

# *Dear Wedding Guests,*

We are less than three months away from our wedding celebration and couldn't be more excited that you are joining us. We thought it a good time to provide some additional details about the location, schedule, housing, and surrounding activities. Because we have the unique opportunity to celebrate on the Hastings Natural History Reservation, there is also a set of rules that we would need to highlight, including the fact that every single guest needs to sign a waiver (a form that releases the University of California of any liability). Finally, we point out a few wonderful activities and tourist attractions in the area for the many of you that are joining us from out of town or internationally.

Most of the information can also be found on our wedding website:

[www.withjoy.com/danaandmario/welcome](http://www.withjoy.com/danaandmario/welcome).

Check out our photos here:

[www.withjoy.com/danaandmario/moments](http://www.withjoy.com/danaandmario/moments).

Our small registry:

[www.zola.com/registry/danaandmario](http://www.zola.com/registry/danaandmario)

## About Hastings.

The Hastings Natural History Reservation, our home for the last few years, is managed by UC Berkeley and serves as a long-term research and teaching location for universities and other groups. It is therefore paramount that we do not interfere with ongoing research activities and disturb the local residents, but also the fauna and flora as little as possible. Most importantly, there is always **high fire risk** in the month of June and **smoking is not allowed** anywhere on the Reservation. The only place smoking is accepted is in a car. Do not dispose of cigarettes anywhere on the Reserve. Equally important: when driving in California, and especially on the Reservation, do not pull the car into an area of tall grass! Catalytic converters and other hot parts could ignite the vegetation below your vehicle and we don't need to tell you how devastating wildfires can be around here. Finally, there are **no pets** allowed on the reserve, not even in your car. Find out more about the reserve, its history, diversity, and ongoing research here: [www.hastingsreserve.org](http://www.hastingsreserve.org) (the website was built by Dana!).

The entrance to the Hastings Reservation is located by mile marker 26 of E. Carmel Valley Road. If you are driving, please make sure to have at least ½ a tank of fuel when leaving Carmel Valley Village or Greenfield, as the next gas station is at least a 20-minute drive away. When you first arrive at Hastings, please make sure to sign the waiver with Mario. There will be dedicated parking areas on the reserve. Cell phone reception is absent for all providers except AT&T - plan accordingly! There is the possibility of using the internet for essential communication, but bandwidth and data allocation are extremely limited. Therefore, we ask you to minimize internet usage and upload pictures etc. when you are back in civilization. We see this as an opportunity to be fully present with body and soul, free from the constant digital distractions.

# Transportation.

For locals and the guests staying in Carmel Valley Village, there will be free transportation to and from the ceremony and party on Saturday between noon and 1:00 am. **NO DRUNK DRIVING!** Carmel Valley Road is curvy enough when sober! For other activities, please coordinate to car-pool. We will match you accordingly. Overall, we are trying to keep the number of cars to a minimum and the Hastings road (aka the longest driveway ever) is not passable for all vehicles, but parking will also be available near the main gate (see map below).

# Housing.

If you are staying overnight at Hastings, by tent, RV, or in one of the buildings, we ask that you contribute \$20.- per night, either by check or in cash. Most of you have communicated your housing choices with us, but please feel free to contact us with any further questions. In short, camping and RV parking will be restricted to dedicated areas. There are no RV hook-ups available, but you will be able to access bathrooms. As ardent outdoor enthusiasts, we ask that you follow the Leave-No-Trace principle, which also includes fruit waste etc. There will be limited fridge space and you can access a kitchen if necessary. **Camp stoves or any other open flames are 100% prohibited!** We will provide dinner on Friday (Risotto, incl. vegan options) and Saturday (catering by the infamous Michael Jones and his crew), as well as a brunch-style buffet on Saturday and Sunday morning.

If you are staying in one of the Hastings buildings, we will have a room reserved for you. The accommodations are very basic and unfortunately, we cannot provide sleeping bags, sheets, or pillow covers for everyone. There is a limited number of wool blankets and sleeping bags available, but the weather is usually quite warm around that time. **Therefore, please bring sheets and pillow covers, and if possible, a sleeping bag or blanket.** The moon will be small, so please make sure to bring a headlight or flashlight. If you plan to join the hikes, a water bottle and small snack would also be useful.

# Things to Do.

Carmel Valley and its surrounding areas offer a great variety of activities and attractions. Mario will lead two guided hikes (Friday and Sunday afternoon) for those of you that are interested in the fauna and flora of Hastings. There is an impressive number of wine tasting places in Carmel Valley Village, as well as our favorite craft beer bar/art gallery (Valley Greens Gallery). Monterey also boasts one of the best breweries in California (Alvarado Street) and of course the Monterey Bay Aquarium, Fisherman's Wharf, and many other attractions.

