

Mount Deception 12A

Lat/Lon 34.248989,-118.114658
UTM 11S 397363E 3790326N

Elevation: 5796'

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Mount Deception on [Peakbagger.com](#)

Current Weather on [NOAA](#)

Location: Los Angeles County, about 5 miles north of Altadena, 30 miles from Los Angeles

Nearby peaks: Mount Disappointment, San Gabriel Peak

Land Manager: Angeles National Forest, Los Angeles Gateway District (818) 899-1900

USE AT YOUR OWN RISK. CONDITIONS MAY CHANGE, AND UNEXPECTED HAZARDS MAY BE PRESENT.

About the peak

Mount Deception is a great add on for a multi-peak day in the San Gabriel Peak area. This is a very short hike off the fire road to reach the subtle top. The peak does offer a great view down into the valleys south of it. The origin of the name is obscure, but it may have been close enough to Disappointment (itself a deception) to earn the Deception name by the original surveyors or others.

Route 1 follows a paved road to get to the short dirt trail. Route 2 follows a great shaded trail that starts just to the left of the gate on the paved road in Route 1. A 3rd option is to start at Eaton Saddle and follow the fire road and then the trail up and past San Gabriel Peak to reach Disappointment and Deception.

Mount Deception has 2 official HPS routes:

Mount Deception Route 1- From Red Box

Distance: 4.75 miles round trip on road and firebreak

Difficulty rating: Class 1, easy

Trailhead location on [Google Maps](#)

Adventure Pass may be required

Gain: 1100

Time: 2.5 hours round trip

Navigation difficulty:

Road type: Paved

Driving directions:

- From the intersection of I-210 and Angeles Crest Highway (SR 2), drive north on Angeles Crest Highway 9.5 miles to Angeles Forest Highway. Keep straight.
- Continue about 4.5 miles to the junction with the Mount Wilson Road at the Red Box Ranger Station. Turn right.
- Drive 0.4 mile to a paved road (2N52) on the right. Park here. Do not block the gate.

Hiking directions:

- From the parking area (4760'), hike up 2N52 about 2 miles to a saddle at 5550'.
- Leave the road and hike west up a steep firebreak and ridge to the summit.

Additional Route notes:

Mount Deception Route 2- From Mount Disappointment

Distance: .75 mile one way on road and firebreak from Mount Disappointment, 5.5 total round trip together as a loop hike

Difficulty rating: Class 1

Trailhead location on [Google Maps](#)

Adventure Pass may be required

Gain: 200

Time: 1/2 hour one way

Navigation difficulty: Easy

Road type: Paved

Driving directions:

- See the Mount Disappointment guide or the San Gabriel Peak guide.

Hiking directions:

- From the trail junction between Mount Disappointment and San Gabriel Peak (5800'-), walk northwest down the paved road less than 1/2 mile to saddle 5550'.
- Leave the road and hike west up a steep firebreak and ridge to the summit.

Additional Route notes:

Note: If you are returning the same way, there is about 400' gain back to the trail junction.