

Manzanita Canyon Trail #58

Type: Out & Back

Length: 4.2 miles one-way

Difficulty: Expert

Elevation Gain: 3,450 ft.

Trail Beginning: 8,350 ft.

Trail Ending: 11,800 ft.

Access:

Trail begins two miles east of the Cuchilla Campground on NM State Highway 150 on the way to Taos Ski Valley. Parking is very limited at the trailhead.

Trail Description:

Mixed conifers characterize this 4.2 mile trail located on the south facing slope of the Rio Hondo Canyon. The trail, which follows the Manzanita Canyon bottom most of the way climbs steadily, gaining 3,600 feet in elevation. Climbs range from 20-45 degree slopes in parts. For this reason, avalanche hazard during the winter and early spring is a special consideration. Water is available for the entire length of the canyon, but is not recommended for drinking without proper treatment. For short trips, take a supply of water from home or other domestic source. Day hiking, backpacking, horseback 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 permitted. This trail provides access to Lobo Peak, Flag Mountain and Gold Hill. Trail #58 and trail #61 come to a junction at the ridge and leads right into Lobo Peak Trail #57. Lobo Peak, elevation 12,151 feet, provides the visitor a magnificent view of Wheeler Peak and the expansive valleys below.

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Taos Ski Valley

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