

1035

Mount Lowe Railroad 1035 May 4

Exit the 210 freeway in Altadena at Lake Ave. and proceed north for 1.5 miles until Lake ends at Loma Alta Drive - park on the street.

The hike begins by entering the gate at the Cobb Estate and proceeding east about 1/2 mile until reaching the San Merrill/Echo Mountain/Lowe RR trail heading north. (Be careful not to turn to the north too quickly but wait until you descend into a small canyon, where the trail will be plainly marked). The trail is a constant up for another 2 miles, affording lovely views to the south (weather permitting). At the end of this trail (Echo Mountain), you can take a right turn with a short walk to the old hotel site, lunch, and return by the same route - total about 5 miles.

For the more ambitious, it is recommended that you make a left turn (versus a right turn to the hotel) and proceed up the Echo Mountain Trail/old RR grade to see the remains of the RR that went to the hotel. When you reach the road, turn around and return the way you came and continue on to the old hotel for lunch and then back to your car - total about 8.5 miles.

For the really ambitious, you can take the Sam Merrill or Castle Canyon trails to Inspiration Point from Echo Mountain (see map for specifics) - estimated at 12 miles.

Refreshments will be served at the entrance to the Cobb Estate.

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