## Here a few suggestions and highlights

Asilomar Beach, Lover's Point, Pacific Grove

Wine Tasting in Carmel Valley Village

Hiking in the Ventana Wilderness ([www.ventana.org](http://www.ventana.org))

Point Lobos State Park

Cannery Row

Big Sur Coastline

Pinnacles National Park

Garland Ranch Regional Park

Monterey Bay Aquarium

# Schedule

## Friday June 1<sup>st</sup> 2018

**14:00 — 16:30**

*Guided Hastings hike with Mario*

*17:00*

*Rehearsal with intimate circle – Plaque tree*

**18:00 — 22:00**

*Rehearsal dinner & pre-wedding social*

## Saturday June 2<sup>nd</sup> 2018

**8:00 — 15:00**

*Brunch, leisure, games & arts*

**16:00 — 17:00**

*Ceremony & cocktail hour  
with music by Fergus Whammy Shipman*

**17:00 — 18:00**

*Group photo & transition to dinner (Lower Barn)*

**18:00 — 21:00**

*Dinner & speeches*

**21:00 — dawn**

*Dance, dance, dance  
with music by DJ PD Williams*

## Sunday June 3<sup>rd</sup> 2018

**10:00 — 14:00**

*Brunch & hangover yoga*

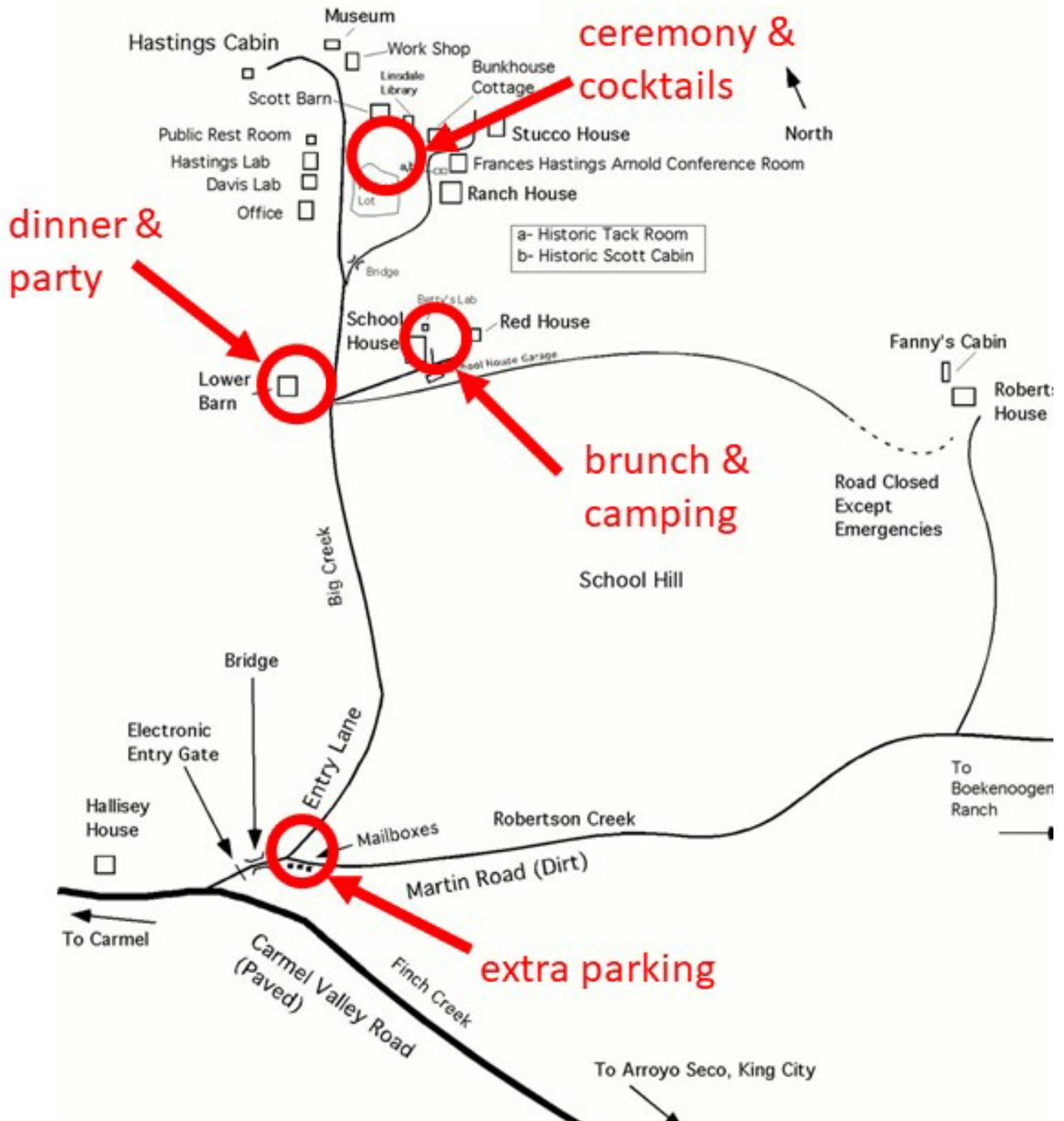
**12:00 — 14:00**

*Voluntary community clean-up*

**14:00 — 16:30**

*Guided Hastings hike with Mario & Dana*

A Diagrammatic Map of Buildings at Hastings, NOT to Scale.



## **WELCOME TO THE HASTINGS NATURAL HISTORY RESERVATION**

Please take the time to read the following item carefully – refer to the attached maps if you need help locating any of the items discussed below.

### **❖ Office**

Office hours are generally from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm Monday to Friday. The office is normally not open on the weekends, but the Director will be available by phone if you need assistance. If you encounter any problem while here the office is first place to go to get them resolved.

### **❖ Liability Waivers**

**If you have not already signed and submitted a liability waiver, you must do this immediately upon arrival.** Blank waivers are located in the binder located outside the office. Please put signed waivers in the binder pockets or inside the office in the file holder on the Director's door.

### **❖ Resident Director's Residence**

The Resident Director (Vincent Voegeli) lives full time in the Halisey House, located just outside the main gate ~ 200 yards up Carmel Valley Road. Look for a mailbox painted like a cow! The main Hastings phone number (831 659-2664) rings over to this residence 24/7, so have your faculty/group leader call first if there is a problem. You can also call the Director on his cell number (831 594-1664), although reception is spotty and you may not always be able to reach this number. Please see your Faculty or Group Leader first if you have a medical or personal issue.

