

Temescal Canyon to Skull Rock and beyond

Directions to trail head:

From Los Angeles head west on the Santa Monica Freeway (I-10) to its end and continue north on Pacific Coast Highway. Turn north (right) on Temescal Canyon Road and drive 1.1 miles, cross Sunset Blvd. and proceed into the parking area further back (near the bathrooms and store) in Temescal Gateway Park.

From 405 freeway go west on Sunset Blvd to Pacific Palisades and turn right into Temescal Gateway Park. There is a parking fee of \$5.00. Street parking along Temescal Canyon Road and Sunset Blvd. is a possibility if you don't mind walking a few hundred yards.

From the San Fernando Valley drive down Topanga Canyon toward Pacific Coast Highway. Make a left turn onto PCH. Go past Sunset to Temescal Canyon Blvd. Make a left turn and go 1.1 mile into the park. Park in the parking area near the bathrooms and store.

THE HIKE:

Walk up the canyon on the path past the restrooms. The footpath soon crosses a branch of Temescal Creek. Continue through the canyon. The path ascends gradually to another footbridge and a close up view of a small waterfall. The path steepens and climbs westward up Temescal Ridge to a signed junction with Temescal Ridge Trail. Continue uphill a half mile to Skull Rock. The rock is a good place for our cookie break. Some might want to turn around here (total hike 5.4 miles), and others can continue for a mile or two, have lunch at the radio towers and then return via the Ridge Trail to the parking lot. About (7 or 8 miles). Hope to see many of you.

Barbara Ann Haas

9:30 am

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