

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



CUSTOM TRIBUTE TABLES AVAILABLE TO BE PLACED IN STATE PARKS TO HONOR LOVED ONES

Create a lasting tribute with an engraved redwood picnic table in a local state park or beach

Nov. 29, 2023 —SANTA CRUZ, CA—Friends of Santa Cruz State Parks (Friends) today announced its Tribute Tables program has more than 200 new, redwood picnic tables available to be placed in local state parks and beaches in Santa Cruz and San Mateo counties.

The Tribute Tables program, a collaborative project between Friends and California State Parks, enables park supporters to honor a loved one, celebrate a milestone or demonstrate community support by having a message engraved into the cross-timber of the table.

Since the program launched in 2019, 100 new picnic tables have been ordered or installed at numerous state parks and beaches in Santa Cruz and coastal San Mateo counties. Currently, Tribute Tables are available to dedicate in day-use areas and campgrounds at 19 state parks and beaches such as Castle Rock State Park, The Forest of Nisene Marks State Park, Half Moon Bay State Beach and many more.

"Tribute Tables are a meaningful way to show appreciation for a loved one or special milestone in your life while supporting our beloved state parks and beaches," Friends Executive Director Bonny Hawley said. "A gift of a Tribute Table also will give park visitors a place to pause and reflect, or to take a break to celebrate."

For Alex Conway, it was a lovely surprise for her partner Gilbert for his birthday. The couple regularly walks together with their dogs at Manresa Uplands State Beach. Alex thought a Tribute Table there would be a wonderful way to celebrate him and their relationship.

"Since we came to this beach a lot, I thought this could be kind of a fun surprise for Gilbert," she said. "He's a terrific person and he's a great gift giver. He's very thoughtful, and I just thought, 'Oh he will not be expecting this' so I was trying to one up him."

The minimum donation for a Tribute Table is \$2,500 and proceeds from the Tribute Table program support local state parks and beaches. To learn more about Tribute Tables, please visit www.thatsmypark.org/tribute-tables or contact Jo Kenny at Jo@thatsmypark.org or (831) 429-1840, ext. 312.

Tribute Tables can be placed in the following state parks and beaches:

Burleigh Murray State Park

Castle Rock State Park

Castro Adobe State Historic Park

Half Moon Bay State Beach

Henry Cowell Redwoods State Park

Manresa Uplands State Beach

Montara State Beach

Natural Bridges State Beach

New Brighton State Beach

Pomponio State Beach

Portola Redwoods State Park

Rancho del Oso Unit of Big Basin State Park

San Gregorio State Beach

Santa Cruz Mission State Historic Park

Seacliff State Beach

Sunset State Beach

The Forest of Nisene Marks State Park

Wilder Ranch State Park

About Friends of Santa Cruz State Parks

Established in 1976, Friends of Santa Cruz State Parks (Friends) is a vital partner with California State Parks, creatively working to ensure our cherished local parks and beaches are thriving and available to all. Friends' innovative and collaborative community partnership provides support and investment for education, equity and inclusion, conservation, facilities improvements, historic preservation and cultural events. Friends currently operates a robust online ParkStore offering nature- and history-themed merchandise for sale to benefit local parks and beaches. Friends also operates ParkStores at Natural Bridges, New Brighton, Santa Cruz Mission, Seacliff, Wilder Ranch. Learn more at www.ThatsMyPark.org or via Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, YouTube and Pinterest.

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