DIRECTIONS FOR GETTING TO
PALOMAR MOUNTAIN STATE PARK
19952 State Park Rd, Palomar Mountain, CA 92060
11/16/2016

NOTE: If you're relying on Google Maps, enter the destination as Palomar Mountain State Park; entering the above physical address will give you incorrect directions!

Here are some other pointers that will help make your trip trouble free:

- Unless you're driving a rugged vehicle, do not attempt to come up Nate Harrison Grade.
- Please note that there are no gas stations on Palomar Mountain.

A. From San Diego, Orange or Riverside County via the 15 freeway (note: See Section D if you're coming from Temecula via Pechanga Parkway / Pala Rd):

- Exit 76 East
- Travel about 20.7 miles til you come to a slight turn off on your left called "Palomar Mountain Road", also called "S6" or "South Grade Road". Note: This is a scenic drive with spectacular views, but rather steep and winding. If you'd like a milder grade (e.g. for trailers), continue east on 76 for another 9 miles and turn left onto "East Grade Road" (County Road S7) before reaching Lake Henshaw; see Instructions C below.
- Travel up the mountain for 6.8 miles til you come to a stop sign.
- Turn left and continue for a few yards. Ahead on your left you'll see a general store and a restaurant; turn left onto the road just before the general store - that's State Park Road.
- Keep going for about 3 miles. You'll eventually reach the park entrance/boundary and a big sign on your right. Before long you'll come to a stop sign and a small building on your right; that's the park HQ (a.k.a. kiosk). If there's someone at the kiosk, he or she will take your day use fee. If the kiosk is unattended, you may self register through the "iron ranger" in the island between the entry and exit lanes.

B. From Escondido and Valley Center:

- If you live in Escondido, you can use the above directions, but it's actually quicker to go through Valley Center.
- Take Valley Center Road (aka County Hwy S6) til you reach 76. Turn right (east).
- Travel about 5 miles til you come to a slight turn off on your left called "Palomar Mountain Road", also called "S6" or "South Grade Road". Note: This is a scenic drive with spectacular views, but rather steep and winding. If you'd like a milder grade (e.g. for trailers), continue east on 76 for another 9 miles and turn left onto "East Grade Road" (County Road S7) before reaching Lake Henshaw; see Instructions C below.
- Travel up the mountain for 6.8 miles til you come to a stop sign.
- Turn left and continue for a few yards. Ahead on your left you'll see a general store and a restaurant; turn left onto the road just before the general store - that's State Park Road.
- Keep going for about 3 miles. You'll eventually reach the park entrance/boundary and a big sign on your right. Before long you'll come to a stop sign and a small building on your right; that's the park HQ (a.k.a. kiosk). If there's someone at the kiosk, he or she will take your day use fee. If the kiosk is unattended, you may self register through the "iron ranger" in the island between the entry and exit lanes.
C. From East County via 79 north (through Julian) or 78 west

- Follow Google's instructions to where you turn left onto 76 West off 79 North.
- Travel 4.5 miles and turn right onto SR 7, also called "East Grade Road".
- Proceed up the mountain for 11.4 miles til you come to a junction of several roads. On your left will be SR 6 (South Grade) --- keep going straight for another 100 yards. Ahead on your left you'll see a general store and a restaurant; turn left onto the road just before the general store - that's State Park Road.
- Keep going for about 3 miles. You'll eventually reach the park entrance/boundary and a big sign on your right. Before long you'll come to a stop sign and a small building on your right; that's the park HQ (a.k.a. kiosk). If there's someone at the kiosk, he or she will take your day use fee. If the kiosk is unattended, you may self register through the "iron ranger" in the island between the entry and exit lanes.

D. From Temecula via Pala Rd

- Follow Google's directions to where you turn left (east) onto 76 after passing through Pala Mission.
- Travel 13.7 miles til you come to a slight turn off on your left called "Palomar Mountain Road", also called "S6" or "South Grade Road". Note: This is a scenic drive with spectacular views, but rather steep and winding. If you'd like a milder grade (e.g. for trailers), continue east on 76 for another 9 miles and turn left onto "East Grade Road" (County Road S7) before reaching Lake Henshaw; see Instructions C below.
- Travel up the mountain for 6.8 miles til you come to a stop sign.
- Turn left and continue for a few yards. Ahead on your left you'll see a general store and a restaurant; turn left onto the road just before the general store - that's State Park Road.
- Keep going for about 3 miles. You'll eventually reach the park entrance/boundary and a big sign on your right. Before long you'll come to a stop sign and a small building on your right; that's the park HQ (a.k.a. kiosk). If there's someone at the kiosk, he or she will take your day use fee. If the kiosk is unattended, you may self register through the "iron ranger" in the island between the entry and exit lanes.