

Hike for August 27, 2008

Carlin Stairway Hike

Silver Lake Stairways

The neighborhood east of Echo Park varies more than what we saw in Echo Park, ranging from quite modest, small homes, weed strewn empty lots, small stores along Sunset to large mansions overlooking the lake itself.

The route is somewhat complicated, so I shall give detailed instructions to all valiant stair-climbers. The route is also a bit longer than the Echo Park hike, about 4.5 miles. I don't want to scare any of you, but the "Truth in Hiking" laws do require me to say we'll attempt to do 13 stairways containing a total of 1,357 stairs -- some of them going up, some going down.

Your homework is to Google the "Music Box Steps", the famous stairway that Laurel and Hardy made such a fuss over trying to deliver a piano. Read and get some background, since we'll be starting and ending by going up and down these stairs. Pianos will not be provided, so if you are so motivated, bring along your own.

Trailhead is at the bottom of the Music Box stairs located near 921/923 Vendome Street. There is plenty of space for street parking near this address.

Getting there: Exit Hollywood (101) freeway at Silver Lake Blvd. and head north. Our goal is to reach West Sunset Blvd. but Silver Lake crosses under Sunset so you either have to take a left before the Sunset bridge onto Parkman Ave, or else a right on Ellett Place. Either one will get you up to Sunset, where you will turn left to go north west.

Look for North Vendome Street on your left after you cross North Reno St., turn left and look for a parking space. The Music Box Steps are on the west side of Vendome, and there is an identifying sign on a post at the foot of the stairs, and a plaque on one of the steps.

End of hike gathering for those who survive will be at the Echo Park picnic tables where we were before. Simply turn right on West Sunset and go to Glendale Blvd, turn left and after a short block, turn left again onto Park Ave. and park.

Going home access to the 101 freeway south is via Glendale Blvd. (turn left off of Park Ave.), and for those going north, turn right and continue down Echo Park Blvd. (the east boundary of the park) to the on-ramp beyond the intersection with Bellevue Ave.

SILVER LAKE STAIRWAYS HIKE

8/27/08

To see the details of this map, use the "Full Screen" button in the top right corner of the map.

PLEASE NOTE:

Stairways shown on map are approximate - use GPS coordinates.

We go up AND down St, S3 and S4.

Go past S9 on the way out

Go past S2 on the way back

