

USE AT YOUR OWN RISK

Brown Mountain

4,486'

Location: 3 airline miles N of Altadena
Maps: Tom Harrison Trail Map of the Los Angeles Front Country
Topo: Pasadena 7.5

Primary Route: 4.5 miles o/w, 900' gain /1,600' loss

Driving Instruction:

Exit I-210 in La Canada on Hwy. 2 (Angeles Crest Highway), continue on the Angeles Crest Hwy. for 14 miles to Red Box. Turn right on the Mt. Wilson Road and drive about 2 miles further to Eaton Saddle. Park on either side of the road.

Hiking Instructions:

Start hiking on the dirt road behind the gate. Walk through the tunnel and after 0.5 miles you reach Markham Saddle, where a trail right leads to San Gabriel Peak and a trail left to Mt. Markham and Mt. Lowe. Stay on the road. After 1.3 miles the road sharply turns back East and a trail starts to the West. Take this trail for 1.2 miles, dropping down to Tom Sloan Saddle. Here 3 trails meet: the one left leads to Dawn Mine, to the right to Bear Canyon. Take neither trail, but the firebreak straight ahead due West. Continue on the ridge for 1.5 miles over 2 minor bumps to the summit of Brown Mountain. Return the same way you came, now mostly uphill.

Alternate Route:

Several other options: See trip 21 in John Robinson's 'Trails of the Angeles': Start at Millard's Campground, hike 2.2 miles to Dawn Mine, then 1.6 miles to Tom Sloane saddle. Another possibility: take the fire road from Millard Canyon to Oakwilde, but before reaching Oakwilde, turn East (right), then South-East on a firebreak, approaching the summit from the East. Both options are long hikes.

Notes:

Adventure Pass required. No water on route.

The mountain was named after Owen and Jason Brown, sons of John Brown, abolitionist, who murdered pro-slavery ranchers in Kansas prior to the Civil War and in 1859 captured the town and US arsenal at Harpers Ferry, VA. For this he was tried, hanged and became a martyr of the North.

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