

# ROUGH & READY HILLS

Strenuous



**Challenge type:** Hiking

**Challenge length:** 2.1 miles

**Trail notes:** This trail takes you to the Uvas section of the OMDP Monument to scenic palisades that host one of the most popular rock climbing venues in the region. Though only a 2.1-mile circuit, it is slow going, half of the hike is off trail and three quarters of it requires careful foot placement.

**Driving Directions:** Take I-10 West to exit 132. Take a right and an immediate left on the frontage road on the north side of the interstate. Travel 3.5 miles west to Corralitos Road. You'll see a sign for the Corralitos Ranch there. Stay on the paved road for 11.6 miles, where you will see a gravel road to the right heading to two large gravel piles at a road maintenance staging area. Take this road for one mile, bearing right in front of the gravel piles and around them. It ends at a parking area, where the trail begins.

**Hiking Directions:** A well-used trail leaves the parking area, heads through a gap uphill to a saddle on the ridge at 0.4 mile. From there, you climb to the palisades. After about 0.45 miles you will be on the trail at the base of the East-facing wall of rock with bolted climbing routes sporting names like "Halitosis Monkey." If you are there on a weekend or holiday, chances are good you will be able

to watch and interact with climbers. The East face is comfortable on hot afternoons. The trail follows the palisade with a sharp drop off to your left. Continue to the rock wall's south end where the trail becomes progressively less well used as it wraps around the hill. Between 1.0 and 1.1 mile the trail ends. This is a good place for a selfie, showing the communications tower and two observation domes in the background. If you are uncomfortable going off trail, retrace your steps back to the parking area from here.



If you want to complete the circuit, traverse uphill and to the right from the end of the trail to a ridge line. You will come to an open grassy area. Looking north, you will see the gravel piles you drove around to get to the parking area. Work your way around the hill and downhill to the base of the hill, being careful to negotiate rocks below the grass. Continue to the right at the base of the hill to the parking area.



**DON'T FORGET TO**  
take your selfie with the telecommunications tower

