

# KERN PLATEAU DAY HIKES

## Sequoia National Forest Kern River Ranger District



### EAST SIDE

TRAIL NAME	NUMBER	MILES	LOW ELEVATION	HIGH ELEVATION
Casa Vieja	Inyo	2.0	8320	8800
Jordan Hot Springs	Inyo	6.0	6000	8800
Pacific Crest Trail	2000	5.0	6080	7040
Hooker Mdw. Trail	33E05	3.0	7520	8630
Trout Creek Trail	33E28	3.5	6960	7920
Sherman Peak Trail	33E35	2.0	9200	9909
Woodpecker Mdw. Trail	34E08	10.0	6260	8486
Albanita Mdw. Trail	35E06	6.0	8560	8630
Pack St., Fish Cr., Smith Mdw.	3 segments	10.0	7700	8800

**CASA VIEJA (Inyo)** - An easy 4-mile round trip from the Blackrock Mtn. Trailhead downhill to Casa Vieja Meadow and back. There is a 800 foot elevation gain on the return trip.

**JORDAN HOT SPRINGS (Inyo)** - An arduous all day 12-mile round trip from Blackrock Mtn. Trailhead through Casa Vieja Meadow, traveling down Ninemile Creek to Jordan Hot Springs. There is a 2,500-foot elevation gain on the trip back to the trailhead.

**PACIFIC CREST TRAIL (PCT) (2000)** - Traveling to Clover Meadow, follow the PCT up the South Fork of the Kern River from Kenndy Meadow Campground for about 2 miles. Cross the river on a footbridge and head northwest up the trail three more miles to Clover Meadow. This is an easy all day hike for the entire family. Rattlesnakes are prevalent on this trail.

**HOOKER MEADOW TRAIL (33E05)** - A 6-mile round trip from Hooker Meadow Trailhead over a low saddle to Hooker Meadow. There is approximately an 800-foot elevation gain between the trailhead and Hooker Meadow.

**TROUT CREEK TRAIL (33E28)** - The hiking trail begins at the end of Boone Spur and travels through Boone Meadow along the steep drainage of Machine Creek and ends at the junction of the Sirretta Trail. This is a downhill hike passing several scenic creeks. (5 miles).

**SHERMAN PEAK TRAIL (33E35)** - 4-miles round trip from the Vista at Sherman Pass, climbing to the top of Sherman Peak at an elevation of 9,909 feet, offering a 360-degree view of the surrounding breathtaking country. Be sure to look at the interpretive board at the Vista so you can identify the mountain peaks.

**WOODPECKER MEADOW TRAIL (34E08)** - Leaving Sherman Pass Road at the Woodpecker Trailhead, the trail travels down Woodpecker Canyon for about 4 miles where it ties in with Rockhouse Trail 35E16. This round trip continues west to Woodpecker Meadow, then north up Dark Canyon Trail, 34E11, where the old Sherman Pass 4x4 Trail continues east back to the trailhead. This is a very arduous day hike that travels through the Dome Land Wilderness. Rattlesnakes are prevalent on this trail.

**ALBANITA MEADOW TRAIL (35E06)** - Trail begins off Forest Road 21S36A and travels northeast for about 3 miles to Albanita Meadow. This trail travels through the South Sierra Wilderness, has little elevation change, and provides very little water. For a longer day hike, this trail ties in with either the Hooker Meadow Trail at the southwest end of Albanita Meadow or the Lost Meadow Trail 35E04 at the southeast end of the meadow.

**PACK STATION, FISH CREEK, SMITH MEADOW TRAILS (3 Segments)** - This is one 10 mile long trail divided into three segments by roads and has several creek crossings:

1. The first segment, Pack Station Trail 35E07, starts at the trailhead just north of Troy Meadows and follows Fish Creek north toward Smith Meadow.
2. The second segment, Fish Creek Trail 34E33, starts about 2 miles north of Troy Meadow heading north for 3 miles along Fish Creek. The trail connects with a dirt road at the southern end of Smith Meadow and continues north along the west side of the meadow, along a private property fence line.
3. The third segment, Smith Meadow Trail 34E06, starts at Smith Road 21S36, at the northwestern end of Smith Meadow and travels along Fish Creek and up a rocky canyon to the Golden Trout Wilderness boundary.



