

Charlton Peak 24F

Lat/Lon 34.1144552,-116.8536358
UTM 11S 513498E 3774856N

Elevation: 10,806'

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

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Charlton Peak on [Peakbagger.com](#)

Current Weather on [NOAA](#)

Location: San Bernardino County, about 13 miles north of Banning, 90 miles from Los Angeles

Nearby peaks: Jepson Peak, Dobbs Peak, San Gorgonio Mountain

Land Manager: San Bernardino National Forest, Front Country Ranger District (909) 382-2851

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

About the peak

Charlton is the northernmost peak on the ridge that descends northwest from San Gorgonio to Big Draw, Jepson, Little Charlton, Charlton, then to Dollar Lake Saddle before ascending again as the San Bernardino Ridge. The peaks on the ridge drop off dramatically on the northern face, which attracts but also intimidates hikers as they ascend the South Fork Trail.

Route 1 is the shortest route, which starts up the pretty South Fork Trail but continues on the Dollar Lake Trail to Dollar Lake Saddle then to the peak. The easiest route to the peak is from the saddle between Charlton and Little Charlton, which is also worth a stop. There are possible combinations, all long and strenuous, with Jepson, or Anderson and Shields, or a massive loop to San Gorgonio and down the South Fork Trail.

Special conditions: Permits for day or overnight use are required for all routes and have a limit of 12. Permits can be obtained online from the San Gorgonio Wilderness Association at [swga.org](#) up to 90 days in advance or at the Mill Creek Ranger Station, 9 miles from Redlands on SR 38.

Historical notes: The peak was named for Rush Charlton, Supervisor of the Angeles National Forest from 1907 to 1925. Charlton, "the boy wonder" of the Forest Service (he was in his 20's when appointed Supervisor), was perhaps the most dynamic and most controversial leader in the history of the Angeles National Forest.

Charlton Peak has 1 official HPS route:

Charlton Peak Route 1- South Fork Trail

Distance: 15 miles round trip on trail

Gain: 4230

Time: 8-9 hours round trip

Difficulty rating: Class 1, very strenuous

Navigation difficulty:

Trailhead location on [Google Maps](#)

Road type: Paved

Adventure Pass may be required

Driving directions:

- Take I-10 east past San Bernardino to the Orange Street exit (SR 38).
- Go one block east, then go north (left) 0.5 mile to Lugonia Avenue. Turn right on SR 38 (east).
- Continue east on SR 38 about 26 miles to Jenks Lake Road on the right. Turn right (south).
- Continue to the signed South Fork Trailhead parking lot on the left. Park here.

Hiking directions:

- From the parking area (6850'), hike the South Fork Trail (1E04) past the old Poopout Hill trailhead to South Fork at Slushy Meadows where the Dry Lake Trail forks left (8200').
- Keep right on the South Fork Trail and continue to the fork to Dollar Lake (9520').
- Keep right again and continue to Dollar Lake Saddle (9960'), at a junction with the San Bernardino Peak Trail (1W07).
- Turn left on 1W07 and follow it south about 1 mile to a point south-southeast of the summit of Charlton.
- Leave the trail here and head northeast up to the top of the ridge and then northwest up the ridge to the summit.

Additional Route 1 notes:

