

PICACHO PEAK

Moderate to Strenuous



Challenge type: Hiking & Trail Running
Challenge length: 4 miles

Trail Notes: “Picacho” is the Spanish word for “peak,” so you will be ascending “Peak” Peak. The Picacho Peak hiking loop is about 4 miles and ascends 1,200 feet. The hike affords views of Box Canyon to the west, the Trackways National Monument to the north, and the verdant Mesilla Valley to the east.

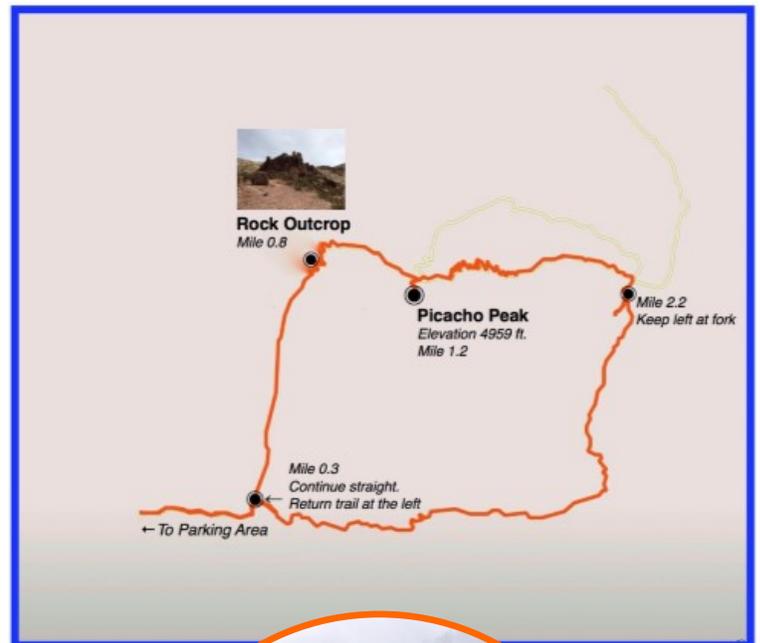
Driving Directions: Take I-10, exit 139 to Motel Blvd. Turn north and travel 1.3 miles to the traffic light at West Picacho Ave. Turn left. In 2 miles turn right at the traffic light at Picacho Hills Drive. Drive 2.1 miles making sure you stay left to proceed on Barcelona Ridge as you drive up the hill. Turn right on Anthem and drive for 1.1 miles where you will come to a T-junction. Turn right on Picacho Loop. Pavement ends in 0.1 mile. Continue another 1.5 miles on gravel to the parking area.

Hiking Directions: Hike down from the trailhead at the parking area to the arroyo. You will see a trail marker pointing both left and right. Bear right as the left trail will take you toward Box Canyon. At about 0.25 mile you will come to a place where a trail heads off to the left, a broad eroded trail heads straight up (looks like an eroded jeep trail) and a trail comes in from the right. Head straight up the broad trail for the shortest route to the top.

Continue up the trail to a large rock outcropping at 0.8 mile. The trail goes to the left of the rock and a trail marker gives you an option of going left or straight. Head straight for a shorter and more distinct trail with switchbacks that take you to a bench that heads toward the peak. At about 1.13 miles you will see a spur to the right, but you can continue straight. At about 1.17 miles you will see a spur to the right which takes you to the top (mile 1.2). Take your selfie on a rock with the remnants of a metal post. From here you can retrace your steps or you can stay to the right on the Old Foot Path, which heads down and



around the mountain with switchbacks and then heads toward the arroyo. At about 2.2 miles there is a Y in the trail. Bear left. From there the trail hugs the north edge of the arroyo, entering and leaving the arroyo a couple times. At almost 3.6 miles the trail rejoins where you started your ascent to the peak. You will see the shelter at the parking area from here and you will return the last 0.25 mile to the parking area for about a 3.85 mile circuit.



DON'T FORGET TO
take & post your selfie at the
rock with metal post.