### **❖ Reserve Steward**

Please see the Reserve Steward (Jaime del Valle) for maintenance and supply request. His office is located in the Linsdale Library, and he can also be reached on his cell (831 594-5277). He does not live at the reserve, so for issues after hours or on the weekend please call the Director first; If you can't reach the Director, call the Steward on his land line (831 659-3717) as his cell does not work at his residence.

### **❖ Medical Emergencies and Personal Safety**

Hastings is a remote, outdoor location, and as such it is imperative that everyone be extra careful when it comes to their safety and the safety of others. Ticks, poison oak, rattlesnakes, mountain lions, and rodents (which can carry Hanta Virus) all occur at Hastings and should be avoided if spotted. If you have a life-threatening emergency, notify your group leader/faculty and call 911 immediately. The closest hospital is Monterey Peninsula Hospital, located ~ 50 minutes away. Ambulance service comes from lower in the valley, and will take a minimum of 35 minutes to get here. For any type of emergency, life threatening or not, please call the Director or Reserve Steward as soon as you can.

### **❖ Speed Limits and Parking**

The speed limit on any of the roads in the reserve is limited to 15 mph. You will be asked to park outside the gate if you have problems maintaining this speed! Several blind corners exist on the roads, so please be extra careful to keep an eye out for

pedestrians and utility vehicles when driving in and out of the reserve. Also, watch for animals on the road when you go in and out. The roads in and around Hastings are primary crossings for newts during the winter and early spring – they are slow moving and hard to spot, but do your best to avoid them!

Limited parking is available around most of the housing units (1 to 2 cars) - for other parking please use the lots across from the barn or by the office. Do not double park, and **DO NOT block any roads or driveways**. It is imperative that these access ways stay open in case of fire or other emergency.

#### ❖ **Study/Research Field Sites**

Hastings Reservation is an ongoing research/study area – please do not disturb areas of obvious research (flags, poles, markers, etc.). Also, please stay on the roads and discernible paths when walking around the reserve. Do not remove anything from the reserve, including vegetation, unless you have permission to do so.

