

1182

Three Points to Twin Peaks

Date: 11 June '14

Hike leader: Rich Frederick

Distance: 12 miles RT. Elevation gain: 2200 ft. CUM.

Other turnaround points are mentioned below. Elevations are given at message end.

Trailhead Directions: The trailhead is at Three Points on the Angeles Crest Highway 27 miles from the 210 freeway. At 2.4 miles past Chilao turn left at the Camp Valmont area keeping left to the parking area. There are toilets available at the parking lot.

The Hike - CAUTION: This is a long, strenuous hike! If you go all the way to the top of Twin Peaks it is 12 plus miles RT. If anyone wants to do this entire hike, you must start no later than 8:30, if not sooner, and double up on your water.

However, take heart. The trail is wonderful, as it passes through the wilderness. Views are great. There are no intersecting trails. It's out and back. And there are good turnaround points. The first comes at roughly three miles as one passes through a low swamp grass area that literally obscures the trail (If the drought hasn't killed it all.) About a quarter of a mile further on one comes to an obvious beautiful viewpoint with a large mass of rocks. Lunch here and return. Not much elevation gain and about seven miles RT. The next obvious goal is the Twin Peaks-Waterman junction, roughly 8.5 miles RT. The saddle about 9.5 miles RT and 1000 ft. gain followed by a 400 ft. loss. Beyond that the peak, 1200 ft. up. Return to the trailhead the way you came.

Refreshments at the parking lot.

Topo Data: Trailhead elevation at Three Points = 5950 ft. Elevation at Twin Peaks-Waterman Junction = 6960 ft. (1010 ft. gain) Elevation at Twin Peaks Saddle = 6560 ft. (down 400 ft.) Elevation published for Twin Peaks = 7760 ft. (1200 ft. gain from the saddle).

<http://alltrails.com/trail/us/california/three-points-to-twins-peaks-saddle-mt-waterman-and-buckhorn-trail>