

# Bike Rides and Hikes



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### Bike Rides

*Marin is the birthplace of mountain biking.*

**BIKE RENTALS** • Tom Johnson at Sausalito Waterfront Activities can take care of bike rentals (including helmets), provides maps and can be rented by the hour or the day. The shop also has 7-speed beach cruisers, as well as, kids bikes and tandem mountain bikes. 803 Bridgeway (415) 331-4448

**SHAVER GRADE** (The easiest of the trio of rides, 10 miles, about 1.5 hours long) in the Marin Municipal Water District Watershed. Head to Ross, and leave from the town square (Ross Commons) ride to Lagunitas Road, going left to take the road to Natalie Doffing Greene Park parking lot. Continue up the fire road to the dam and follow the fire road counter-clockwise around the lake. At the 4-way junction, Shaver Grade will be on the right. Stay with Shaver past Five Corners and after a couple steep sections, the grade ends at a paved road, Sky Oaks. Take it to the right for about 100 feet to a gravel road on left, which will drop you to Bon Tempe and Alpine lakes. Bullfrog Road will take you past an old quarry and to a meadow; stay on the right of meadow and fire road will hook you up with Sky Oaks Road again. Take a left and pass the ranger station. At the junction of Fairfax-Bolinas Rd. take two rights in a row and you are on Concrete Pipe fire road. Soon you are back at Five Corners and in the home stretch. Shaver is the 2nd left. At the four-way junction, take a left and return next to Phoenix Lake and parking lot.

**BOBCAT-MIWOK TRAIL LOOP** (This ride is just 7 miles long, but includes 1400 feet of climbing) Begin the ride at the parking lot at Tennessee Valley. Go towards the stables, and veer off at Marincello trail. After about a 1.5-mile climb with great bay views, Marincello intersects with Bobcat. Go left along the ridge that circles Gerbode Valley. Another half-mile and bobcat meets Rodeo Valley. Stay on Bobcat to the right. After two miles, Bobcat and Miwok come together. Go right and go back uphill for a little over a mile until the Wolf Ridge Trail heads west. A quarter mile more and Old Springs Trail comes in. Go left and you cross several wooden bridges and end up back at the stables.

**ELDRIDGE GRADE LOOP** (the most difficult of the rides, 2800 foot climb, and 3 hours of riding, but great views are the reward). This ride, like Shaver Grade, begins in Ross at Natalie Coffin Greene Park. Go right at the bridge, and take the fire road to Eldridge Grade and get ready to climb. After almost a mile, turn left at the junction at the Filter Plant. One and a quarter mile later, Lakeview Road will intersect with Eldridge, stay with Eldridge and bear left. Another mile and you will come upon Indian fire road, go right and get ready for a rocky ride. Two and a half miles later you will hit Ridgecrest Boulevard. Go left up to East Peak where the views will take what little breath you have away. Take a break and when you are ready, head back down along Ridgecrest past Eldridge and follow the paved road watching for cars. Almost one and a half miles later, Rock Springs-Lagunitas fire road comes up fast on the right as a single-track trail that connects to the fire road marked by an ancient wood sign. You will pass Laurel Dell fire road on left, and enter Portrero Meadow. Ride around the meadow to Rifle Camp fire road, which will carry you steeply down to Lake Lagunitas. Turn left and ride to the dam, cross and down to Lake Lagunitas. Turn left and stay on the road to the junction of Shaver Grade, turn right and head down grade to Phoenix Lake and Five Corners. Hang a right at the fire road and head for the parking lot.

### Hikes

#### WOLF RIDGE

This hike features great views of the Pacific, and a look back in history at the missile batteries and concrete fortifications that the cold war brought. Go south on Highway 101 and right at the last exit for Sausalito and go under the freeway. At the Bunker Road exit, go left and head for Rodeo Beach. The Coastal Trail starts above the beach and takes you out onto Wolfe Ridge, past the cold war relics and up where the air smells of salt. This hike is particularly great during the spring, when the ridge is in bloom with wildflowers.

