

Guided Hike: Historic Olive Orchard from the 1800s

May 20, 2023 | 9:00 to 10:30 am

Hikers will explore and learn about a 26-acre historic olive orchard from the 1800s that is "hidden in plain sight" within our state park. The Earl Fruit Company was the original owner of the orchard. They were owned by Edwin Tobias Earl who would go on to become a newspaper magnate in Southern California. So confident were they with the quality of their olives that they marketed them as "the best olives in the world." Those same olive trees remain today.



This loop trail is mostly natural surfaces as you walk through a hillside olive orchard. The ground can be uneven and slippery in the orchard. There is a somewhat steep climb into the orchard and a slightly more gradual descent out of the orchard. The trail cannot accommodate wheelchairs and strollers. There is a mix of sun and shade.

There are no services in this area of the state park. The nearest restrooms are available at the shopping center at the intersection of Folsom-Auburn Road and Greenback Lane, a little over a mile from where the hike starts and ends.

Signup for this hike here:

<https://signup.zone/L85dct2xjqigraPbR>



Guided Hike Cost: Free to FOLFAN members | \$5 suggested donation for nonmembers

Hike Leader: Devin Swartwood, California State Parks Interpretive Specialist II

Meetup Spot: Mountain Oak Court (Folsom), at overcrossing of Jedidiah Smith Memorial Trail

Hike Distance: 1 mile

Elevation Gain: 136 feet

Hike Duration: 90 minutes

Hike Difficulty: 2.5*

* Difficulty rankings are on a 1 to 5 scale. Distance, trail conditions, and elevation gain are taken into account in the ranking. Typically, 1 = easy; 2 = easy, with some moderate sections; 3 = moderate; 4 = moderate with some difficult sections; and 5 = difficult.

Dogs are not allowed on FOLFAN guided hikes. As with all areas of the Folsom Lake State Recreation Area, poison oak and ticks are present, sometimes immediately adjacent to trails. Please pack out all trash. When hiking, it is always best to dress in layers and wear sturdy hiking shoes and a hat. Don't forget to bring sunscreen and plenty of water. Binoculars are a plus!

