

**Lower Arroyo Seco Trail**

Date 8/27/14

Leader: Jim Carlin

GPS Data:

RT = 6.1 miles

Max Elevation change = 235 ft.

Directions to Trailhead: Via the 134 eastbound: Exit at Orange Grove Blvd. At the top of the ramp, turn right (south) on Orange Grove Blvd. to California Blvd. Turn right (west) on California Blvd. until it dead-ends at Arroyo Blvd. Turn right (north) and after 0.2 mile look for a driveway to the left (415 S. Arroyo Blvd.) and proceed down the narrow driveway to the un-paved parking lot. Trailhead (named "PRA Range" for the Pasadena Roving Archers) is located across the bridge over the Arroyo Seco.

Via the 210 eastbound: Continue on the 210 (beyond the usual off-ramp transition to the continuation of the 210 eastbound) until the freeway ends at California Blvd. Turn right and follow the directions given above.

Via the 210 westbound: Exit at Orange Grove Blvd. At the top of the ramp, turn left (south) and follow the directions given above.

Via the 110 northbound (Pasadena Fwy.): Exit at Orange Grove Blvd. and turn left (north) on Orange Grove Blvd. and follow the directions given above.

The Hike: Basic hike proceeds west across the Arroyo Seco wash, then turns north on the Lower Arroyo Seco trail passing under the famous suicide bridge (Colorado Blvd.), then under the double 134 freeway bridges - all 3 bridges beautiful arches - along the Arroyo Seco wash, eventually ending at Seco St. This is the beginning of Brookside Park which contains the Rose Bowl Stadium and the Westside Golf Course. Further access to the Arroyo Seco wash is denied at this point so skirt around to the left finding a dirt trail continuing north on the left side of West Dr.

Beyond the Rose Bowl, the Westside Golf Course begins. Continue north on West Dr. until reaching the end of the golf course, turn right crossing over to North Arroyo Blvd. on West Washington Blvd. Turn right and follow North Arroyo Blvd south past the club house, Rose Bowl eventually getting back to Seco St. Look for a dirt trail running along the east side of Arroyo Blvd. rather than walking on the pavement.

Turn right on Seco St., cross it, then turn left before reaching the parking lot on the south side of Seco St. Continue south on trails crossing Brookside Park passing the Jackie Robinson baseball fields, a number of picnic tables arranged in a square - a great place for lunch, and the Aquatic Center. Beyond the Aquatic Center, hikers will have to return to walking south along the wash. Look for the beginning of a trail off to the right continuing through large bushes along the stream just before reaching the first 134 fwy. bridge crossing high above. Take this trail back to the parking lot.

Alternate Hikes: Hikers can return to Arroyo Blvd. and use city streets to view the magnificent homes, go up to Colorado Blvd. check out the Norton Simon Art Museum, etc.

Refreshments served across the wash from the parking lot.