Aspen Ranger District
806 W. Hallam
Aspen, CO 81611
(970) 925-3445—Voice
(970) 925-5277—Fax

WHITE RIVER NATIONAL FOREST

United States Department of Agriculture

HIKING

MAROON CREEK TRAIL #1982

Length: 3.5 miles one-way (5.6 km)
Difficulty: Easy
Trail Use: Moderate
Beginning Elevation: 9,580 feet (2920 m)
Ending Elevation: 8,709 feet (2655 m)
USGS Map(s): Maroon Bells, Highland Peak

DAY/BACKPACKING OVERVIEW: This trail offers a less crowded alternative to viewing the Maroon Valley. There are good views of the Maroon Bells and Pyramid Peak. This is a good day hike with several bus stops for getting a ride along the way. This is also a popular trail for horseback riding.

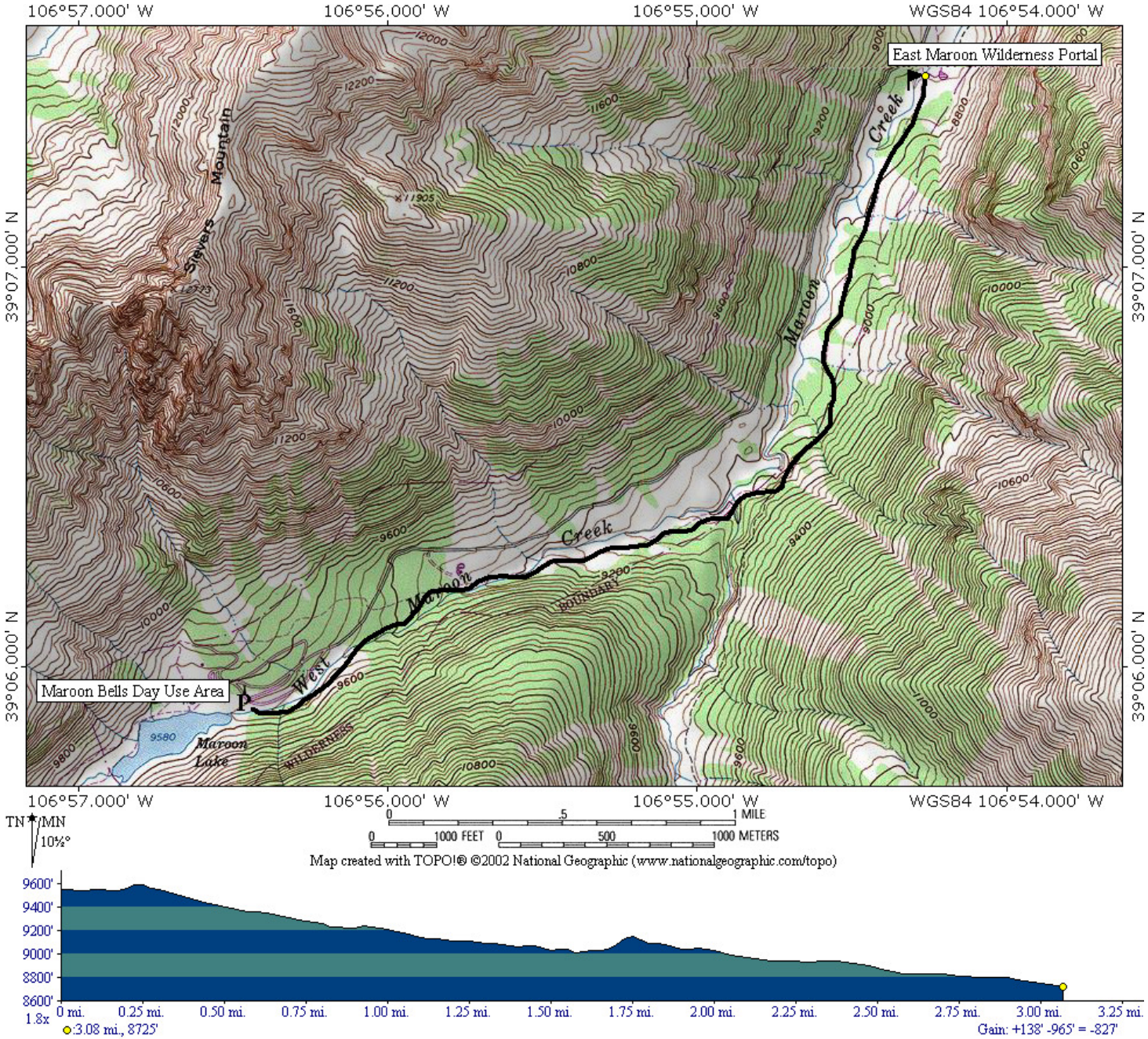
ACCESS: From mid-June through September, Maroon Creek Road is closed from 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.. You will need to take a shuttle. Please ask at the front desk for more information on the bus shuttle. If you get an early start drive ½ mile west of Aspen on Highway 82 to the Roundabout. Go around the Roundabout and turn right on Maroon Creek Road. Continue 10.5 miles to the Maroon Lake parking area.

NARRATIVE: It is more convenient to start at Maroon Lake and travel down valley so the bus can pick you up along Maroon Creek road. From the east side of Maroon Lake pick up the trail by crossing the bridge and turning left to follow the trail down valley. In 2.5 miles you will come to another bridge on the left. You can leave the trail here, cross the meadown on the left and catch a down valley bus; or continue about 1.5 miles to the next bridge, cross and stay left, follow the trail to its junction with the East Maroon Trail. Stay left at the junction and continue down valley to the bridge at the East Maroon Portal. Cross the bridge and walk up to the road to catch the bus.

ETHICS/REGULATIONS: The Maroon Creek Trail is a non-wilderenss trail which borders Maroon Creek. Please educate yourself about hiking ethics and the following rules:

* **DOGS MUST BE LEASHED** out of consideration for both other people and wildlife.
* SANITATION - bury human waste 100 feet from water and 6 inches in the soil.
    * The trail is **not** open to motorized vehicles such as motorcycles or ATVs.
    * Camping is limited to 14 days.

PACK IT IN—PACK IT OUT!! LEAVE NO TRACE!!

This map is intended for use as a general guide only, not for actual land navigation. The White River National Forest suggests purchasing a topographical trail map prior to your hiking trip.

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