

USE AT YOUR OWN RISK

Mt. Hollywood

Elevation 1625'

Location: Hollywood Hills, Griffith Park

Maps: Thomas Guide-Los Angeles County Edition, grids 593 & 594

Topo: Hollywood, Burbank 7 ½-minute

Primary Route: 1.5 miles o/w, 650' gain

Driving Directions: From the 101 freeway in Los Angeles, take the Vermont Ave exit and drive north to the end of the road in Griffith Park. Pass under the tunnel, turn left and drive up to the Griffith Observatory parking lot. From the 5 fwy, exit Los Feliz Blvd. and drive east. Turn right on Hillhurst Ave, drive up to Vermont and continue as above.

Hiking Instructions: From the Observatory parking lot, take the Charlie Turner Trail and walk up past the Berlin Forest to a fork about a mile up. Both ways lead to the peak (Lat: 34.1281, Lon: 118.30093). A right turn will take you to Dante's View and a drinking fountain.

You can also start your hike at Fern Dell on Fern Dell Ave which is further west than Vermont and Hillhurst on Los Feliz. Take the Hollywood Peak Trail up to the Charlie Turner Trail and continue on the primary route. This way adds about 1.5 miles and 400 ft of gain to the primary route. There are other ways to climb this peak; pick up a park map from the Griffith Park ranger station for detailed hiking routes.

Notes: Griffith Park is the largest municipal wilderness park in the US. It is a good size chunk of land, five times the size of Central Park, and the view from Mt. Hollywood is spectacular on a clear day. It is best to make it to the top early in the morning on a day after it has rained. Arguably, it also the finest moonlight hike in the greater LA area.

This is a wonderful trek for children; it is short, you reach a peak with 360' visibility. You can see the entire stretch of the San Gabriels, which are even more beautiful when covered with snow. You get to see the famous Hollywood sign on Mt. Lee, the Pacific Ocean, the two valleys, the Verdugos and a great overhead view of the observatory.

Mt Hollywood can also be combined with the other Lower Peak in the area, Cahuenga Peak. From Mt Hollywood, continue north along the ridge and then west to Mt Lee. From the west side of this peak, walk around the fence and follow the ridge a short way to Cahuenga Peak, the highest summit in the area. This hike is 7-8 miles RT with 2700 ft of gain. The fencing, security cameras and speakers are part of a strong effort to keep people away from the Hollywood sign.

Los Angeles City Park Rangers (323) 913-4688.

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