Prescott National Forest Verde Ranger District

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VERDE RIM TRAIL #161

GENERAL INFORMATION: The views from this long trail are spectacular. Most impressive is the general view of the extremely rugged country extending below the rim to the Verde River. From here you can also see the Mazatzal Mountains to the east, Four Peaks to the south, and the Bradshaw Mountains to the west. Verde Rim Trail #161 is fairly level, traversing along the edge of its namesake landmark for most of its length. The final ascent to Pine Mountain, however, is steep and difficult.

As of May 2011, the section of TR 161 that lies between Willow Springs Trail #12 and Pine Mountain Trail #14 is in good condition. The remainder of the trail, however, is rocky, overgrown, and difficult to find and follow. This is especially true south of Pine Mountain where the trail passes through a burned area.

CAUTION: This trail is open to hikers and horseback riders. Please be considerate or others—slow down and know when to yield the trail.

ACCESS AND TRAILHEAD LOCATION: Beginning at I-17, take Dugas Exit #268. Turn right onto Dugas Road (also FR 68) and travel 6.7 miles to the Dugas homestead. Continue on FR 68 for another 2.3 miles to a fork in the road. Bear right to remain on FR 68 and go 1.8 miles to the junction with FR 68G. Proceed straight at the intersection and take FR 68G east for 10 miles. You will pass TR 27 on the left before arriving at the trailhead. Parking is poor. As of May 2011, FR 68G is in poor condition. It is suggested that TR 161 be accessed via TR 159. To reach the TR 159 trailhead, follow the directions above to the intersection with FR 68G. Turn right at this intersection to remain on FR 68 and continue 6.9 miles to Salt Flat Campground and the trailhead for TR 71 and TR 159. There is parking for 5-10 vehicles.

TRAVEL TIME: 1.5-2 hours from I-17 via FR 68G; 1 hour from I-17 to TR 159 via FR 68

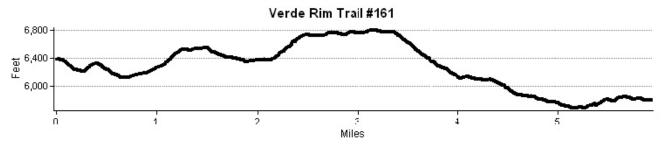
ROAD CONDITIONS: FR 68G is suitable for high clearance, 4WD vehicles only and portions may be impassable. FR 68 is graded dirt. A high clearance vehicle is recommended. 4WD may be necessary when the road is wet.

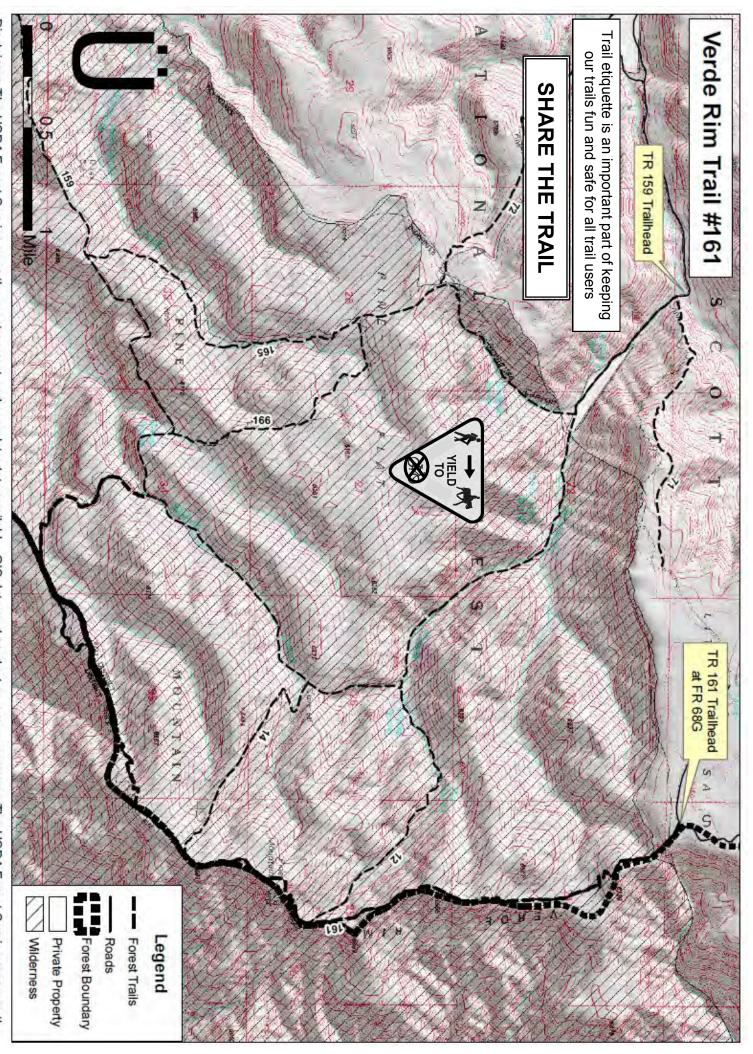
HIKING TIME: 3-4 hours, one-way LENGTH: 6.1 miles DIFFICULTY: Moderate USE: Light

NOTES: This trail lies within the Pine Mountain Wilderness. Motor vehicles and the use of any mechanized equipment, including bicycles, are prohibited. Wilderness is an important resource and national heritage—please, leave no trace. There is no water at the trailhead or on the trail.

RECOMMENDED SEASONS OF USE: Spring, summer, fall

MAPS, OTHER RESOURCES: Prescott National Forest Map, east half; U.S.G.S. topographic 7.5' quads for Tule Mesa, National Geographic Trails Illustrated Map Sycamore Canyon Verde Valley





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