

## Vientos Bajos Codger

### Activities in and around San Ramon

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**Upcoming Activities** 

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er. Free membership for general activities and tenants of Jardin La Torre/Vientos Bajos.

Membership for these same activities is available for 10k CRC/month per person for those not owning or renting from the facility. The use of the golf simulator requires an additional membership fee and monthly dues of an additional 10k CRC/month for those not living at JLT/VB. The price of all special events is based on our cost and applies to owners and tenants of JLT/VB as well as VB general members.

Until further notice, attendance at all VB events requires a Covid virus vaccination record and a mask. If you've already been listed as having had the vaccinations, you don't need to bring your shot card.

#### 1. Vientos Bajos Update

We found 2021 to be almost as challenging as 2020. Fortunately, we've had plenty of work for our labor force. All five apartments in VB and the activities room are completed. Here's wishing you the Merriest of Christmases and the Happiest of New Years. To celebrate the season, we offer you:

#### 1. Christmas Lights!

Our Digital Christmas light display is now up and running. This year, we've added a small Christmas Village. Feel free to drive by nightly between the hours of 6 PM and 8 PM for the light show!

#### 2. TubaChristmas and Christmas Madrigal Dinner, 11 and 12 December, 2021!



Presentation of the Boar's Head, 2020

Opening with our twelfth consecutive *TubaChristmas* at 11:15 AM, we will follow at 12 noon with our tenth annual madrigal dinner on Saturday and Sunday, 11 and 12 December. The madrigal dinner will be a full-course meal, headlined with Las Tinajitas' famous smoked pork steak. A vegan or special meal is available with advance notice. The San Ramon public music school, SiNEM, is having their annual party on Saturday, but four of their musicians will be joining our TubaChristmas on Sunday.

Cost is 10k CRC per person, BYOB. We still have availability for both Saturday, December 11, and Sunday, December 12, but reservations are required. We have limited seating to 40 persons per day/performance. Please contact us at <a href="mailto:vientosbajos@gmail.com">vientosbajos@gmail.com</a>

#### 2. Christmas Movies!

"A Boy Called Christmas", December 5, 1:30

TBA, December 19, 1:30

General info: Cost is 2 mil per person. Start time is 1:30. Reservations are required (Mae Worth 8410-5035, phone or WhatsApp) and attendance is limited to 25. Masks are required, as is proof of vaccination (bring your card if you are not already on our list). Children under 18



are not permitted without a parent. New titles will be announced on Facebook later in the month for January shows. Start time will be early afternoon, but the length of the movie will dictate the start time. Our goal is to have the movie run no later than 4 PM.

#### 3. Regular Activities: Here's what's continuing at Vientos Bajos now

We're taking a short break from our musical get-togethers/practices following the Madrigal Dinner. All other activities will continue as scheduled. Music get-togethers will resume in mid-January.

- a. Beginner Contract Bridge Classes: Thursdays, 1:30 PM. This is an ongoing class and we have openings for those wanting to learn the basics of contract bridge. This class is for those who may or may not have card-playing experience but have not played bridge before. There is no cost, but please contact us if you're interested so we can set up the correct number of tables.
- b. **Continuing Contract Bridge:** Tuesdays, 1:30 PM. Also known as party bridge, this is for those who want to spend a couple of hours together playing a little less competitive form of bridge than duplicate bridge. Play is more social than competitive. Please contact us beforehand if you want to play. We'd like to form groups in tables of four and would hate to have you come without having enough to complete a table.



- c. **Pickleball:** Since most expats have received their second jab and more continue to retire to the San Ramón area, we find more people wanting to join our pickleball groups. We now offer the opportunity to sign up via SignUp Genius. All sign-ups limit play to two hours per sign-up time, and up to six players per sign-up time. All levels of players are welcome to sign up. There are three sign-up times daily: 8 AM–10 AM; 10:30 AM–12:30 PM; 1:30–3:30 PM. If you're interested, please contact us to get on the SignUp Genius list.
- d. **Golf Simulator:** Our golf simulator remains popular. Rick Reimer, our resident golf pro, has played all fifteen courses and will walk you through the use of the simulator. We have clubs available for all except men's LH. Al Sargent has allowed us to use his set of women's LH, so if you're a left-handed man willing to play with a club that's shorter by 1", you're welcome to use these. Play requires knowledge of the system, and Rick will be happy to set you up and accompany your initial play. Please contact Rick at

<u>rickreimer49@gmail.com</u> to schedule a time if you want to try it out or join the league, now forming. Regular use is for golf club members only.

