

SUGGESTED HIKES...



1 STAMP MILL TRAIL

Two mile round-trip hike. Occasionally steep. The trailhead is located near the lower dock. Look for the small Ore Cart.

TO SEE: Self-guided brochure has pictures of the old townsite and mill buildings. The trail ends at the ruins of the two mill sites. Along the way, enjoy magnificent vistas of the Colorado River and its backwater lakes. The trail winds through some interesting volcanic scenery.

SIDELIGHT: Don't miss the Picacho cemetery located in the main campground beyond the park office. The original cemetery was located closer to the river and was moved in 1938 to its present location on higher ground.

SIDELIGHT: Hardy hikers take the spur trail through Ice Cream Wash to Railroad Canyon. Follow RR Cyn. road back to the campground. Four and a half miles total roundtrip on this route.

2 STEWART LAKE TRAIL

Two and a half mile loop trail. Fairly level walk. Start at campsite #18 and end up back in the campground near site #42.

TO SEE: Self-guided brochure describes common desert plants found along the trail. The trail winds past the usually dry Stewart Lake and nice volcanic scenery. Clyde Stewart, a Picacho old-time prospector, lived in a small house on the low-lying ridge at the trail's beginning. Look for the palm tree. That is how the lake got it's name. Locals called Clyde "Studie".

3 RED ROCK CANYON

1 1/2 mile walk up and back. Easy walk in sandy wash. Walk the road past the cemetery, past site #54 until the "T" intersection. Walk in wash (no "trail") to the end.

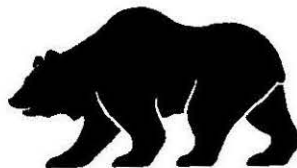
TO SEE: The wash ends abruptly at a dry waterfall. At the end, vivid red and yellow volcanic tuff is capped by a sedimentary top layer. Flash flood waters have carved a chute in the conglomerate rock.

SIDELIGHT: Climb out of the wash and walk back to camp on the high, flat terraces. The terraces contain fine examples of desert pavement (small stones in a very flat fragile surface layer) and desert varnish (oxidation of iron on the surface of the rocks - i.e. dark black color).

4 RAILROAD CANYON JEEP ROAD/TRAIL

Four miles out and back. 4WD required, or you can walk the road. RR Cyn road leaves Picacho road near the entrance station.

TO SEE: Road joins up with the historic narrow gauge railroad bed. Ends where train trestle spanned the canyon. Good wildlife viewing, excellent volcanic scenery. Spur foot trail leads to Marcus Wash for further exploration into Little Picacho Peak Wilderness.



California State Parks

PARK ETHICS

Picacho's desert environment is rough and rugged but extremely fragile. Be a park visitor with a commitment to protect and preserve these areas. Remember that toilet paper, peanut shells, orange peels and cigarette butts are all trash. If you packed it in, you can certainly pack it out. Picacho's trails lead to areas of historical and cultural significance. Tread lightly. Do not remove anything. On state and federal land, all cultural and historical artifacts are protected by law. Take only pictures and leave with only fond memories.

HIKE SAFELY! KNOW YOUR LIMITS

Hikers should expect rugged wilderness terrain with no man-made improvements. Each person should always carry a daypack with a minimum of two quarts of water, lunch, sunscreen, hat, extra clothing etc. Carry topographic maps and compass when heading off-trail. Take a few minutes to learn points of reference. Dogs may accompany you on park trails, but clean up after them and keep them on the leash AT ALL TIMES! Loose dogs disturb wildlife and are much more likely to be snakebit

