

Hiking Trails

(Outside the Wilderness)



Front Country Ranger District San Bernardino National Forest

The trails listed vary from easy walks to moderately difficult hikes. They are all located outside of the Wilderness. A separate handout on Wilderness trails is also available. The National Forest trails are numbered with the trail number immediately following the trail name listed below. Most trails are numbered on the San Bernardino National Forest Visitor Map, available at all Ranger Stations. They are also indicated on the map on the back.

Maps and more detailed information of this area can be obtained from the **Mill Creek Ranger Station**. Enjoy your walk!

Water

Only water from developed systems or recreation sites is safe to drink. Open water sources are easily contaminated by human and animal waste. Don't drink water from springs, lakes, ponds or streams without treatment. A recommended method is to bring water to a rolling boil for 5 to 10 minutes before drinking. A good filter can also remove most harmful organisms present in mountain water.

For your safety

Be on the lookout for natural hazards in the National Forest. Examples are fallen trees, steep drop-offs, falling limbs, and swift streams. Poison oak can cause skin irritation and should be avoided. Bears and snakes, in addition to other wildlife, inhabit this land. Be alert!

1. Pacific Crest Trail PC2000 (13.2 miles, moderately difficult). The Pacific Crest Trail (PCT) extends 2600 miles between Canada and Mexico. Although a few marathon hikers have gone the distance in one trip, most take the trail in segments over a period of years. The PCT traverses 13.2 miles on the Front Country Ranger District. It proceeds up the Whitewater River to Mission Creek entering the District along the north fork. It is adjacent to the San Gorgonio Wilderness at Fish Creek/Heart Bar Creek areas. It passes Coon Creek jump-off and goes to Onyx Summit. The elevation ranges from 6700 to 8400 feet.

2. Ponderosa Vista Nature Trail 1E19 (.6 mile, easy/moderate walk) This trail begins at the junction of Highway 38 and Jenks Lake Road West on the west side of the highway. There are two loops: a .3-mile loop and a .6-mile loop. Both loops pass a scenic overlook. Interpretive signs tell the story of time and change on the mountain landscape.

3. Whispering Pines Trail 1E33 (.5 mile, easy/moderate walk) This trail winds up and down the hillside through the pine and oak forest. The trail is marked by ten posts, each corresponding to a number in the booklet, "A Journey through the Whispering Pines". The booklet is for sale at the Barton Flats Visitor Center, the Mill Creek Ranger Station, and at the trailhead during the summer months. It is designed to help adults and children together walk the trail as naturalists – making observations and discovering the magic of the forest. It begins on Highway 38 and the junction of Jenks Lake Road West. (Beginning elevation 6400 feet).

4. Rio Monte Trail 1E28 (2.5 miles, easy walk). The trail begins at the Barton Flats Visitor Information Center from the driveway of the east parking lot. It passes through Council Group Camp, Barton Flats Campground, San Gorgonio Campground, Lobo/Oso Group Camps, Greyback Amphitheater and ends at Rio Monte Panorama. (Beginning elevation 6300 feet)

5. Big Falls Trail 1E13 (.3 miles, easy walk) To reach the highest waterfall in Southern California, follow highway 38 to Valley-of-the-Falls Blvd. Proceed about 3 miles and park in the parking area adjacent to the Falls Picnic Area. The trail to the fall begins at the north end of the parking lot and crosses the Mill Creek wash, ending at an overlook. It is very dangerous to go past this point as many people have died attempting to scale the slippery cliffs. (Beginning elevation 5960 feet).



United States
Department of Agriculture



Forest Service
Pacific Southwest Region
www.fs.usda.gov/r5



San Bernardino National Forest
www.fs.usda.gov/sbnf

6. Jenks Lake Trail 1E20 (1 mile, moderately difficult) This trail begins at the Barton Flats Visitor Center on the Rio Monte Trail. It then follows Barton Road to an old logging road to Jenks Lake. Access is from Jenks Lake, just below the dam following on the west side of Frog Creek. (Beginning elevation 6300 feet).

7. Wild horse Creek Trail 2E02 (5 miles, moderately difficult) The trail begins on Highway 38, 5.9 miles east of the Barton Flats Visitor Center or .2 miles west of the turnoff to Heart Bar Campground. The trail contours north to a remote camping area south of Wild horse Meadows. (Beginning elevation 6800 feet).

8. Clark's Ranch/Siberia Creek 1W10 (4 miles, difficult) To reach the trail, take Glass Road off Highway 38 to Forest Road 1N09. Follow 1N09 to 1N54 and turn right. Proceed to 1N64 and follow it to the trailhead, approximately 2.5 miles. The trailhead may be hard to find. The trail rises above the bluff towards Bear Creek and Snow Valley. Elevation change is 600 feet. (Beginning elevation 5000 feet.)

9. Santa Ana River Trail 2E03 (Approximately 36 miles, moderately difficult) The trail begins at the junction of 1N37 and 1N05. The trail may also be accessed across from South Fork Campground (parking is on the other side of Highway 38). The trail crosses the stream several times. Topography ranges from meadows and pines, to streamside, to steep chaparral mountainsides. Elevations range from 8,000 feet down to 4000 feet. The trail continues to the southern boundary of the San Bernardino National Forest. When the segment through San Bernardino County is completed, it will continue to the ocean.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD). To file a complaint of discrimination, write to USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer. 09/12 cu