- e. **Poker:** The time slot for "Penny-ante" poker has now been stabilized at 1 PM on Saturdays and goes until 4 PM, but feel free to come late or leave early. If you want to get in on a big game, this isn't the place. The bets are small, but the fun is big. Please get on our WhatsApp list to ensure you're included for the "big" game.
- f. Music groups. Our music groups are finalizing rehearsals for the 2021 Christmas show. In mid-January, we will open enrollment again for all music groups. We provide sheet music for all groups, and instruments for many. If you're interested in any of our groups, please contact us so we can put you on the special contact list.
  - i. Ukulele Band, 10:00 AM, WED. This is a fun beginning music group. Please check in with us if you play the ukulele or guitar and enjoy singing along with the rest of us Bremen Town musicians. For the Christmas show, we are playing five sing-along numbers. We can provide a ukulele if you need an instrument. This is a beginning music group. You do not need a music background to participate. A basic knowledge of ukulele or guitar chords is extremely helpful, but not required.
  - ii. **Recorder Ensemble, 1 PM, WED.** This group is for those who read music and have been exposed to the recorder. We currently have openings for all four parts—soprano, alto, tenor, and bass. We can provide a soprano recorder, but if you want to play an alto, tenor, or bass, you'll need to provide your own instrument.
  - iii. **B-flat instruments, 2:30 PM, WED (Open to those with some experience).** Trumpets, clarinets, oboes, trombones, baritones/euphoniums, and tubas. All musicians in the group should be able to read music and have experience with their instrument. Our sheet music is generally level 1.5 to 3.0 and we have sheet music for both bass and treble clef. We have an extra trumpet and baritone for your use. If you need a different instrument, please let us know and we'll see what we can do.
  - iv. **Mixed Chorus.** Depending on the status of the Covid virus, we are considering opening mixed chorus in February. No formal musical training is required. Just bring your voice and we'll go from there. The numbers we will be singing will be unison or two-part, and all will be beginning-easy level. If you're interested, PLEASE contact us so we can start a roster. Because these numbers are easy, rehearsals will begin in early November.
  - g. Other: The gym and library remain available for members. We thank Laura and Janine Mitchell who have been busy sorting and arranging the books, DVDs, and CDs we offer for your use. We also thank all those who have contributed to the collection. We also have an assortment of picture puzzles for your use, and have been accumulating board games with the goal of beginning a board game afternoon in 2022.

#### 4. Property Overview

Recently, our neighbors and good friends Jim Watt and Kelly Bennett made a video, including a drone flyover, of Vientos Bajos, Jardin La Torre, and our new Vista Alta Subdivision. Watch it at <a href="https://youtu.be/8lJu40xqqjs">https://youtu.be/8lJu40xqqjs</a>

We have drafted a plan for the subdivision that gives a better idea of lot placement and size:

#### Vista Alta Subdivision



#### 5. Units for Rent:

We have two units coming available for rent in 2022. Minimum lease is six months:

a. **Mariposa: Our largest residenc**e will be available, as of January 1, 2022, either furnished (\$1,200/month) or unfurnished (\$1,100/month). This unit includes a mother-in-law/lock out apartment with two bedrooms, three baths in 1,800 square feet of living space.





b. **Buganvilla:** Our newest apartment will become available on February 1, 2022. Located in Vientos Bajos, this fully-furnished 900 square foot apartment is two-bedroom, one bath with large balcony and fifty-mile views of the Pacific Ocean and the Gulf of Nicoya, and rents for \$1,000 per month.









