

Mt. Lowe, Inspiration Point, Panorama Point

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From I-210, take SR-2 to Red Box for a rest room if necessary. Then take Mt. Wilson Road to unsigned Eaton Saddle. There are flat dirt areas on both sides of the road so you will never miss it. Park your car there.

Short Hike: Go 1.6 miles and 513 ft gain, 0 ft loss.  
Return 1.6 miles and 0 ft gain, 513 ft loss.  
Total 3.2 mile and 513 ft gain, 513 ft loss

Medium Hike: Go 3.5 miles and 543 ft gain, 1123 ft loss.  
Return 2.9 mile and 900 ft gain, 320 ft loss.  
Total 6.4 miles and 1443 ft gain, 1443 ft loss.

Long Hike: Go 4.6 miles and 583 ft gain, 1123 ft loss.  
Return 4.0 miles And 900 ft gain, 360 ft loss.  
Total 8.6 miles and 1483 ft gain, 1483 ft loss.

Short Hike: Mt. Lowe.

Go around the sturdy locked gate and start walking up the wide fire road which will eventually go down to Chaney Trail trailhead in Altadena. Pretty soon you will enter a tunnel wide enough for two lanes of automobile traffic although the bottom is not paved. Shortly thereafter you reach Markham Saddle. You look to your left and enter the Mt. Lowe East Trail. The first half mile of it is almost level under the shade of trees and when you reach a saddle you will start climbing on the east side of Mt. Lowe. Soon you see a trail coming down from the right merging in to your trail. Don't go straight, turn and go up on the new trail. After a short while you see another merging trail coming up from the right. Don't turn but keep going straight up and you are at the top of Mt. Lowe.

You will have a nice view from the top and if you go to the far end of the flat area you can see the structure at Inspiration Point. Those on the short hike can now turn around and go down the way you came.

Medium Hike: Inspiration Point.

From Mt. Lowe you descend the way you came up to the point where you saw the merging trail coming up. You now take this new trail (Mt. Lowe West Trail) and go down. This is a rugged steep trail that descends about thousand feet. Eventually you reach the road that you were on initially. You turn left and proceed. Please note that there are two entrances to the Mt. Lowe East Trail on your left side. They will come together so it does not matter which one you take on your return trip. Soon you come to a

five point junction (3 roads and 2 trails). The main road will turn right and go down to Chaney Trail via Mt. Lowe Camp Ground and the abandoned Mt. Lowe Railway. Don't turn but take the road straight ahead. The Sam Merrill Trail will go down to Lake Avenue trailhead via Echo Mt. and Idlehour Trail to Idlehour Camp Ground. (I never heard of Idlehour before).

Shortly after you leave the 5 point junction the road will slowly rise to Inspiration Point where you see a wall-less restroom-less little house where you can rest and enjoy the scenery. In back of the house are some lens-less telescopes pointed toward various landmarks below.

When you go back take the road to where the Mt .Lowe East Trail starts and start climbing about 900 feet. Remember where you first turned around? Be sure and take the fork that is going down at that point. The rest is straight forward.

Long Hike: Panorama Point

From Inspiration Point continue going on the road which is almost level and nice till you come to the abrupt end of the road. There is no man-made structure, but it is obvious this is the place. There used to be OM&M Railway from Inspiration Point to here during the heydays of the Mt. Lowe Railway.

When you go back, go the same way as the Medium Hike guys.