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Forest  
Service  
Pacific Southwest Region

Sequoia National Forest



## WEST SIDE

TRAIL NAME	NUMBER	MILES	LOW ELEVATION	HIGH ELEVATION
Salmon Creek Trail	33E36	4.0	7200	7600
Salmon Creek Trail	33E36	1.0	7600	7760
Sirretta Peak Trail	34E12	1.5	7020	9360
Deadwood Mdw. Trail	34E13	2.0	7600	8800
North Manter Mdw. Trail	34E14	5.0	7200	7840
Little Cannell Mdw. Trail	34E16	3.0	6720	7600
South Manter Mdw. Trail	34E37	4.0	7200	8000

**SALMON CREEK TRAIL (33E36)** - This trail starts at the entrance to Horse Meadow Campground, crosses Horse Meadow and heads about four miles down the south side of Salmon Creek to Salmon Creek Falls. This trip is about eight miles round trip with a 400-foot elevation drop, mainly at the west end.

**SALMON CREEK TRAIL SOUTH (33E36)** - This trail starts either at Big Meadow West or the south end of Horse Meadow Campground and travels over hills and across streams, about two- and one-half miles. Altogether, a most enjoyable trail.

**SIRRETTA PEAK (34E12)** - This trail starts from the north end of Big Meadow and travels north up the Cannell Trail 33E32 about 1/2 miles, then branches northeast about three miles to Sirretta Peak. There is a elevation gain of about 1,200 feet with another 700 feet if you climb the peak.

**DEADWOOD MEADOW TRAIL (34E13)** - This trail leaves the north end of Horse Meadow Campground traveling east up about four miles and gaining 1,200 feet. It is a very steep trail that joins with the Cannell Trail 33E32 two miles above Big Meadow.

**NORTH MANTER MEADOW TRAIL (34E14)** - This trail heads east out of Big Meadow four miles into Manter Meadow in the Domeland Wilderness. A beautiful trail that joins with the south trail 34E37 to make a very nice ten-mile loop.

**LITTLE CANNELL MEADOW TRAIL (34E16)** - The trail starts at Long Meadow and travels south to Little Cannell Meadow. The trail is an easy hike that ends at an old cow camp located at Little Cannell Meadow.

**SOUTH MANTER MEADOW (34E37)** - This trail leaves Big Meadow two miles south of 34E14 and climbs up through some of the rock formations for which the Domelands are noted, then joins North Manter Trail in Manter Meadow.

### TRIP TIPS

Be Prepared! Have proper clothing as weather can change rapidly. **Beware of Rattlesnakes.** Carry adequate water, first-aid kit, map and food to meet your needs. Pick a trail that matches your ability. Wear good hiking boots and break them in before a long hike. Always tell someone where you are going.

**Drinking Water** - Bring water from creeks and streams to a rolling boil for 5 minutes before drinking, or use a filter that effectively removes Giardia and other waterborne bacteria.

**Avoid Pollution** - Preserve water quality by avoiding pollution of surface waters. Set up camp 100 feet from any creek or stream. Bury body waste 6 inches deep and 200 feet away from water sources. **Remember to PACK OUT WHAT YOU PACK IN!**

**Pets** - Are permitted on trails and must be under control so as not to disturb wildlife or other hikers. A 6-foot leash is recommended.

**Fires** - Campfire permits and shovels are required. Leave them DEAD OUT by mixing ashes with water and stirring the ashes. Don't use dirt to put out fires.

**Tread Lightly** - Please stay on trails and do not short cut switchbacks.

High elevations are usually snowed in and trails are temporarily closed in the winter months.

### For More Information:

Kernville Ranger Station  
105 Whitney Road  
P.O. Box 9  
Kernville, CA 93238  
(760) 376-3781

Blackrock Ranger Station  
Sherman Pass Road (22S05)  
at the 4-way intersection  
(559) 539-2607 ex. 276  
(summer)

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