

November 11, 2009-- Icehouse Canyon

Bob De Wolf

Driving directions:

Simplest way to get from the 210 freeway to Baldy Village:

From the East or West, exit the 210 Freeway at Mountain (in Claremont) and proceed North up San Antonio Canyon to Baldy Village.

Shortcut for those coming from the West (saves a mile or so):

Exit the 210 Freeway at Baseline (in Claremont). Proceed West on Baseline a short distance and turn right (North) on Padua Ave. Continue north to Baldy Road and turn right. Continue up San Antonio Canyon to Baldy Village.

After you reach Baldy Village, continue 1.5 miles and turn right into the Icehouse Canyon Trailhead parking lot.

Hikes:

- 1) Icehouse Saddle (8 miles RT, 2600 feet). The trail to the saddle continues up the canyon past the signed Chapman trail to Cedar Glen(1.5 miles). At 3 miles you reach Columbine Spring, where the water gurgles from a hidden spring. I usually have a drink here, and I haven't had any ill effects. This could be a destination for those who want an easier hike than continuing to the saddle, which is another mile.
- 2) Cedar Glen (5 miles RT). Follow the same route as 1) for 1.5 miles until the sign tells you to make a sharp left turn onto the Chapman trail. Continue 1 mile to Cedar Glen. Return the way you came.
- 3) It is possible to continue on the Chapman trail past Cedar Glen and return to the main trail used in hike 1). Then you can continue 1 mile further up the canyon to the saddle or return down the main trail to the parking lot.
- 4) If you reached the saddle and you still have the time and energy to do more, you can hike 1 mile north and 750 ft higher to reach Timber Mountain.

A wilderness permit is required for this hike. I will obtain one. I may need a volunteer to get another one if the number of persons allowed on one permit is insufficient.