

593

Chaney Trail to Echo Mountain or Inspiration Point

Henry 12-19-01 9:30

Echo Mountain 6 Miles Round Trip

(1400 + 300) Ft Elevation Gain

Inspiration Point 11 Miles Round Trip

2400 Ft Elevation Gain

Wilderness Pass Required

Direction to trail head: Exit I-210 at either Lincoln Avenue or Lake Avenue.

From Lincoln Avenue go up till you see the yellow "No Outlet" sign at Loma Alta Drive. (There is no Boulevard Stop sign there so don't go too far.) Go up Loma Alta Drive till you see an old style hanging traffic light with blinking yellow light. You turn there onto Chaney Trail. From Lake Avenue you go up as far as you can go and then you turn. You are now on Loma Alta Drive. You go down till you see the aforementioned yellow blinking light and turn onto Chaney Trail.

Now you go up Chaney Trail to the top and go down about hundred feet and turn right and park. There is space for about 4 cars on each side of the road. If there is not enough space you may continue going down and park on the right side.

Hike:

From the gate you walk up the fire road for about half mile and take the Sunset Trail on your left. This trail will go almost level for about a mile and you come to a small bridge. Don't cross the bridge. Instead you climb from here a rather steep slope with numerous switch back till you meet the fire road again. We will split into two groups here.

Echo Mountain Group: From here you go down the old railroad roadbed to Echo Mountain and have lunch.

Inspiration Point Group: From here you go up the fire road which is the old railroad roadbed to Mount Lowe Camp Ground Entrance but don't go in there. Instead keep on going up the fire road till you come to a recently built house with no walls, only the roof. You are now at the Inspiration Point. In back of the house you see numerous lenseless telescopes pointed toward many landmarks down below.

You eat lunch here. You may return the way you came or take the Sam Merrill Trail down to near Echo Mountain and go back up the old railroad roadbed up to the fire road. From there you may go down either the fire road or the Sunset Trail to the trailhead.

Henry