

USE AT YOUR OWN RISK

Mt. Yale

4,760+

Location: 3 airline miles north of Sierra Madre

Maps: Angeles National Forest Map

Topo: Mt. Wilson 7.5

Primary Route: 6 miles o/w, 3,500' gain. **This route is currently closed due to a slide near Altadena.**

Driving Instruction:

From the intersection of I-210 and Altadena Dr in Pasadena drive North on Altadena Dr. for 2.6 miles to Crescent Dr. Turn right (North) and continue 0.1 miles to Pinecrest Dr. Turn right, and 100 yards further is a locked gate on the right side: this is the Mt. Wilson Toll Road (dirt). Parking is available on Pinecrest on the right (East) side of the road only. Ample parking, except on crowded weekends. Observe parking signs in this residential area.

Hiking Instructions:

Starting at the gate walk downhill, cross the bridge over Eaton Canyon, and follow the road 3 miles to Henninger Flats (elev.2520). A visitor center and drinking fountain are located here (only water on route). From the Flats continue up the road (lush poison oaks on both sides) for another 3 miles to a saddle at elev. 4200'. On the left side of the road is a concrete water tank bearing the name "Harvard Ridge". Climb up this ridge past the tank, down to another small saddle, and up to the summit, which is marked by four large stone cairns.

Alternate Route: 2.5 miles o/w, 100'gain/900' loss

Driving Instruction:

- From I-210 in La Canada drive the Angeles Crest Hwy 14 miles to Red Box.
- Turn right on the Mt. Wilson Road and continue, park just before the entrance to the Mt. Wilson Skyline Park.

Hiking Instructions:

Start hiking the Wilson Toll road to your left, all downhill. When you approach Mt. Harvard, stay left and continue downhill. After hiking 1 1/2 miles there is a sign to Mt Wilson-Winter Creek Trail. This trail goes to Sierra Madre and to Chantry Flats. Continue straight on the Mt. Wilson Toll road. Approximately 1/2 mile further and counting 6 yellow 'Underground

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Telephone Cable' posts from the trail intersection, there are 3 dead trees on the East (downhill) side. Mt. Harvard is visible behind you. Look for a sandy, very steep uphill slide (elev. 4,650'), scramble uphill (right) and merge into a use trail on the ridge over one bump to the peak which is marked by 4 large stone cairns. Remember, there is a 900' gain on the return trip.

To avoid the steep slope, continue on the road for another mile to saddle 4,200' and climb the ridge (see primary route). 550' gain to the summit, and 1,450' gain on the return to Skyline Park.

Notes:

Adventure Pass required for Alternate Route.

Mt. Yale can be combined with Hastings Peak by descending the rocky and brushy south ridge of Yale with a left turn to the Mt. Wilson Toll road, visible from above. The trail to Hastings starts across the road, a few feet down from the exit off Yale. Counting the yellow telephone cable posts from the first ascension point to Yale to the Hastings trail results in another six poles for a total of 12 posts after the trail intersection.

Jones Peak can also be added by continuing down the ridge from Hastings for another mile and 600' gain on the way back.

Original: Jack Grams 1990, rev. 2004