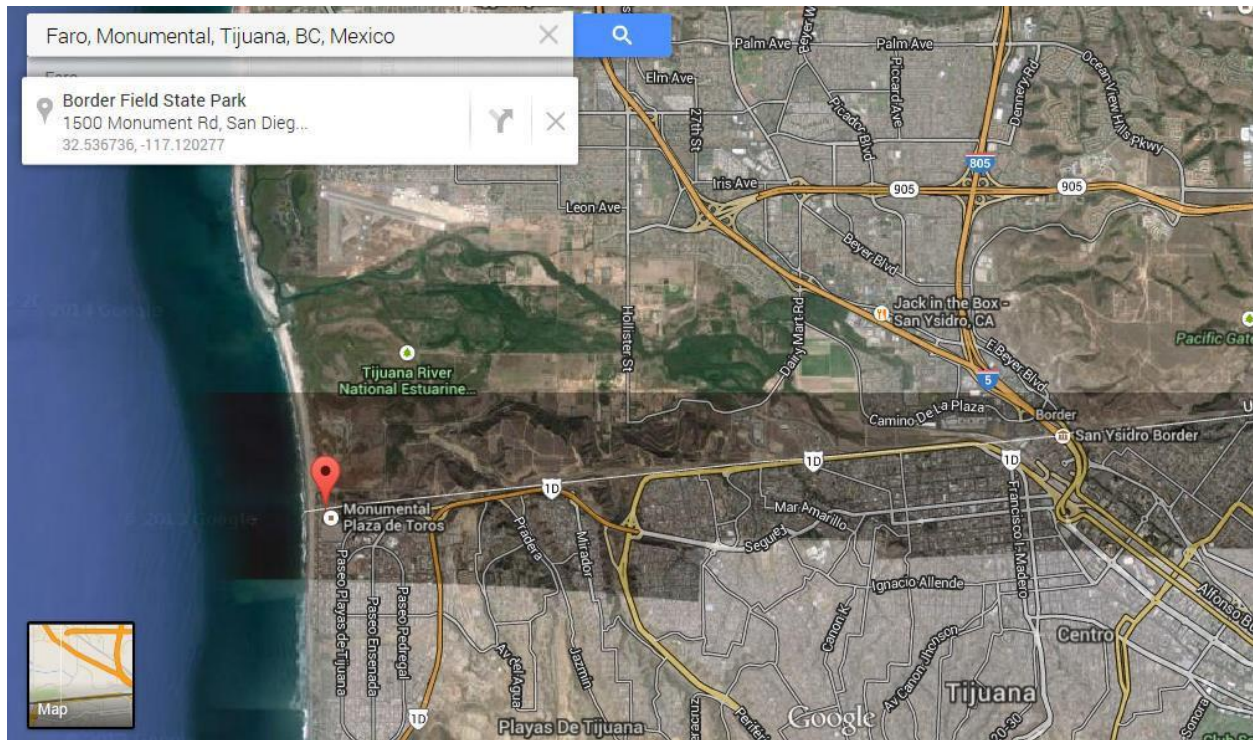


## PLANNING YOUR VISIT – Friendship Park in the U.S.

Friendship Park, located 15 miles south of San Diego, is a half-acre plaza overlooking the Pacific Ocean at the border between San Diego and Tijuana. The plaza sits atop Monument Mesa, and is part of a larger 800-acre Border Field State Park. To get to Friendship Park you must:

1. Travel to Border Field State Park (the California State Park);
2. Travel *through* Border Field to Monument Mesa (the mesa by the Pacific Ocean);
3. Enter Friendship Park (the binational meeting place inside the security walls)

### Getting to Border Field State Park:



#### **From the freeway**

- Take Hwy 5 South, exit at Dairy Mart Road.
- Turn right (west), cross over the bridge. Dairy Mart Road will curve to the right and turn into Monument Road.
- Keep following this winding road until you arrive at a parking lot. At the west end of the parking lot, you will see an entrance gate and, further ahead, a kiosk. This is the entrance to Border Field State Park.

**(From Imperial Beach:** Exit the freeway at Coronado Avenue (exit #4) in Imperial Beach. Go straight from the off-ramp onto Hollister Street. Continue south on Hollister until you reach Monument Road. Turn right (West) on Monument Rd. until you reach the parking lot.)

## Crossing Border Field State Park to arrive at Monument Mesa

To reach Friendship Park you must travel through the beautiful Border Field State Park. The distance from the entrance gate to Friendship Park is 1.6 miles. You may drive (when weather allows), walk, bicycle, or ride horses through Border Field State Park.

**Vehicle Access:** The State Park entrance gate is open and accessible to vehicles on Saturdays and Sundays, weather permitting (roughly April through November). California State Parks may charge a \$5 admission fee per vehicle with vehicle access. To learn whether Border Field State Park is open to vehicles this weekend, [visit this page](#).

### **When No Vehicle Access:**

The vehicle road is subject to frequent flooding in winter months, and the park gate is closed to vehicle traffic most days during the winter (roughly November through April). When the gate is closed you will have to park at the entrance to Border Field State Park and hike or bicycle about 1.6 miles each way on level ground.

**Pedestrians, cyclists and equestrians may still enter the park, even when the gate is closed.**





## Entering Friendship Park

At the end of the vehicle road (and at the south end of the beach) you will find Monument Mesa, the westernmost mesa overlooking the Pacific Ocean. Atop the Mesa you will find a beautiful picnic area and bathroom facilities provided by California State Park.



You will also see the border wall, which is on U.S. federal property and under the jurisdiction of U.S. Border Patrol. A gate in this wall is your entrance to the binational meeting place.



The U.S. side of Friendship Park is open to the public year-round on Saturdays and Sundays from 10 AM-2 PM. Border Patrol may request proof of U.S. residence from visitors to Friendship Park and the surrounding area which is heavily patrolled. Border Patrol rules prohibit passing items through the fence between the U.S. and Mexico.