

Italianos Canyon Trail #59

Type: Out & Back

Length: 3.6 miles one-way

Difficulty: Intermediate

Elevation Gain: 2,700 ft.

Trail Beginning: 8,700 ft.

Trail Ending: 11,400 ft.

Access:

Trail begins 3 miles east from the Cuchilla Campground, located on NM State Highway 150 on the way to Taos Ski Valley. Parking is available on the roadside or at the trailhead located at the end of a short access road, 4WD and clearance recommended for access road.

Trail Description:

Oft cited as one of the most beautiful and accessible hikes in Taos Ski Valley mixed conifers, aspen groves, waterfalls and open meadows characterize this 3.6 mile trail located on the south facing slope of the Rio Hondo Canyon. The trail criss-crosses a creek several times, waterproof shoes are recommended. Like most trails in this area, Italianos Trail follows the canyon bottom most of the time, gaining 2,800 feet in elevation. For this reason avalanche hazard during the winter and early spring is a special consideration. Water is available along the entire length of the canyon but should be properly treated before consumption. For short trips, take a supply of water from home or other domestic source. Day hiking, backpacking, horse riding as well as backcountry camping is permitted along the entire length of the trail. **If you pack it in, please pack it out.** Motorized vehicle use is not allowed. This trail provides access to Lobo Peak, Flag Mountain and Gold Hill.

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Taos Ski Valley

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