to maintain control of a fire that damages the Forest System.
• Building, attending, maintaining, or using a campfire without removing all flammable material from around the campfire adequate to prevent its escape.
We are now selling firewood on site but if you need more than 1-2 bundle we recommend bringing your own.

FIREWORKS, FIREARMS AND ARCHERY

• Fireworks and explosives are prohibited.
• The discharging of firearms, BB guns, paintball guns, bow and arrows, sling shots, or any devices that use burning powder, explosives, compressed gases, etc. is prohibited.

BATHROOMS & SHOWERS

Bathrooms and showers are located near most campsites, and portable toilets will be provided throughout the property. If it would give you comfort to bring your own cleaning supplies to wipe down any surfaces, we encourage you to do so. Please use toilets properly, and do not throw away garbage, litter or other foreign substances into toilets and plumbing fixtures.

WATER QUALITY

Water which flows from spigots throughout the camp is sourced from a well on site and is unfiltered. Our water is tested for quality annually and is clean and suitable for drinking as of the most recent test.

TRASH & SANITATION

Please do not defecate, urinate, shower or dispose of dirty dishwater in the woods or open areas. Gather all garbage and litter in bags or containers. There may be dumpsters provided near the entrance to the property for disposal. If unavailable during your stay, please pack out all your trash when you leave.

• Discard solid foods and waste in garbage bags, and wash food and personal items away from drinking water supplies.
• Prevent pollution - keep garbage, litter, and foreign substances out of lakes, streams, and other water sources.
• No greywater dumping.

EXPLORING THE PROPERTY & RESTRICTED AREAS

This property used to be a ranch in the 1800s during the gold rush era. There are historic structures on the property still remaining, but they are in unsafe and uninhabitable condition. The property also served as a Boy Scout camp for the last 50 years, and there are numerous structures on site which were built by the Boy Scouts. Many of those structures are also in unsafe and uninhabitable condition. Through the decades, miscellaneous materials, debris, equipment, etc has been accumulated throughout the property. The buildings and the debris are unsafe, and guests are prohibited and highly discouraged from exploring buildings or handling found objects. While horses are out to pasture in the fenced meadow, guests are not permitted to enter the meadow. Guests must not approach the horses.

RANCH RULES

The history of this property is a part of the experience. Please enjoy exploring the grounds while adhering to the rules.



HORSES

The horses grazing in the meadow do not belong to Holcomb Valley Ranch. When horses are present, guest are prohibited from entering the meadow. Please do not approach, interact, touch or feed the horses. This is for your safety and the safety of the horses.

BEAR SAFETY

Holcomb Valley is bear country. They are infrequent visitors, but please prepare properly. Food and trash storage restrictions help reduce odors that attract bears. The following are prohibited:

- Possessing, storing or leaving any food (including food for pets), refuse or bear attractant unattended unless it is:
- properly stored in a bear-resistant container;
- stored in a closed, motor vehicle with a solid top;
- stored in a closed, hard-body trailer; or
- suspended at least ten (10) feet clear of the ground at all points, suspended at least four (4) feet horizontally from the supporting tree, and suspended at least four (4) feet from any other tree adjacent to the supporting pole or tree;
- Discarding or abandoning any food, refuse, or bear attractant unless it is disposed of in a bear-resistant trash receptacle or other receptacle which has been provided by the Holcomb Valley Ranch;
- Burning or burying foods, refuse, or bear attractant.



PETS AND ANIMALS

- Maximum of two (2) pets and animals per campsite. Pets must be restrained or on a leash while in developed recreation sites.
- Pets (except guide dogs) are not allowed in buildings or structures, in swimming areas or the protected meadow.
- Saddle or pack animals are allowed in recreation sites only where authorized by posted instructions.
- The pet owner is solely responsible for the safety and protection of their animal.
- Clean up after your pet.
- Someone must remain with the pet at all times.
- If any pet demonstrates aggressive behavior toward another pet or camper, you will be asked to leave the campground.
- No excessive barking.
- Do not feed or encourage wild animals into the campground.

PUBLIC BEHAVIOR

- No fighting or boisterous behavior.
- Keep noise at a reasonable level.
- Excessive volumes on radios, televisions, musical instruments, etc. are not permitted. Shutdown of these items may be necessary depending on your proximity to other campers.
- Please be considerate of fellow visitors.
- Business permits are required for any commercial activity.
- Drones or similar devices are prohibited.

WEATHER

Please check the local weather for current conditions. Days are typically sunny and warm with temperatures in the 70 degrees. Evenings can be quite chilly, with temperatures in the 30-50 degrees.

EMERGENCIES

Spending time in nature is a beautiful and wonderful thing, but it's important to be safe. Holcomb Valley Ranch is a rural property with limited cellular phone reception, no internet service and bumpy dirt access roads which makes communication and response in an emergency difficult. As with any other trip into the backcountry, prepare yourself for emergencies such as injury, sickness, vehicle malfunction, etc. Guests are advised to bring their own first aid kits and to be prepared in how to respond in case of an emergency.

Urgent Care: Bear Mountain Family Medicine Urgent Care, 41949 Big Bear Blvd, Big Bear Lake, CA 92315

24-hour Urgent Care: Rapid Care Urgent Care, 10841 White Oak Ave, Rancho Cucamonga, CA 91730

Animal Hospital: VCA Lakeside Animal Hospital, 42160 N Shore Dr, Big Bear, CA 92314.

24-hour Animal Hospital: Emergency Pet Hospital of Redlands, 2072 W Redlands Blvd, Redlands, CA 92373.

Fires and Immediate Threats to Life & Safety: Dial 9-1-1 or have the Camp Host / Ranch Manager assist you.

Non-emergency Matters: Call the U.S. Forest Service Ranger Station during regular hours at (909) 382-2600 or after hours at (909) 383-5654.

