

## Hike #487

KANAN DUME TRAIL, ZUMA RIDGE TRAIL, BACKBONE TRAIL

October 6, 1999

Distance: 10.2 miles

Elevation: 2600 ft

Leader: Vicky Ritter

The parking lot at the trailhead is on Kanan Dume Road (County Route N 9) 1.8 miles south of Mulholland HWY, and is on the west side of the road just north of the southernmost of the three tunnels on Kanan. A road marker reading "N9 LA 9.50" positively identifies the location.

Take the steep switchback road up the hill west of the parking area. A vigorous 15 minutes of walking puts you on top of the ridge and at the fork in the road. Go straight ahead and start down from the ridge. Almost immediately there is another branch; take the one to the right and go downhill. One can rightfully question the term "road" from this point on because small landslides and stream erosion have reduced the route to a trail.

In the next 10 minutes you will have the opportunity to make two more trail decisions, take the right hand route both times. Going downhill continually and flanked on one side by over-powering volcanic cliffs and by a deep canyon on the other.

Continue down toward the floor of the canyon and in another 15 minutes the trail you are on crosses one that comes in laterally from the left. Continue on down or take the right hand trail, the difference being that the right hand trail reaches the stream (no water at this time) 3/4 mile up from the other.

Cross the stream and go up the trail to Zuma Ridge Trail, turn right and continue walking until you reach the Encinal Road; from Encinal take the Backbone trail to Kanan Road. The end of our hike,

### Alternate hike:

Take the new Backbone trail to Encinal road and back to Kanan Rd., a total of 5 miles

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