

**IMPORTANT UPDATES
4/16/18 FOR
DAY VISITORS!**

CAMP PETALUMA

The 41st Annual West Coast Military Vehicle Rally & Swap Meet April 24-29, 2018

San Francisco/Petaluma KOA
20 Rainsville Road
Petaluma, CA 94952

BASIC TRAINING

This is the continuation of the largest annual MV swap meet and MV gathering west of the Mississippi. It returns to the large KOA campground in Sonoma County. This is the fourth venue for the annual Spring Meet that **started 41 years ago**. It was moved in April 2017 from Tower Park Resort because of planned, major renovations in Campground 4 including a water park. This is ongoing. But we held the September 2017 Camp Delta there in Campground 2 and it was perfect! The Fall meet returns to Tower Park Resort September 18-23, 2018.

Just announced – The big April meet is going back to Tower Park in 2019! Do not contact the reservation office. Campground layout is not updated. No reservations possible until we announce it

Here are highlights of the upcoming Spring 2018 Camp Petaluma event

- ✪ Official event is Tuesday – Sunday but discounted group camping/lodging rates will be good for “early birds” arriving the prior Sunday, Monday. As of February, we turned unreserved and unconfirmed sites back to KOA. Reserve through them – 707-763-1492. Identify as with the “military vehicle event.”
- ✪ No MV registration required
- ✪ No fee for those selling at their campsites. No vending outside of campsites/cabins
- ✪ You are welcome to drive your MV in the campground. No steel track grousers
- ✪ We have places for MVs that are not in campsites. This includes MVs driven by day visitors. See details below.
- ✪ Hotels, restaurants, antique stores and more are a short drive away
- ✪ Those flying into San Francisco or Oakland International Airports can take an airporter bus to Petaluma fairgrounds and catch J’s Taxi, Uber or Lyft to our event
- ✪ Four-night minimum stay, any four nights, except in the Group Camping Area
- ✪ Last Sunday is pull-out day, not a good show day
- ✪ Communal, outdoor, roofed kitchen in the north area
- ✪ Recreation hall
- ✪ Pool, sauna, hot tub, dog park, wi-fi, fire rings & firewood

- ⊛ Washers, dryers, restrooms with showers
- ⊛ Trailer and overflow car parking for campers in the RV storage yard, north end. Ok to block permanent trailers during our week
- ⊛ \$10/day-visitor admission fee paid to KOA, like last year. Wristbands.
- ⊛ 100 day-visitors maximum. Wristbands allocated to campers do not go against this number.
- ⊛ No onsite visitor parking except for handicapped
- ⊛ Offsite visitor parking – different lot and shuttle plan from last year, see Parking section

CAMPING

KOA has a wide variety of cabins, RV and tent campsites, and dry camping options. There is a four-night minimum stay – any four nights except for the \$10/night group dry camp area. This was our concession to receive the best rates

Campers in regular, numbered sites and Camping Cabin renters will receive vehicle parking passes and up to four wristbands. Lodge renters up to six. We are not sure if KOA will require them to be worn. You will tell them how many wristbands you need for the party that is with you.

Campers may leave wristbands at the office on “will call” for friends/family who are arriving later to camp with you. Consider putting a map or instructions how to find you in an envelope with the bands. Option is for the camper to drive offsite to deliver the bands and perhaps offer a ride to camp

Group Area dry camping is at north end, and they might add the lawn field below the entrance road. Renting a \$10/day space is a way for visitors to avoid offsite parking and shuttling. It brings space, vehicle pass, wristband, and no four-night minimum
KOA is at 707-763-1492

KOA will divide long campsites in two for sharing. Pull-through RV sites have vehicle access on both sides. Ask them

DAY VISITORS / COMMUTERS

\$10/day for a wristband, payable at KOA office

Maximum of 100 visitors per day, so arrive early especially Friday, Saturday. This KOA owner is focused on campers, not visitors, which is one reason we are moving the Spring meet in 2019 back to Tower Park

Since the large fields to the east are unusable in April due to softness, there is NO onsite visitor parking. We are again using offsite lots and shuttles. See parking section below for details. KOA will have a guard at the foot of the entrance road allowing in:

- Campers, cabin renters checking in or booking a new reservation like in the Group Area
- Those already with a camping parking pass, wristbands
- Those with handicap parking privileges
- People being shuttled from offsite parking by J's Taxis
- Visitors driving MVs, because we have parking for visitor MVs inside

See the interactive campground map on this website to learn who is where. This may not be completely updated

Day visitors driving MVs will be allowed into the campground after paying the admission fee. If you have not pre-arranged to park your MV at a friend's campsite you should contact Activities Coordinator John Neuenburg to learn where to park, contact info below, and ideally BEFORE the meet. He will assign a spot. If he is not reachable, drive in the gate, turn left, and proceed up the road until you see a signed area by the bocce ball and dog run area, across from campsites 134-136, 145. U-turn and parallel park hard by the grass bank, right side wheels off the road to allow large vehicles to pass. This is a slight grade so prevent your vehicle from rolling. There might be wheel chocks there. NO "CIVILIAN VEHICLES" HERE

Day visitors trailering MVs should unload at an offsite location and drive the MV in. Reason is there will be no non-camper "civilian" vehicles allowed up the KOA entry road.

