

Kratka Ridge 14K

Lat/Lon 34.346827,-117.899299
UTM 11S 417289E 3800979N

Elevation: 7515'

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

Download this [pdf guide](#) or visit its official [page](#)

Kratka Ridge on [Peakbagger.com](#)

Current Weather on [NOAA](#)

Location: Los Angeles County, about 14 miles north of Azusa, 51 miles from Los Angeles

Nearby peaks:

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

This peak and the ski area that operated here below the ridge until 2000, Kratka Ridge was named after a local family the USGS surveyor camped with when he was there, showing how in those days it did not take a lot to get a peak named after you. This peak is part of a ridge that runs all the way to Waterman Mountain and can be combined with a cross country use trail hike to that peak as well.

Route 1 is a short hike that begins at the Vista Picnic Ground, but don't expect any signage, so follow the mileages in the driving directions. Route 2 begins across the street from the Buckhorn Campground exit, a short walk from Buckhorn Spring. Parking in that turnout is easy and the ridge climb to the top is a moderately steep cross country journey.

Kratka Ridge has 2 official HPS routes:

Kratka Ridge Route 1

Distance: 1.5 miles round trip on road and use trail

Difficulty rating: Class 1, easy

Trailhead location on [Google Maps](#)

Adventure Pass may be required

Gain: 700

Time: 1.5 hours round trip

Navigation difficulty: Moderate

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. Keep straight.
- Continue 22 miles farther on Angeles Crest Highway to the Vista Picnic Ground on the right (south). Park here.

Hiking directions:

- From the parking area (6800'), hike south through the picnic ground about 200 yards to the ridge.
- Turn west, picking up an old logging road along the north side of the ridge.
- Continue about 1/2 mile to a shallow saddle with a rocky prominence on the right.
- Turn left here and follow a use trail directly up the slope, then follow an old dirt roadbed around to the right to the top of the ski lift.
- Directly behind the ski lift, climb the ridge about 200 yards, past a picnic table, to the summit.

Additional Route notes:

Kratka Ridge Route 2- From Buckhorn Campground

Distance: 2 miles round trip cross-country

Gain: 965

Difficulty rating: Class 1, easy

Time: 1.5 hours round trip

Trailhead location on [Google Maps](#)

Navigation difficulty: Easy

Adventure Pass may be required

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. Keep straight.
- Continue 20.9 miles farther on Angeles Crest Highway to the exit from Buckhorn Campground. Park here.

Hiking directions:

- From the parking area (6550'), cross the highway and hike east up the ridge, passing elevation 7420' on the left, to the summit.

Additional Route notes: