

Great Outdoors OC/LB

San Bernardino Peak Day Hike

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Overview: Distance: 16 miles Elevation Gain/Loss: 4600 Feet Level: Advanced Day Hike One of the best-kept secrets of Southern California is San Bernardino Mountains. Just five miles away from the highest peak in Southern California— San Geronio — San Bernardino tops out at a respectable 10,649 feet. Hiking from Angelus Oaks, this 16-mile out-and-back trail climbs over 4,600 feet.

This trail has amazing views that begin very early in the hike. San Bernardino Peak is one of the lesser known (and lesser traveled) peaks in Southern California, providing a nice break from the more crowded trails like Mt. San Antonio.

There are three distinct sections to this trail. The first section climbs steadily up well-engineered switchbacks through oak and pine forest. You gain a lot of elevation quickly, but the trail is smooth and not too steep. The second section gently climbs through manzanita, with beautiful views to the north towards Big Bear. The trail begins to climb up the final slope as you near Limber Pines. There is a small seasonal creek that you'll cross about 1/2 mile before Limber Pines. The third and final section follows switchbacks up the steep slope to Washington's Monument, then parallels the ridge to the top of San Bernardino Peak.



Angelus Oaks trailhead: Drive east on I-10 to Redlands, exiting on University Street. Turn right (east) onto Lugonia Avenue, which is Hwy 38. Follow Hwy 38 for about 20 miles northeast to the small mountain village of Angelus Oaks. Turn right (onto Manzanita St) at a sign that reads San Bernardino Peak Trail. Follow the dirt road (1W07) 1/4 mile to the large parking area. The signed trailhead is at the north end of the lot.

Please bring appropriate day hiking gear and you ten essentials.

1. Navigation (map and compass)
2. Sun protection (sunglasses and sunscreen)
3. Insulation (extra clothing)
4. Illumination (headlamp/flashlight)
5. First-aid supplies
6. Fire (waterproof matches/lighter/candles)
7. Repair kit and tools
8. Nutrition (extra food)
9. Hydration (extra water)
10. Emergency shelter

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