

# KQ RANCH RESORT

Above and beyond in Southern California

At 4,800 feet, KQ Ranch Resort is way up in Southern California's Cuyamaca Mountains on a spectacular drive that takes first-time visitors' breath away. On a clear day, you can feast your eyes on high-mountain grasslands, rolling peaks and oak and pine forests from Mount San Jacinto to the Pacific Ocean. Hiking and horseback riding trails follow the ridges, letting you drink in the view.

At KQ Ranch, you can reserve a rental cottage, chalet or cabin or hook up your rig at one of 200 RV campsites, including some with horse stalls. Then take advantage of the facilities to play tennis, minigolf, baseball, volleyball, table tennis, billiards or shuffleboard. There's a kids club with child-friendly activities, as well as a couple of playgrounds. Dogs are welcome, and the enclosed dog run gives them free rein.

Although the atmosphere at this Coast Deluxe Resort is kickback Californian, the grounds and facilities are scrupulously clean and well-maintained, from the hot showers to the heated pool. The entrance gates close promptly at dusk, but don't worry if you're out late because the staff provides an access code at check-in.

The comfortably rustic clubhouse, with its two stone fireplaces, hosts activities from card games to family movies. Staff members keep things humming with pancake breakfasts, horseshoe tournaments, holiday parties and theme events, including the crowd-pleasing Western Days. Be sure to place your order for the Saturday night barbecue, then get to know your neighbors at a good old-fashioned campfire.

Take your fishing pole to the resort's catch-and-release pond or make the short drive to Lake Cuyamaca where you can keep the fish you catch. Surrounded by Cuyamaca Rancho State Park, the 110-acre lake is stocked with trout, bass, channel catfish, crappie, bluegill and sturgeon. While you're there, you can rent a boat or fish from the pier.

KQ Ranch gets its name from Julian's old King and Queen mines. The mines are long closed, and the former gold rush town is now famous for its apple orchards, first planted in the 1870s. These days, specialty shops line the town's charming old streets instead of saloons. Consider joining the folks who converge each spring for the Wildflower Show and each fall for Julian's signature Apple Days festival.




**LOCATION:** Julian, California  
**RESORT TYPE:** Coast Deluxe  
**SEASON:** Year-round  
**WEBSITE:** coloradoriveradventures.com  
**GOOD SAM RATING:** 7.5/9.5★/8.5

