

Cone Peak 28I

Lat/Lon 33.6669686,-116.598628
UTM 11S 537210E 3725303N

Elevation: 6800'+

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Cone Peak on [Peakbagger.com](#)

Current Weather on [NOAA](#)

Location: Riverside County, about 8 miles southeast of Idyllwild, 121 miles from Los Angeles

Nearby peaks: Palm View Peak, Pyramid Peak, Pine Mountain #2, Lion Peak

Land Manager: San Bernardino National Forest, San Jacinto Ranger District (909) 382-2921

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

About the peak

Cone Peak is probably named for its apparent shape when viewed from the southeast: a very consistently tapering slope topped by a rocky summit block. Combined with Palm View Peak, it makes for a nice loop hike where you will get great views of Lake Hemet, Garner Valley, and Thomas Mountain.

Route 1 is the same as for Palm View Peak and approaches by the northeast ridge. Route 2 follows an old forest trail from the south, then ascends a use trail to a saddle southwest of the summit. A ducked route leads to the base of the summit block.

Special conditions: Do not attempt to hike Cone Peak from the south side via the end of Morris Ranch Road. This is the Trail's End Subdivision. They have recently posted all of this property as no trespassing. There is currently no public access from this area!

Note: The Cedar Springs Trail is called Cactus Springs Trail on some maps.

Cone Peak has 2 official HPS routes:

Cone Peak Route 1- Cedar Springs Trail

Distance: 11 miles round trip on trail and cross-country

Difficulty rating: Class 2, strenuous

Trailhead location on [Google Maps](#)

Gain: 2900

Time: 6-7 hours round trip

Navigation difficulty: Moderate

Road type: Paved

Driving directions:

- Go south on I-215 to the Ramona Expressway. Turn left (east).
- Go east and then southeast on the Ramona Expressway until it ends at SR 74. Turn left (east).
- Go east on SR 74 to Mountain Center.
- Continue east on SR 74 for 8.7 miles to Morris Ranch Road on the left at a fire station. Turn left.
- Go north on Morris Ranch Road for 3.7 miles to an iron gate on the right with a sign "Cedar Springs Trail". Park off the pavement near this spot.

Hiking directions:

- From your parking spot, hike down the road to the trailhead (5340').
- Go through the gate. (There are several gates on this trail. Be sure to close each gate as you pass through it.) Immediately on the left is another gate. Ignore it. It is another access to the trail for equestrian riders in the area.
- Continue up the road past a water tank to another gate. The trail turns left just before the gate.
- Soon you come to another gate. Go through this gate. Here you leave the fences behind as this is the National Forest boundary.
- Continue up the road as it becomes a trail and it begins to climb until you come to another gate. This is not a boundary but is part of a cattle drift fence. This keeps range cattle out of selected sections of the National Forest.
- Continue up to a saddle at 6800'-. This is the junction of the Cedar Springs Trail and the Pacific Crest Trail (PCT) on the Desert Divide.
- Turn left on the PCT and follow it northwest until you reach a point directly between Palm View Peak and elevation 7123'. This is the turnoff for Palm View Peak.
- Continue towards elevation 7123'. Just before you reach the high point on the trail there is a large grassy slope descending on your left (south). Go down through this area picking up the faint remains of a trail.
- Follow it as it goes into some trees and then swings right (west) to the center of the ridge. It soon becomes a large horse trail 10-12' wide.

- Follow this trail down until it passes through a gully just below the saddle north of Cone Peak.
- Leave the trail and go up the gully towards this saddle. As you approach the saddle it becomes brushy. Leave the gully and follow use trails on the left side of the gully.
- As you go over the ridge, turn left (south) and go up over some rocks. Here a well brushed-out route begins.
- Follow this south along the ridge. It soon goes off to the right side and then up to the summit.

Additional Route notes:

Cone Peak Route 2

Distance: 2.5 miles round trip on trail and cross-country

Difficulty rating: Class 2, strenuous

Trailhead location on [Google Maps](#)

Gain: 1300

Time: 3 hours round trip

Navigation difficulty: Moderate

Road type: Dirt

Driving directions:

- Go south on I-215 to the Ramona Expressway. Turn left (east).
- Go east and then southeast on the Ramona Expressway until it ends at SR 74. Turn left (east).
- Go east on SR 74 to Mountain Center.
- Continue east on SR 74 for 8.7 miles to Morris Ranch Road on the left at a fire station. Turn left.
- Go north on Morris Ranch Road for 4 miles past "Cedar Springs Trail" until the pavement ends.
- Veer to the left onto a dirt road, Cedar Ave, for ¼ mile and park on the south side of the road.

Hiking directions:

- From your parking spot, hike west on road a short distance to a green (unlocked) gate (at 5485').
- Go through the gate and follow the dirt road up along the National Forest Boundary west for ¼ mile.
- Exit the road on the right at 5640' and follow ducked use trail that contours north to a steep gully at 6100'.
- Hike northwest up the gully to elevation 6420' and exit on the right.
- Continue up across a brushy slope in a NNE direction toward a saddle at 6580'.
- Cross on the ridge to rocky area and follow a ducked route to the peak.

Additional Route notes: