



John and Julie Kinder of Redwood City hike with their sons Alex, 12, and Zach, 4 months (in stroller), along with grandmother, Marjorie Kinder, in background, on the Cypress Grove trail that circles the Allan Memorial Grove in the Point Lobos State Reserve.

RICHARD GREEN/THE SALINAS CALIFORNIAN FILE PHOTO

# Get outdoors

Monterey County presents truly unlimited opportunities for outdoor recreation.

Be it hiking, horseback riding, surfing, scuba diving, bicycling, birding, camping, hang-gliding — you name it, there's a place to go.

What's even better, these destinations are almost exclusively on public lands, whose use is affordable and accessible. This list of state, national and county parks and public lands offers a glimmer of what's available:

## California State Parks

([www.parks.ca.gov](http://www.parks.ca.gov))

▫ **Andrew Molera:** 20 miles south of Carmel on Highway 1. Relatively undeveloped with hiking, fishing and beachcombing. 667-2315.

▫ **Asilomar State Beach:** 800 Asilomar Blvd., Pacific Grove. State beach and conference grounds sit on 107 acres and offer overnight lodging and views of the forest, surf and sand. 372-8016.

▫ **Carmel River State Beach:** One mile south of Ocean Avenue from Highway

1 in Carmel. Features a bird sanctuary in a lagoon, Monastery Beach popular with scuba divers, ocean and swimming and wading are extremely dangerous. 649-4909.

▫ **Fremont Peak:** Off of Highway 156, 11 miles south of San Juan Bautista on San Juan Canyon Road. Camping and picnic facilities and astronomical observatory with a 30-inch telescope. 623-4255, observatory: 623-2465.

▫ **Garrapata:** 6.7 miles south of Rio Road in Carmel on Highway 1. Two miles of beachfront with coastal hiking and 50-foot climb for view of Pacific, also features headlands at Soberanes Point, whale-watching and wildlife. 624-4909.

▫ **John Little State Reserve:** near Dolan Road on Highway 1 near Big Sur. Preserves and protects an area of steep, rugged cliffs on the Big Sur Coast where Lime Creek enters the ocean. The unit contains the original 1917 cabin of Elizabeth K. Livermore. 667-2315.