

Robie Equestrian Park

within Tahoe National Forest, eastern Placer County, California

Zero Milepost for the 100-mile Tevis Cup

by Robert H. Sydnor, M-AERC, Tevis Trail Committee, AERC Trail Master

Introduction

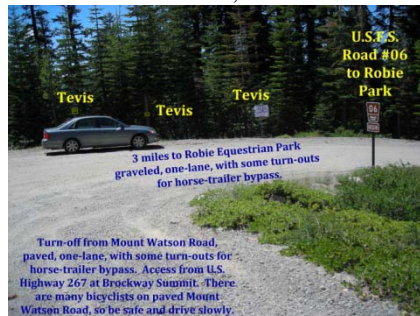
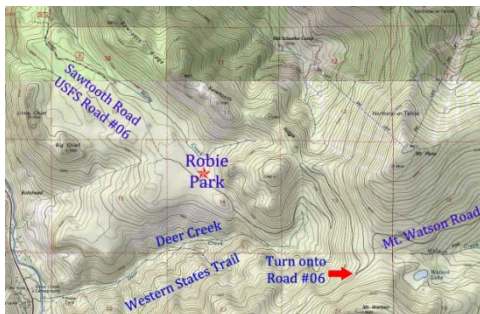
Robie Equestrian Park is located in eastern Placer County, California. It is a private 160-acre parcel within Tahoe National Forest that was purchased in 1990 by the Robie Foundation. Robie Park is located southeast of Truckee, northeast of Squaw Valley, and north of Lake Tahoe. Robie Equestrian Park serves as the staging area for the Tevis Cup, and it is the "zero milepost" for the 100-mile Western States Trail. It is used from June through October by equestrians for trail riding. At elevation 7,100 feet, Robie Park is snowed-in during the winter months.

Hyperlinks to Websites

For complete information, reservations, \$10 camping fees, a map of the campsites within Robie Equestrian Park, and maps of the equestrian trails, please visit the official website of the Robie Foundation: < www.robiefoundation.org > The officers of the Robie Foundation are well-known to LBHA members: Marion Arnold, Donna Williams, Dr. Richard Barsaleau (Honorary Member of LBHA), Jim Larimer, Cena Larimer, Jack Veal, Marvin Jacinto, and other members of the extended Larimer family. The Robie Foundation is a sister organization to the Western States Trail Foundation which holds the Tevis Cup each summer < www.teviscup.org >

Driving Directions

Take Interstate 80 eastward over Donner Summit, drive through Truckee, then turn south onto Highway 267 towards Lake Tahoe. At Brockway Summit, turn westward onto the Mount Watson Road (paved but narrow with turn-outs). Continue westward on the Mount Watson Road for 6¼ miles, then turn northwest onto the graveled Sawtooth Road which is numbered as USFS Road #06. Continue on the graveled Sawtooth Road, USFS Road #06 for three miles to Robie Park.



Equestrian Facilities within Robie Park

This is a "primitive" campground, so bring your own camping supplies (chairs, cots, folding tables, etc). Water is for horses only, so bring your own potable water for cooking.



At left: entrance signpost for Robie Equestrian Park. At right: old-fashioned hand-pump on top of concrete cistern for horse water. Bring your own buckets and jugs (as shown).

Equestrian Trails

This is the beginning of the 100-mile Western States Trail for the Tevis Cup (held on the Saturday in July closest to the full moon). But there are lots of other looping trails that are used by equestrians throughout the summer months: the Watson Loop and the Cena Lar Loop, plus logging roads that lead to the Sawtooth Trail and the summit of Mount Pluto. Prior to your visit, please visit the Robie Foundation website and download their trail maps.

Equestrian trail photographs for Robie Park are also plotted on GoogleEarth:

<http://www.panoramio.com/user/1521778/tags/Robie%20Equestrian%20Park%3B%20eastern%20Placer%20County%3B%20CA>



At left: post-pile structure within volcanic rocks. In the distance is Squaw Valley and Granite Chief (elevation 9,006 feet).
At right: Within Robie Equestrian Park and along on the Cena Lar Trail, a large log had fallen across the trail due to heavy winter snowfall. While working as a USFS certified sawyer and AERC Trail Master for the Robie Foundation (= volunteer trail maintenance), I cleared the fallen log; but then (with a sense of practicality and humor) also made this remount bench for equestrians to use. The fallen log is locked-in place by other vertical trees and cannot roll laterally. Future equestrians will not slip on loose bark while remounting from this rounded foot-hold. The horse will not get a laceration or contusion on his pasterns, knees, or hocks because the edges of the log are cambered and rounded. This artwork only takes a few minutes with a Husqvarna chainsaw from Sweden.