



expert
CONTRIBUTOR

Hidden Gems of the East Bay

BY CHRISTINE CANALES | REALTOR | WR Properties

Discovering the Local Treasures That Make Our Community Shine

When most people think of the East Bay, they picture our thriving neighborhoods, excellent schools, and close connection to San Francisco. But those of us lucky enough to call this place home know there's so much more to love. From breathtaking landscapes to family traditions and small-town charm, the East Bay is full of hidden gems waiting to be discovered.

Here are just a few of my favorite local treasures that showcase why this community is such a special place to live, work, and put down roots.

Nature & Outdoor Escapes

If you're craving fresh air and wide-open spaces, the East Bay has plenty to offer:

- **Round Valley Regional Preserve in Brentwood** - A peaceful spot for hiking, horseback riding, or simply enjoying sunrise views.
- **Contra Loma Reservoir in Antioch** - Ideal for fishing, kayaking, or a relaxing picnic by the water.
- **Black Diamond Mines in Pittsburg** - A unique blend of history and nature, where scenic trails meet fascinating old mine tours.

Local Eats & Treats

Food has a way of bringing people together, and our local favorites do not disappoint:

- **Campos Family Vineyards in Byron** - A family-owned winery known not only for its beautiful setting and great wines, but also for hosting concerts, fundraisers, and community gatherings that bring people together.
- **MJ's Downtown Café & Bakery in Brentwood** - Famous for hearty breakfasts, fresh-baked pastries, and a welcoming small-town vibe that makes it a favorite gathering spot.
- **Zephyr Grill & Bar in Brentwood** - A lively local favorite offering upscale comfort food, seasonal specials, and a welcoming atmosphere perfect for date nights or celebrations.
- **Brentwood Craft Beer & Cider** - A go-to for casual nights out with friends, featuring rotating local brews, ciders, and tasty pub-style eats.

Arts, Culture & Community

Our vibrant community spirit shines through in the arts and local gatherings:

- **El Campanil Theatre in Antioch** - Hosting live performances and cultural events in a historic venue.
- **Brentwood Farmers' Market** - A Saturday morning tradition featuring fresh produce, handmade goods, and local musicians.
- **Downtown Brentwood Murals** - Colorful public art that adds character and creativity to our streets.

Unexpected Finds

Sometimes the best gems are the ones off the beaten path:

- **Big Break Regional Shoreline in Oakley** - A true Delta treasure with sweeping water views, a fishing pier, kayak access, and an interactive visitor center that tells the story of our waterways.
- **Discovery Bay's Secret Spots** - Hidden coves and waterfront paths perfect for an afternoon stroll.
- **Vasco Caves Regional Preserve in Byron** - A fascinating preserve rich with sandstone outcrops, ancient Native
- **American rock art, and rare wildlife** - available to explore only through guided tours, making it one of the East Bay's most unique and protected places.

Closing Thoughts

Living in the East Bay is about more than just beautiful homes—it's about belonging to a community filled with experiences, traditions, and hidden gems that make every day special. Whether you're exploring trails, sharing a meal, or supporting local artists, these treasures remind us why we're proud to call this place home. After all, it's not just where you live, it's how you live—and the East Bay offers countless ways to create memories that last a lifetime.

Brentwood Resident



WR PROPERTIES
WINNING RESULTS FOR YOU!

Where Relationships Drive Results



Christine Canales

REAL ESTATE

Christine Canales, Realtor®
canalesrealtor@gmail.com | DRE#02054139

Call Me Today!
Direct Cell: 408-420-9656



Please Scan with Phone Camera to visit my Website!