

567

Upper Santa Ynez Canyon To the waterfall From Dead Horse Trail

June 13, 2001

Distance: 8 miles roundtrip
Total Elevation: 1500 Ft. loss and gain
Hiking Time: 4 hours or less
Trailhead: Dead Horse Trail
Start time: 9:30 AM

Trail Directions: 101

South on Topanga Cyn. Blvd. 7.6 miles (North 4.6 miles from PCH)
Turn East on Entrada Road, 200 yards to parking lot on the left.

Hike:

After 10 minutes on the trail we cross Trippet Creek on a beautiful, rustic, wooden bridge and climb gradually upward for 1.1 miles to the Trippet Ranch headquarters and the upper parking lot. Several years ago I saw a mountain lion on this trail when I was hiking alone. From "Milt McAuley": From the east end of the upper parking lot take the trail past the right of the white brick building. Turn right on the Nature Trail and wind uphill through the woods. This trail goes across a grassy area that has a succession of attractive flowering plants every spring. At the top of the hill turn left on the fire road and continue uphill until the basalt knoll on the right is passed, then turn right and start down into Santa Ynez Canyon. The section of the trail in Santa Ynez Canyon is in the area burned over in November 1977, and as a result other vegetation has temporarily replaced the chaparral. Mustard, Morning Glory, Filaree, Horehound, Wild Cucumber, Bush Lupine, Tree Tobacco, and many other flowering plants can be seen along the trail. Soap Plant (Amole) is everywhere along the ridge. Six foot tall plants bloom in May and June, the flowers opening in late afternoon. Farther down the trail, the ridge is covered by deerweed. Down in the canyon you are instantly in a new environment of Oak, Sycamore, and Walnut trees; Blackberries and Currants line the trail. Etc. Etc. Etc. If anyone wants to, about half mile down the trail start looking for a side trail on the left, it isn't well marked and can be missed. Take this side trail and descend along a rocky ridge. About 500 yards down the trail are some caves in the cliff on the right. To the left in about 200 yards and obscured by chaparral are two chimneys, all that remain of an old cabin site. Back on the trail after 1.4 miles we take a left turn and go up stream 1.1 miles to the waterfall. There is a rope to climb up a large rock to have lunch at the waterfall. We return on the same trail.

Be prepared for POISON OAK

This was Vicky Ritter's hike June 16, 1999

We will drive to the upper parking lot and have refreshments at the end of the hike. Obviously, one can make the hike shorter by starting and ending at the upper lot; however, the Dead Horse trail is enjoyable.

There is a parking fee at both lots.

Dick Battin hike, (818) 346-7923