

## HIKING & BIKING AT SIX SIGMA RANCH TOUR #2 AND #3

The two trails were built in 2019 by the local Mountain Bike teams and their coaches and friends, with Jim Jacobson as the trailblazer.

Both trails start by the cattle guard on Rustici Drive/Oak Street and end by the Rock Wall on Rustici Drive (see map on page 7).

# TOUR #2 – ASBILL CREEK TRAIL ("New" Mountain Bike Trail, South Leg)

- The trail runs along Asbill Creek. The creek was named after the Asbill family who settled here in the 1860s.
- The 1-mile trail is fairly level, with just a few dips.
- A new half-mile loop into the hills south of the creek is under construction

# TOUR #3 – WINERY TRAIL ("New" Mountain Bike Trail, North Leg)

- The trail is about 2.8 miles long in a hilly terrain.
- It goes through different landscape types, mainly: Oak woodland (valley oak, blue oak, live oak); chaparral; open land with occasional trees.

Long pants and boots or closed-toe shoes are highly recommended on both trails.

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#### HIKE AND BIKE WITH COMMON SENSE

By God's grace, our family became stewards of Six Sigma Ranch twenty years ago. It's a pleasure for us to share this incredible piece of nature, and we hope you'll enjoy your tours here. (Learn more about the place in our books *Folks Who Walked the Land of Six Sigma Ranch* and *Oaks of Six Sigma Ranch*.)

Although we can't guarantee a 100% trouble-free experience, we'd like to share some common-sense advice for your comfort and safety.

- Choose a trail that works well with your fitness level, and dress according to the weather.
- Bring plenty of water to drink.
- Stay on the trail and keep dogs on leash.
- Keep an eye out for poison oak leaves-of-three, let them be!
- Protect against tics and insects wear long pants and boots or closed-toe shoes. Check your skin and clothing after the tour.
- Snakes will usually slither away before you notice them. If you should see one, leave it plenty of space. Do not climb rocks, and don't put your hands and feet where you can't see them.
- Bears will usually walk away before you spot them. If you should ever be faced with one, lift your arms and make yourself look as big as you can. Back off slowly, don't run.
- What about mountain lions, you may wonder? We have spotted mountain lions on our trail cameras, so we knew they were here, but it would take 20 years before we personally got a glimpse of one. Again, use common sense – hike and bike in broad daylight, stay with the group, and keep children close.

Kaj & Else

# #2 Asbill Creek Trail



1. Start by the cattle guard where Rustici Drive meets the private Oak Street. Follow the south trail across the field.



2. The trail curves slightly to the left and continues downhill to Asbill Creek. It offers some interesting looks at the landscape such as...



3. ... almost vertical walls of layered rock



4. ... all-year waterholes



5. ... rocky creek beds that dry out and sport various grasses as soon as there's a break in the rain in the rainy season



6. ... a behind-the-scenes look at drainage ditches that were constructed in the 1950s to lead rainwater to the creek from the hills on the north side of Asbill Valley.



7. A couple of times the trail intersects with cow trails that lead away from the creek. Stay on the trail closest to the creek for the best hiking experience.



8. Close to the end of the trail you'll see several weathered tree trunks at the other side of the creek. These trees were cut down in the 1950s when the owner, Norval Brookins, had a canal dug to relocate the part of the creek that was sprawling all over the valley.



9. The trail ends by the rock wall on Rustici Drive.

## #3 Winery Trail



1. Start by the cattle guard where Rustici Drive meets the private Oak Street. Follow the north trail across the field and into the hills clad with live oak and blue oak.



2. The trail leads around the cattle barn where giant valley oaks thrive by a seasonal stream. (About 0.4 mile from start)



3. You get a glimpse of the winery before the trail continues into the hills on the east side of the winery...



5. ... through oak land and chaparral.



4. ... then meanders downhill into the long valley behind the winery...



6. Before the trail heads west, you get a distant glimpse of the backside of the winery. (About 1.1 mile from start).





7. Again, the landscape is oak land alternating with chaparral.

8. The trail continues uphill through a mixed forest that is home for tall stands of fragrant California bay laurel trees.



9. The landscape changes to chaparral, and the trail now continues on the right side of the fence line. (About 1.8 mile from start).



11. Soon after you've spotted in the distance the rock wall and the giant valley oaks on Rustici Drive, the trail continues through a fence and merges into the North Leg of the "old" mountain bike trail that we have named Happy Camper Trail.



10. After a steep descent, the trail meanders with hairpin turns and ups-and downs on the north side of the driveway (Rustici Drive).



12. After about 100 feet you'll get to a "Y" in the trail. Make a sharp turn to the left to complete the Winery Trail and get back to Rustici Drive. (About 2.8 m from start). Follow Rustici Drive – or the Creek Trail – back to start. Or you can go straight and follow the trail to continue on the Happy Camper Trail.



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|          | Please sign in and park by the Tasting Room. Note, there are no signage on the trails yet. | y the Tasting Room.  | . Note, there are no sig           | gnage on the trails yet.  | SIX SIGMA RANCH  |
|          | Route  | Difficulty           | Distance                           | Terrain   | Notes  |
| 0 #      | Rustici Drive  | easy                 | 2 miles gravel<br>road             | slight incline, mainly<br>at the last half  | Driveway from Tasting<br>Room to Front Gate. Return<br>route for #2, #3, #4a,b |
| 1 #      | Sorensen Avenue  | medium               | 1.6 miles gravel<br>road           | 1.6 miles gravel altitude increase<br>road about 250 ft.  | Separate road from Tasting<br>Room to Diamond mine VY                          |
| # 2      | Asbill Creek Trail   | easy/<br>medium      | 1.0 miles trail                    | fairly level, with a<br>few "dips"  | Connects with # 0  |
| # 3      | Winery Trail   | hard                 | 2.8 miles trail                    | moderate hills  | Connects with # 0  |
| # 4a     | Happy Camper<br>Trail North  | very hard            | 3.1 miles trail                    | steep hills   | Extension of # 3<br>Connects with # 0  |
| # 4b     | Happy Camper<br>Trail South  | very hard            | 1.6 miles trail                    | steep hills   | Extension of # 4a<br>Connects with # 0   |
| #<br>0   | Eagle Rock Road  | medium               | 0.9 miles<br>narrow gravel<br>road | a few "dips" and two<br>creek crossings   | Separate road from Tasting<br>Room going "out back"                            |
| Ploture- | guides are available for t   | nese seir-guiaea toi | JTS. AISO aVallable at 2           | Ficture-guides are available for these self-guided fours. Also available at SixSigmaKanch.com/visit. Flower guide available fou | wer guide available too.   |