

## USE AT YOUR OWN RISK

### Mt. Muir

4,686'

Location: L.A. County, North of Altadena  
Maps: Angeles National Forest Map  
Topo: Mt. Wilson 7.5, Pasadena 7.5

**Primary Route:** 6 miles o/w, 3,000' gain

#### **Driving Instruction:**

From I-210 in Pasadena drive N on Lake Ave to end at Alta Loma, about 2 miles. Try to park on the non-residential side of the street.

#### **Hiking Instructions:**

A stone sign marker east of the "L" intersection marks the beginning of the Sam Merrill Trail (1,801'). Follow the trail along the fence, then across the shallow canyon and up the switchbacks starting on the east slope of this canyon. This well maintained and traveled trail takes you in 3 miles to the summit of Echo Mountain. From here follow the signed Castle Canyon Trail 2 miles to Inspiration Point (4,668'), then hike SE on the road ½ m to a trail on the right side leading to the summit. Return via a loop on the Sam Merrill Trail, which turns left ¼ miles from the road past Inspiration point, to Echo Mountain and back.

**Alternate Route:** 5 miles o/w, 2,000' gain over Mt. Lowe, 1,200' on the road.

#### **Alternate Route Driving Instructions:**

Drive up the Angels Crest Highway 14 miles from La Canada to Red Box. Turn right on Mt. Wilson Road 2 1/2 miles to Eaton Saddle. Adventure Pass required for parking.

#### **Alternate Route Hiking Instructions:**

Walk past the locked gate and follow Mt. Lowe fire road to Markham Saddle 0.5m, then along the trail which bears to the left and to the East side of Mt. Lowe, and finally down the South slope zigzagging down to the Mt. Lowe fire road again. Alternatively, stay on the fire road and avoid the climb. Continue South to Inspiration Point; see Primary Route. The return via the fire road (avoiding climbing to nearly the summit of Mt. Lowe) is long, but has less gain.

#### **Notes:**

Usually there is a Sierra Club sponsored hike to Mt. Muir in April to celebrate John Muir's birthday. See also 'Trails of the Angeles' by John Robinson, Wilderness press, Trip # 31

No water on trails. Adventure Pass required for alternate route.

The Alternate Route is easily done by mountain bike except for the last pitch to the summit, where one would stash the bike in the trees.

**Near-by Peaks:** Echo Mountain (LPS), Mt. Lowe, Mt. Markham, San Gabriel Pk, Mt. Disappointment, Mt. Deception (all HPS)

Original: Lori Raubiere and Bob Wheatley 1986, rev. 2004