

Mount Baden-Powell 14I- Star Emblem Peak

Lat/Lon 34.3586117,-117.764504
UTM 11S 429697E 3802184N

Elevation: 9399'

View Caltopo [map](#) or download [GPX](#)

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Mount Baden-Powell on [Peakbagger.com](#)

Current Weather on [NOAA](#)

Location: Los Angeles County, about 16 miles north of Glendora, 66 miles from Los Angeles

Nearby peaks: Ross Mountain, Mount Burnham

Land Manager: Angeles National Forest, San Gabriel Mountains National Monument (626) 335-1251

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

About the peak

Mount Baden-Powell sits atop the beautifully forested Pacific Crest Trail. Passing a 1500 year old limber pine just before the summit, you will also see the 1931 marker named for Lord Baden-Powell (founder of the Boy Scouts). You will be rewarded with spectacular views of Baldy, Pine, Dawson, Iron summits that rise from stalwart ridges extending in all directions, the steep wild canyons that split them, and the rivers and streams that cut those canyons -- Mine Gulch southeast of Baden-Powell; Prairie Fork southwest of Blue Ridge; Copter Ridge descending eastward accompanying Iron Fork to the San Gabriel River; and San Antonio Ridge, traveling from Baldy to Big Iron and ushering Fish Fork towards the Narrows.

Route 1 from Vincent Gap is the shortest trail to the top. Route 2 from Dawson Saddle is a bit longer, but it has the least elevation gain to reach the summit. Route 3 is an epic ridge climb meant for experienced and adventurous hikers. It starts from near the historic Big Horn mine, which you should definitely take a short detour to visit. Staying toward the left on the ridge will avoid some exposed sections. A common multi-peak adventure starts from Islip Saddle all the way along the PCT, passing Little Jimmy Campground, Windy Gap, Throop Peak, Burnham Peak and then offering the main trail or a use trail for the final stretch to the summit of Baden Powell, then descending Route 1 for a car shuttle.

Natural historical notes: Just before reaching the summit you hike through an old limber pine forest.

Historical notes: The peak is named after the founder of the Boy Scout movement. The summit marker was placed May 30, 1931. On the side of the mountain is the Big Horn Mine. Currently active again, it is the largest mining operation in the San Gabriel Mountains.

Mount Baden-Powell has 3 official HPS routes:

Mount Baden-Powell Route 1- From Vincent Gap/PCT

Distance: 8 miles round trip on trail

Gain: 2800

Time: 4-5 hours round trip

Difficulty rating: Class 1, moderate

Navigation difficulty: Easy

Trailhead location on [Google Maps](#)

Road type: Paved

Adventure Pass may be required

Driving directions:

- From the intersection of I-210 and Angeles Crest Highway, drive north on Angeles Crest Highway for about 51 miles to a large parking area on the right side of the road at Vincent Gap. Park here.

Hiking directions:

- The Pacific Crest Trail (PCT) starts at the west end of the parking lot. From the parking lot (6593'), hike up the trail through many switchbacks to a junction where the PCT goes to the right.
- Keep left and follow the trail a short distance up to the summit.

Additional Route notes:

Mount Baden-Powell Route 2- From Mount Burnham

Distance: 2 miles one way from Mount Burnham, 9.7 round trip
Difficulty rating: Class 1
Trailhead location on [Google Maps](#)
Adventure Pass may be required

Gain: 800
Time: 1 hour one way
Navigation difficulty: Easy
Road type: Paved

Driving directions:

- See the Mount Burnham guide.

Hiking directions:

- See the Mount Burnham guide.
- From Mount Burnham, descend east to the PCT.
- Go east on the PCT to the junction just below the summit of Baden-Powell.
- Go right and follow the trail up to the summit.

Additional Route notes:

Note: From Mount Burnham.

Mount Baden-Powell Route 3- East Ridge

Distance: 7.5 miles round trip on trail and steep cross-country

Difficulty rating: Class 1, very strenuous

Trailhead location on [Google Maps](#)

Adventure Pass maAdventure Pass may be required be requiredes

Gain: 2800

Time: 5-6 hours round trip

Navigation difficulty: Moderate

Road type: Paved

Driving directions:

- From the intersection of I-210 and Angeles Crest Highway, drive north on Angeles Crest Highway for about 51 miles to a large parking area on the right side of the road at Vincent Gap. Park here.

Hiking directions:

- From the parking lot (6593'), go through the gate and east up the road toward the Big Horn Mine.
- After 1.6 miles (before reaching the fence marking the mine property), ascend the east ridge on a use trail.
- Climb a steep ridge for 1.4 miles with 2400' of gain to meet the main ridge and the PCT 200' below the summit. Follow the top of the ridge wherever possible in order to avoid steep loose dirt on the exposed north side.
- Return via the PCT back to the parking lot. Descending by the ridge is not advised.

Additional Route notes: