

Iron Spring Mountain 31F

Lat/Lon 33.453365,-116.697242
UTM 11S 528137E 3701590N

Elevation: 5755'

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

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Iron Spring Mountain on [Peakbagger.com](#)

Current Weather on [NOAA](#)

Location: Riverside County, about 26 miles south-southeast of Hemet, 124 miles from Los Angeles

Nearby peaks: Beauty Mountain

Land Manager: Cleveland National Forest, Palomar Mountain Ranger District (760) 788-0250

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

About the peak

Iron Spring Mountain and its neighbor Beauty Peak lie at the southernmost end of Riverside County, as it transitions into San Diego County and continues southward to Anza Borrego. They have unique panoramas, with the Desert Divide to the north, Palomar High Point to the southwest, and Hot Springs Mountain, the highest point of San Diego County, to the southeast. The two peaks are typically hiked together.

Route 1 is a pretty hike that winds around chaparral on old road, trail and use trail up a gully then on to the final ridge on use trail. Add a side trip to Beauty from the dam and your day is complete.

Peak combinations: The peak is usually climbed with Beauty Peak. Iron Spring is about 1.7 miles almost due south of Iron Spring Mountain. It can be reached by hiking south on the track that leads south from the dam on the way to Iron Spring Mountain.

Special Conditions: With the passage of time brush grows and regrows. The hiker should be prepared to find the route overgrown with brush and the clipped route obscured. Conditions in the field are dynamic and changes over time are to be expected. Seasonal tick blooms have been observed in the major gully. Light-colored clothing and frequent inspections are recommended.

Iron Spring Mountain has 1 official HPS route:

Iron Spring Mountain Route 1

Distance: 6 miles round trip cross-country

Gain: 1700

Difficulty rating: Class 1, moderate

Time: 4 hours round trip

Trailhead location on [Google Maps](#)

Navigation difficulty: Moderate

Road type: Dirt

Driving directions:

- Take I-15 south to Temecula.
- Take the south SR 79 exit. This is the second of two SR 79 exits. It says 79 South. Please make sure you have enough gas. There are plenty of gas stations along SR 79 for the first 2 miles or so.
- Go east on SR 79 17.4 miles to Aguanga. Turn left on SR 371.
- Go northeast 6.3 miles to Bradford Road. Turn right on paved road (not the dirt road immediately before). Note your odometer and go as follows:
- At 1.1 miles, Bradford Road turns right and is named Tule Valley Road.
- At 1.5 miles, go left (east) on Hernley Road (dirt). At 3.5 miles the road name changes to Elder Creek Road.
- At 5.0 miles there is a "T" junction, turn right (south) on Bonny Lane.
- At 5.7 miles, junction. Go left (east) on Tule Peak Road.
- At 6.5 miles there is a pull off on the right, just past a cable box on the right side of the road, and opposite 2 roads going north. Park here.

Hiking directions:

- (UTM 269033 and 27) There is an old road on the right that heads southeast.
- From the parking area (4450'), hike along this old road (about 1/3 mile) to its end at UTM 273029 and 27.
- Hike west over a hillock, avoiding brush, to the base of the major gully (0.6 mile) that runs north-south (UTM 270026 and 27).
- Go up the left side of the gully (at a possible duck) until you get past a dry waterfall.
- Then continue south along the gully to where it forks at an open area just before a fence (1.3 miles).
- Take the right fork, cross the fence, and follow the gully southwest over a shallow saddle (brushy).
- Go south down another gully to a low earthen dam with a road on it (1.8 miles). This is the turnoff for Beauty Peak.
- Turn left (east) on the road less than 300 yards past the dam to where a cleared path leads off to the left.

- Follow this to its end and continue on a use trail which follows the ridge east to the summit.

Additional Route 1 notes:

