Mt. Whitney Trail

The Mt. Whitney Trail climbs over 6,000 feet in elevation over 11 miles. When free of snow, it provides a strenuous, non-technical route to the summit of Mt. Whitney. When snow and ice are present, additional skills and winter mountaineering equipment may be necessary for safe travel.

Hiking the Mt. Whitney Trail is strenuous and potentially hazardous. Many visitors are incapacitated by exhaustion, illness and injuries. Fatalities occur almost every year. The trail is not recommended for novice wilderness travelers and most children. However, lower portions of the trail are generally suitable for such visitors. Lone Pine Lake, located approximately 2 1/2 miles from the trailhead, is a popular destination for day hikers.

Access:
From U.S. Highway 395 in Lone Pine, turn west on Whitney Portal Road. The trailhead is located approximately 13 miles west of Lone Pine. Near the end of the road.

Season:
The Mt. Whitney Trail is relatively snow free from approximately late June through October. For the rest of the year, ice or snow may cover some or all of the trail. The last six miles of Whitney Portal Road are not maintained in winter and may be closed.

Trailhead Facilities:
Water: Yes (May –September)

Bear Resistant Food Storage Lockers: Yes

Campgrounds: Whitney Portal, Trailhead and Ravine campgrounds are located within walking distance of the trailhead.

On The Trail:
Food Storage: Food, trash and scented items must be stored in bear-resistant containers.

Camping: Use existing campsites. Camping is prohibited within 25 feet of the trail, within 100 feet of water and at Mirror Lake and Trailside Meadow.


Campfires: Campfires are prohibited.

Pets: Pets must be in control at all times.

Additional Regulations: For additional information is available at www.fs.usda.gov/inyo or 760-876-6200.

Permit & Quota Information:
Permits are required for:
• All overnight trips
• Day trips in the Mt. Whitney Zone
Obtain permits at the Eastern Sierra Visitor Center in Lone Pine, CA.

Between May 1 and Nov 1, use is limited by daily entry quotas. Permits for this period may be reserved at www.recreation.gov. Reservations are allocated in a lottery. Apply for the lottery between Feb. 1 and Mar. 15.
Mount Whitney Trail

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Distance</th>
<th>Elevation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Trailhead</td>
<td>0 miles</td>
<td>8,400 ft</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trail Crest</td>
<td>9.0 miles</td>
<td>13,600 ft</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mt. Whitney</td>
<td>10.7 miles</td>
<td>14,505 ft</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Maps:

- **Tom Harrison**: Mt. Whitney Zone; Mt. Whitney High Country
- **National Geographic**: Mt. Whitney
- **USGS Quad**: Mount Whitney; Mt. Langley

**Leave No Trace Principles**

1. Plan ahead and prepare.
2. Travel and camp on durable surfaces.
3. Dispose of waste properly.
4. Minimize use and impact of fires.
5. Respect wildlife.
7. Be considerate of other visitors.

**Need more information?**


760-876-6200

**Eastern Sierra Visitor Center**

Jct US 395 & CA 136
Lone Pine, CA 93545

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