

USE AT YOUR OWN RISK

Mt. McKinley

4,926'

Location: NNE of San Fernando
Maps: Harrison Trail Map of the Angeles Front Country
Topo: Sunland 7.5

Primary Route: 6 miles, 3,000' gain one way

Driving Instruction:

From I-210 in Sunland take the Sunland Blvd. exit (East), which turns into Foothill Blvd. for 1.5 miles. Turn left (North) on Mt. Gleason Ave and follow it until it dead ends in Tujunga Canyon. Turn right. Continue 3.3 miles on Big Tujunga to dirt road 3N29 on the left at milepost 2.01. Drive 0.4 miles uphill past a junction with the signed Gold Creek Road on the left (locked gate) to the marked Trailhead. Park here.

Hiking Instructions:

Hike back 0.2 miles on the road to the signed Gold Creek Road and turn right (elevation 1,900'). Switchback up the mountain, crossing two saddles. After hiking 4.5 miles you arrive at Gold Creek Saddle (elev. 3,700'), indicated by a water tank on the left and Yerba Buena Trail 13W02 junction on the right. Turn right and follow the Yerba Buena Trail for 0.5 miles to a small saddle (4,100') between McKinley and a bump to the West. Continue another 0.5 mile to a second saddle (4,600') on the north side of Mt. McKinley. Turn right and follow the steep open use trail South to the summit. Return the same way.

Alternate return: Take the ridge down to Yerba Buena Trail, but turn right and continue on Yerba Buena Trail to Iron Mountain Saddle, turn right on Mendenhall Ridge Road and hike 4 miles to Mt. Gleason Road where you turn right again. After one more miles take another right on Trail Canyon Trail. From here it is 6 long miles, past Tom Lucas Trail Camp, to the parking area.

Alternate Route: 7 miles, 1,500'loss/700'gain one way

Driving Directions:

From Mill Creek Summit on the Angeles Forest Highway (N3), turn left and take the Gleason Road, 3N17. Set your odometer to 0.0. At 6.2 miles the paved road forks, turn left on the dirt road and pass a detention camp. At 8.8 miles, now paved again, the road passes Mt. Gleason (locked gate on right), at the next fork at 9.3 miles turn left. At 9.5 miles fork at Lightning campground. Turn right on the dirt road and continue 1.6 miles downhill to a saddle and a locked gate. Park here.

Hiking Directions:

Hike past the locked gate on 3N32 for 2 miles to Indian Ben Saddle. Do not take the Trail Canyon trail, just stay on the road for another ½ mile, where the Mendenhall Ridge Road forks right (West) below Iron Mountain #2. The left gated road leads to Condor and Fox Peaks. Continue for 3.3 miles to Iron Mountain Saddle. Take the signed Yerba Buena Trail 13W02 to your left for one mile. When you come to the above mentioned saddle, turn left and climb the open ridge up to the summit.

Return the way you came. Remember, there is a 1,500' gain on the return.

Near-by Peaks:

Mendenhall Peak (LPS), Iron Mountain #2, Mt. Gleason (HPS)

Notes:

Adventure Pass required. No water on trail, except seasonal water at Tom Lucas trail camp. From the peak one can see Iron Mtn, Condor Peak, Mt. Lukens, Mt. Lowe and Mt. Markham

Original: Jack Grams 1990, rev. 2004