

## USE AT YOUR OWN RISK

### Saddleback Butte

3,651'

Location: 20 miles east of Lancaster  
Maps: AAA Los Angeles County  
Topo: Alpine Butte 7.5

**Primary Route:** 2 miles o/w, 1,000' gain

#### **Driving Instruction:**

In Lancaster, exit Fwy. 14 at 20<sup>th</sup> Street. Head north on 20<sup>th</sup> and turn east (right) on Avenue J. Drive East 18 m to Saddleback Butte State Park. Entrance Fee. Follow the dirt road to the campground, where the trail begins.

#### **Hiking Instructions:**

The signed 'Saddleback Butte Trail' heads straight for the saddle. The soft sandy track, marked with yellow posts, leads through an impressive Joshua Tree woodland. After 1½ m it begins to switchback up the rocky slope of the butte. An invigorating climb brings you to the saddle. To reach the peak, follow the steep leftward (NE) trail to the summit.

#### **Alternate Route:**

A new trail, called the 'Little Butte Trail', starts on the road between the Picnic Area and the Campground, about 100 ft from the Picnic Area. It intersects the main trail at 1.0 m. This way you could park at the Picnic area. It adds 0.5 mile to the trip each way.

#### **Notes:**

From the summit the hiker is rewarded with excellent panoramic views of the Antelope Valley, the Mojave Desert, Telescope and Owen Peaks, and distant mountain ranges. During spring wildflowers are plentiful.

Combine this trip with a visit to the Antelope Valley Poppy Reserve near Lancaster.

From: John McKinney 'Day Hikers Guide to Southern California'

Revised: 2006