

Little San Gorgonio Peak 25F

Lat/Lon 34.0602901,-116.8850241
UTM 11S 510610E 3768847N

Elevation: 9133'

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Little San Gorgonio Peak on [Peakbagger.com](#)

Current Weather on [NOAA](#)

Location: San Bernardino County, about 9 miles northeast of Yucaipa, 81 miles from Los Angeles

Nearby peaks: Birch Mountain, Cedar Mountain, Wilshire Peak, Wilshire Mountain

Land Manager: San Bernardino National Forest, Front Country Ranger District (909) 382-2851 and Galena Peak Wilderness (909) 790-3698

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

About the peak

Little San Gorgonio is the second peak, counted east to west, on the Yucaipa Ridge, after Galena, to which it is connected by an exposed third class ridge that has become increasingly dangerous to traverse over time.

Route 1 starts at the Falls Trailhead in Forest Falls along with the Vivian Creek Trail but soon departs south up a very steep and loose gully to gain a ridge near the summit. Dangerous rockfall is a definite risk here. The route described is the safest based on our experience (deviations from that are worse) but rockfall is likely even when hiked with care. However, it is also the typical starting point of the demanding Yucaipa Ridge Traverse, which is hiked with the least elevation gain from east to west, with a car shuttle to Bearpaw Preserve. The stats given for Route 2 are for this complete traverse.

Special conditions: The Yucaipa Ridge Traverse continues west down Yucaipa Ridge past Birch Mountain to the Allen-Birch saddle. To continue on the route you will pass through land owned by the Wildlands Conservancy, which manages the Oak Glen Preserve and Bear Paw Preserve. You must request permission to hike here at least five days in advance. You can submit a request online at wildlandsconservancy.org/preserves/bearpaw. You may also reach the manager by calling (909) 790-3698 or emailing the Bearpaw Preserve at MountainPreserves@twc-ca.org. The manager will send you a liability waiver form for all leaders and participants to fill out, sign, and leave at the trailhead when they start their hike, and the current gate code to enter the preserve. There are bathrooms at the parking area.

The USGS topo shows a trail starting at Pilgrim Pines Camp in Oak Glen and going up to a point near Cedar Mountain. This trail crosses private property and must be used only with permission. Call Pilgrim Pines at (562) 335-7697 for permission.

Notes: This peak and the four nearby peaks are normally done together as a car shuttle trip. It is possible to descend the ridge from the saddle just east of Birch Mountain to the town of Forest Falls. See the Birch Mountain guide for additional information. It is possible to hike from Little San Gorgonio to Galena, but the route includes class 3 climbing.

Little San Gorgonio Peak has 2 official HPS routes:

Little San Gorgonio Peak Route 1- From Vivian Creek Trailhead

Distance: 4 miles round trip cross-country

Gain: 3100

Difficulty rating: Class 1, strenuous

Time: 6 hours round trip

Trailhead location on [Google Maps](#)

Navigation difficulty: Very difficult

Adventure Pass may be required

Road type: Paved

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).
- Go about 13.0 miles to the Valley of the Falls Road on the right. Turn right.
- Drive up the Valley of the Falls Road for 5 miles to the parking lot at the end of the road.

Hiking directions:

- From the parking lot (6080'), hike east up the road past a locked gate to the road end.
- Keeping on the right side of the canyon continue east to a point about 3/4 mile from the parking lot where a large wide gully can be seen to the south. This is the gully just east of Camp Creek.
- Hike into this gully for about 0.1 mile to where it forks into two large gullies.
- Hike straight ahead (south) up onto the wooded ridge that separates the two gullies.
- Hike up this ridge making sure the gravel wash is to your right (west).
- Once you are near the top of the gravel wash contour somewhat to your right (west) above the gravel wash until you meet the main ridge. This ridge is the east ridge of Camp Creek Canyon. (Do not attempt to hike up this ridge from Mill Creek as it contains unstable class 3 rocks.)
- Hike south up this ridge to a small saddle at 8440'+ (UTM 112693 And 27 - see current HPS map).
- Cross the saddle and sidehill to the right (south) into a gully, then up the gully to the saddle on Yucaipa Ridge east-northeast of Little San Gorgonio Peak (UTM 113689 NAD 27). The chinquapin is a bit thick in most places.
- Turn right and hike up the ridge to the summit.
- Warning: This route in some places is steeper than the angle of repose and can be very dangerous if one does not mitigate rock fall danger.
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Additional Route notes:

Little San Gorgonio Peak Route 2

Distance: 13 miles as east to west traverse one way on road, trail, and cross-country, 5.5 miles out and back	Gain: 4100 Time: 8-9 hours one way
Difficulty rating: Class 1, very strenuous when combined with other peaks in the area	Navigation difficulty: Very difficult
Trailhead location on Google Maps Adventure Pass may be required	Road type: Paved

Driving directions:

- See the driving instructions for Route 1 above and for Birch Mountain Route 1. This route assumes that you are hiking each peak (5 peaks) along this section of Yucaipa Ridge from east to west. Vehicles will be left at the Birch Mountain Route 1 parking area to complete the shuttle at the end of the hike.

Hiking directions:

- See the hiking instructions for Routes 1 for Wilshire Mountain, Wilshire Peak, Cedar Mountain, and Routes 1 and 2 for Birch Mountain.

Additional Route notes:

This is the start of the Yucaipa Ridge Traverse.