

TONTO National Forest



Recreation
Opportunity
Guide

www.fs.fed.us/r3/tonto



HIKING AND TRAIL RIDING

BALLANTINE TRAIL 283

RANGER DISTRICTS

Mesa Ranger Station
5140 E. Ingram Street
Mesa, AZ 85205
Phone (480) 610-3300 Fax (480) 610-3346

TRAILHEAD (TH)

Ballantine TH
Cline TH

TERMINI

Northwest end: (2520 feet elevation): at Pine Creek Loop Trail 280

Southeast end: (4200 feet elevation): at Cline TH

TRAIL INFORMATION

Trail use: Moderate
Trail difficulty: MOST difficult
Trail length: 10 miles
Season of Use: All year
USGS maps: Mine Mountain, Boulder Mountain
Elevation change: 3280 feet

TRAIL NARRATIVE

From the Ballantine Trailhead (TH), follow the north portion of Pine Creek Loop Trail to the junction with Ballantine Trail. The northwest end of Ballantine starts at this junction and climbs upwards into Ballantine Canyon. Once the trail leaves the canyon, it passes to the east of Pine Mountain at an elevation of 5800 feet. At this point the trail becomes more difficult to follow and strict attention should be paid. Once past Pine Mountain, the trail descends to 4200 feet at Cline TH.

ATTRACTIONS

- The northwest end of the trail passes through the diverse Sonoran Desert.
- The trail through Ballantine Canyon passes interesting tan sandstone rock formations. A good portion of Ballantine Canyon offers examples of desert riparian areas.
- Once the trail leaves the canyon; trail users can turn and view the beauty of Ballantine Canyon.

CONSIDERATIONS

- Hikers, yield the right of way to trail stock
- Primitive trail -- difficult to follow in places
- Practice "Leave No Trace" ethics including: **If you PACK IT IN, PACK IT OUT!!**
- Carry an adequate supply of drinking water. One gallon/per person/per day is recommended during hot periods.
- Do not drink untreated water. Giardia, a protozoan, is in many water impoundments and streams.
- Caution:** Portions of the trail pass through sandstone switchbacks; strict attention to footing should be paid to avoid injuries.