IMPORTANT PARKING / SHUTTLE INFO

CAMPERS AND CABIN RENTERS: Most campsites and cabins have paved or gravel vehicle parking areas. Cabins only have one official parking spot. Officially, campers get two vehicle passes for a camping rig and another vehicle. So ask for two. DO NOT park on lawns if soft so that KOA will have to repair it. Do not park on the streets except an MV in an authorized location

TRAILER PARKING LOT: The KOA operates a commercial RV storage lot at the north end next to the north Group Camping Area. We have the right to park trailers and extra vehicles there, blocking tenants who are prohibited from accessing their units during our event. This can free up space in your campsite for your MVs or sales goods, or buddy's MV. Work out a deal! Campers who have extra space for a commuter's MV, please tell John Neuenburg and he will match you up. Contact info below

CAMPERS WITH MILITARY VEHICLES: We will have room for all MVs. They should park at campsites but we have other spots, to be assigned by Activities Coordinator John Neuenburg. See contact info below. Respect all coned or other reserved areas!

GENERAL VISITOR PARKING AND TRAILER UNLOADING, PARKING: We just learned 4/15/18 the owner of the dirt lot across from Pete's Henny Penny restaurant leased it out, so we cannot use it. This is workable because this year, any legal parking area can be used due to our flexible shuttle plan via J's Taxis. There is also a small dirt lot across from KOA on Stony Point Road just north of Rainsville Road, at the "pumpkin patch" field. This might be open. Do not park in the driveway for the barn across the street from KOA entrance. This will be a turnaround or passenger drop-off area at your own risk. There are more options, see next item.

ON-CALL SHUTTLES TO/FROM OFFSITE LOTS (you'll need a cell phone): We are NOT using shuttle buses this year. Last year we used KOA's buses at a discounted cost the MVCC covered, but KOA sold this operation. Commercial shuttles are cost-prohibitive at our non-profit event. We are using J's Taxi for on-call shuttling. Our negotiated rate is only \$3 per mile for a carload. It is now possible to park anywhere and catch a ride any day or time. We recommend the lot at Cattlemen's Restaurant – park behind the restaurant please! J's Taxis operates at all times so it can be a great way to get downtown for shopping or restaurants. Call 707-364-1544 and say you are with the military vehicle event.

NON-CAMPERS WITH MILITARY VEHICLES: Bring it! KOA will allow it in. Try to work with a friend who has space at his campsite or ask us for a spot. An option is to rent a dry camp space in the Group Camp Area for \$10/night so you can park and display your vehicle (and ice chest) when not driving around camp. No four-night minimum.

DAY VISITORS STORING TRAILERS OFFSITE: With the loss of the lot we used last year, we don't as of 4/16/18 have a specific place for you, so unload and park the trailer where you can. Cattlemen's Restaurant is possible. It is a dinner place only, and busiest on Friday and Saturday nights. There is a large lot at a defunct building materials location about a half mile east of the freeway on Old Redwood Road which is what Petaluma Blvd becomes. On the right you can't miss it. At last look this had a real estate For Sale sign posted but no "no parking" signs. Park or store trailers at your own risk, possibly around the back out of sight? There also may be room at the fairgrounds. Sorry for the trouble – this is a big reason why we worked out going back to Tower Park next April (check out the changes there in September during the Camp Delta Fall Meet.

IF YOU HAVE EXTRA VEHICLE SPACE IN YOUR CAMPSITE: Please tell John Neuenburg and he will try to put you together with someone who needs room for a MV!
See contact info below

UNIFORMS, WEAPONS, BLANK FIRE

As usual with our Spring and Fall swap meets, individuals are encouraged to wear obsolete uniforms or clothing whenever they want. There is nothing like a live mannequin to show off collectibles and historical representations.

Those wishing to vertically display WW2 Axis or other former enemy-of-the-U.S. militaria, uniforms, must contact John for special instructions.

Ammunition including blanks is not allowed at this event

Firing blanks or pyrotechnics is not allowed. A portion of the center of the campground will be occupied by campers who stay here over the winter while working in the region. They probably won't like the noise.

Live firearms must be rendered "incapable of immediate fire" by leaving key parts off, or zip-tying actions or triggers so they are not operational.

ACTIVITIES

See the detailed Activities Schedule elsewhere

ADVANCE NOTICE OF THE APRIL 2019 SPRING SHOWCASE at TOWER PARK RESORT: JEEPS! JEEPS! and More JEEPS!

CONTACT INFO

KOA: <http://koa.com/campgrounds/san-francisco/> or 707-763-1492

MVCC President Dave Ball: vought@msn.com or 408-805-0065 or cabin #247

MVCC Spring/Fall Meets Activities Coordinator John Neuenburg:
in_garage@hotmail.com or 415-847-2801 or cabin #82

MVCC Camping Wagonmistress Jo-Ann Lesser: mamalesser@yahoo.com or 408-238-8277 or cabin #80