

# LA CUEVA

Easy



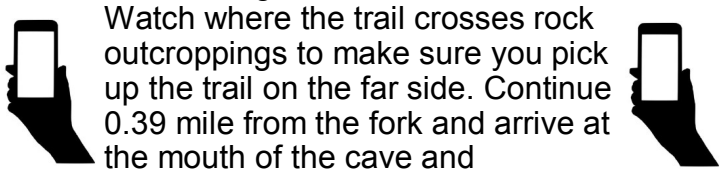
**Challenge type:** Hiking

**Challenge length:** 1 mile

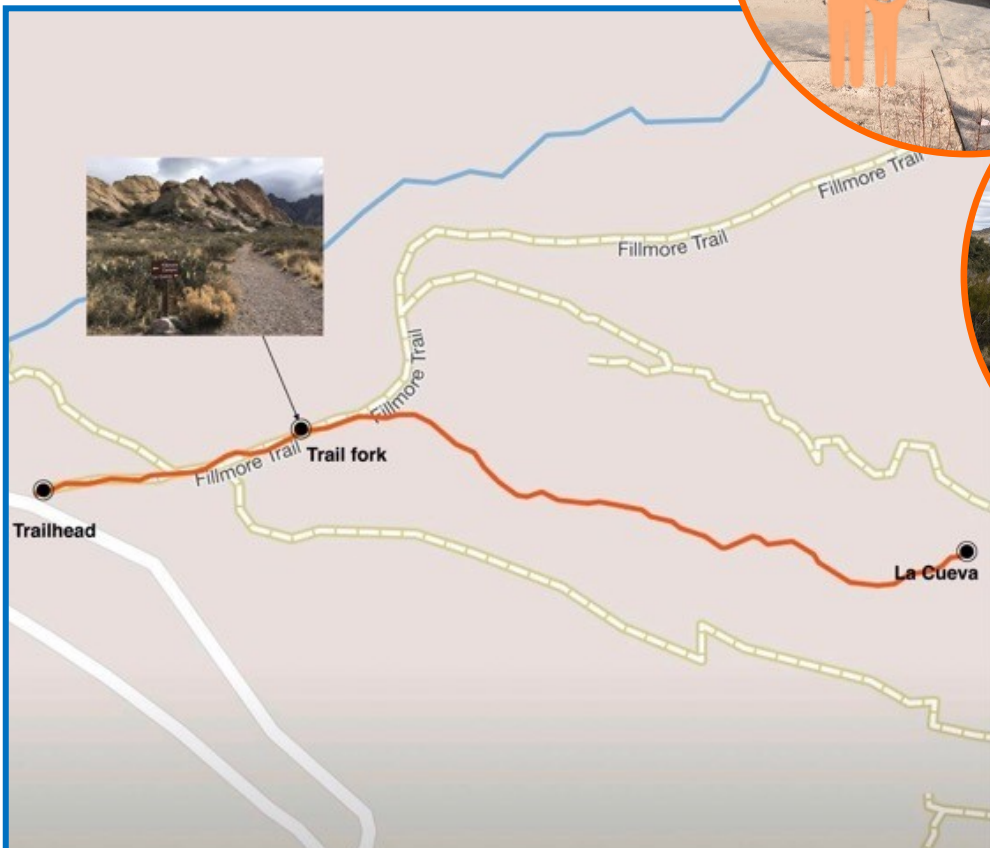
**Trail notes:** In this two-part challenge, you will take a 1-mile (roundtrip) leisurely walk from the La Cueva picnic area at the Dripping Springs National Recreation Area to the Hermit's Cave (La Cueva). You'll also bring and enjoy a picnic meal or snack at one of the dozen individual picnic sites in the area.

**Driving Directions:** From I-25 Exit 1, drive east on University Avenue/Dripping Springs Road 9.3 miles to the La Cueva Picnic Area turnoff. The recreation area gate at mile 8 opens at 8 a.m. A day fee is required at the self-service kiosk.

**Hiking Directions:** At the parking area at the bottom of the hill across from the restrooms is the La Cueva Trailhead. Proceed downhill past the arroyo and uphill to a fork and sign at 0.14 mile. Take the right fork toward La Cueva.



Watch where the trail crosses rock outcroppings to make sure you pick up the trail on the far side. Continue 0.39 mile from the fork and arrive at the mouth of the cave and interpretive signs. Take a selfie here. Retrace your steps back to the picnic area and take a selfie enjoying a family picnic.



**DON'T FORGET TO** take your selfies at the cave and at the picnic shelter and submit them to your profile.