#### ❖ **General Housing Items**

Please do not leave doors open at any time – ground squirrels, wood rats, and mice will come inside and make themselves at home if given the opportunity. The thermostats are set on day/night programs that help us to save energy; these settings should be comfortable for most groups. If you find the settings to be an issue, you can make small adjustments to them if necessary. Trash should be separated into recyclable and non-recyclable items and placed in the appropriate receptacles outside your unit. If you find something not working, by all means let us know, but please do not try to fix it yourself (it often makes things worse!). The Reserve Steward is intimately familiar with all the quirks of Hastings, and often times can quickly take care of an issue – tell him what problems you’re having and it will get resolved. Quiet hours are from 10:00 pm to 7:00 am – (and for the most part any other time!) - please respect this. Remember, Hastings is a research and educational facility, not a resort/hotel.

#### ❖ **Hastings is 100% non-smoking.**

**No smoking in allowed in any building or outside.** The only exception is that you may smoke inside your vehicle. **DO NOT** dispose of cigarette butts outside – carry these with you when you leave.

#### ❖ **Guests / Pets**

If you have guests coming to visit, please let the Director know ahead of time. Overnight guests are allowed if there is space and approval has been granted ahead of time. All guests must sign a waiver when they arrive, and are subject to the standard housing rate. Once you have obtained approval from the Director, you are required to make a reservation request on our website **PRIOR** to their arrival. **Due to ongoing research with the native wildlife and fauna, NO pets are allowed at Hastings at any time (dogs, cats, etc.).**

#### ❖ **Telephones and Cell Service**

In addition to the office, phones are located in the Fanny Arnold Classroom, Ranch House, Bunkhouse, and Robertson House. **These phones are for LOCAL and EMERGENCY use only!!!** If you need to make a long distance call, please use a credit card or call collect. The only cell service that works at Hastings is AT&T – you’ll find the reception varies from non-existent to OK depending on your location – try moving to a different spot if you have this provider and are unable to get service.

### ❖ **Water System**

Our water is from a well system – it is chlorinated and potable from faucet. Please limit your water use to what is necessary – our septic systems are quite old and do not handle heavy inputs of wastewater very well. By the same token, please notify the Reserve Steward or Director immediately if you have issues with water not shutting off (i.e. toilet running, leaky faucets, etc.).

### ❖ **Internet Access**

Wi-Fi is available in all buildings and outside in most areas around the Office/Classroom. See the Reserve Director or your Group Leader for the access code (several wireless networks will show up – use the one called “Hastings Public Wi-Fi “). The system has a restricted bandwidth, so please do not use it for things such as Netflix, U-tube, Pandora, large file downloads, etc. Also, please make sure you have “automatic updates” disabled on your device. Usage is monitored, and if you are determined to be using excessive bandwidth you will be blocked from access.

### ❖ **When you leave – Cleaning and Related items**

We do not have any cleaning staff – you are responsible for leaving your housing unit as clean or cleaner than when you arrived. Vacuum cleaners, mops, and brooms are located in all the units, as well as cleaning supplies. If you need anything for cleaning, please let the Director or Reserve Steward know and we will get it for you. Close all doors and windows securely, and turn the thermostat control to off. Please drop off recyclable material in the large roll-off bin by the mailboxes (near the entrance to the reserve); non-recyclable garbage should be placed in the small dumpster just outside the electronic gate into the reserve – use the larger of the three (the other two are for other landowners in the area).

### ❖ **Fire Pit**

Due to the high risk of grass/forest fires at certain times of the year, **the fire pit located by the barn is only to be used with the approval of the Director or the Reserve Steward.** If you are given the OK to have a bonfire, only use the wood that is next to the fire pit; DO NOT use the firewood which is stacked up by the nearby road.

### ❖ **Library**

The library contains a collection of reference and general science reading material that can be used as needed. No checkout is necessary, but please return any material when you are finished with it. The library also serves as the Reserve Steward’s office, so please knock or see him prior to going into the building. You can also check with the Director if he is unavailable.

### ❖ **Museum**

Access is by request only. Although most of the Hastings collections have been moved to the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology (UC Berkeley) over the years, some specimens remain in the museum. Please see the Director for access.

### ❖ **Workshop**

Access to the workshop is by permission only. Contact the Reserve Steward or the Director if you need access or help with some construction project.

❖ **Laundry**

Washer and dryers are located in all of the housing units except for the Sunnybrook Trailer and Betty's Cabin). If you are in these unit please use the washer and dryer located either in the Ranch House (front entrance porch) or the School House (adjacent to the screened porch) respectively. Please dry clothes outside if possible to save running the dryer.

❖ **Lost Property**

Anything handed in as lost property will be kept in the main administration office. See the Director to inquire about any misplaced items.