

## Hike #444

Where: Big Sycamore Canyon.

When: November 4th at 9:32 AM Sharp!!

Trailhead: Reach the trailhead by driving 20 miles west of Malibu Canyon Road on Pacific Coast Highway to Sycamore Canyon. Parking cost \$6.

Distance and Elevation; The Overlook Trail Loop is 8.5 miles with an 1,100 gain and loss.

The Hike: Details and maps are in the "Hiking Trails of the Santa Monica Mountains" Hike 5 - Serrano Valley Loop. This hike also appeared in the February 1998 issue of Sunset Magazine. Here is what it says:

Steep mountains guard the mouth of Big Sycamore Canyon where you pull off the Pacific Coast Highway. The terrain in Point Mugu State Park, northwest of Malibu, harbors one of the most luxuriant stands of sycamores you'll find in the Santa Monica Mountains, as well as a wooded trail that offers rewarding views of wintering birds, two lovely canyons and the sea.

Though you can simply stroll up Big Sycamore Canyon Trail as far as you will, try turning west on the Wood Canyon Trail and climb to the Overlook Trail, which follows the high ridge back to the Big Sycamore trailhead. Wood Canyon is a dense forest of line oaks, and the Overlook Trail provides spectral views of Big Sycamore and La Jolla canyons as well as the Pacific Ocean.

Comment: Our group did this hike two years ago in October.

George Z. Thomas