



Antelope Valley California Poppy Reserve

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Antelope Valley official website: http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=627

15101 Lancaster Road, Lancaster, CA 93536

Poppy hotline: (661) 724-1180 Park info: (661) 942-0662

DURATION/DISTANCE: 5 miles/2 hours (has multiple options)

ABOUT THIS HIKE (for more info, see “Events” at www.OCHBC.org)

The finest concentration of California's state flower (during a good wildflower year) is preserved at the Antelope Valley California Poppy Reserve in the Mojave Desert west of Lancaster. Check the weather before going – poppies close up tight on cold days.

Antelope Loop Trail--and all trails in the reserve--are easy walking and suitable for the whole family. The trails are hard packed dirt through gentle rolling hills with unobstructed views to the horizon. A 5.5 miles total hike of 2 loops is possible from the Visitors Center-- on the Poppy Trail (North and South Loops) back to the Visitors Center is 2 miles of easy hiking. The second, more strenuous loop to Kitanemuk Vista Point and along the Lightning Bolt Trail onto Antelope Butte Vista Point and back is 3.5 miles round trip with 300-ft. elevation gain. Options to use cross-trails to cut short each loop are available. Hike Duration: Approximately 5 miles or 2 hours.

DIRECTIONS

The Reserve is located 15 miles west of Lancaster at 15101 Lancaster Road.

Proceed on Interstate 5 North to Highway 14 North. Exit left on the Avenue I exit and head west 15 miles. Avenue I becomes Lancaster Road.

FEATURES

- Parking is \$7 per vehicle. You may wish to carpool
- No dogs are permitted
- Restrooms and water are available at the parking lot
- Free Tours: 10 AM & 2 PM weekends; 11 AM on weekdays
- Bring a jacket!
- Don't pick the flowers – it is illegal.
- Stay on the trail - venomous snakes inhabit the fields



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SAFETY TIPS

- 1) Bring your camera!
- 2) Maps are available at the Visitors Center!
- 3) There is no shade; bring sunglasses, sunscreen, and a hat.
- 4) Comfortable shoes with traction are advised. Tennis shoes are acceptable.
- 5) Please dress appropriately for hiking. Loose, comfortable clothing with wicking capability and layers for temperature variation is recommended.
- 6) Please bring MORE than just one bottle of water.
- 7) The area is often windy!
- 8) Stop at trail junctures for your group members; stay together.

WHAT OTHER PEOPLE SAID

"Totally awesome! Beautiful flowers, great scenery..." -- Danielle

"I had a fantastic day, The Poppy reserve was so, so beautiful, and I did not want to leave..." -- Barb

"Amazing vistas!" -- Neil

