



Hiking in the Cactus Forest Rincon Mountain District

Interpretive Trails

The **Desert Ecology Nature Trail** is a paved quarter-mile wheelchair accessible loop located near the Mica View Picnic Area. Interpretive signs discuss the plants and animals of the Sonoran Desert.

The **Freeman Homestead Nature Trail** is a one-mile loop located near the Javelina Picnic Area. Interpretive signs discuss both the natural and human history of this area.

Day Hiking Trails

Approximately forty miles of trails wind their way through the Cactus Forest. The terrain varies from flat to rolling to moderately steep.

Use the map on the back of this brochure to plan your hiking experience. Park staff will gladly offer suggestions to help you plan a hike.

Wilderness Access

The Tanque Verde Ridge and Douglas Spring Trails are two of the trails that lead into the Saguaro Wilderness Area. **Camping permits are required for all**

overnight stays within the Saguaro Wilderness Area of Saguaro National Park. Permits may be purchased at the visitor center or through the mail.

To Preserve and Protect

Leave all plants, animals, rocks and other natural and historic features undisturbed.

Dispose of trash properly. Trash cans are available at both picnic areas and most trailheads.

Hiking groups are limited to a maximum of eighteen people.

Aluminum recycling bins are available at the visitor center.

Off trail hiking or horseback riding is prohibited within the Cactus Forest, except in washes.

Camping is not permitted in the Cactus Forest area of the park.

Fires are prohibited in the Cactus Forest area of the park, except for charcoal cooking fires in the Mica View and Javelina Picnic Areas.

Pets are not allowed on any trail within Saguaro National Park.

Firearms and all other weapons are prohibited in the park.

Safety Tips

Be prepared! Carry and drink at least one gallon of water per person, per day. Sport drinks and snacks are also strongly recommended.

Be alert while hiking. Watch for cactus and other prickly plants. To avoid negative encounters with wildlife, always maintain a safe distance and treat them with respect. Be especially alert for Africanized bees, rattlesnakes, mountain lions and black bears. Don't get lost! Carry a map and stay on established trails at all times.

Dress appropriately for the weather! Long pants and long sleeved shirts are recommended. Always wear a hat and sturdy closed-toe hiking shoes. Apply sunscreen liberally and often.

SPEEDWAY BLVD.

WILDHORSE TRAILHEAD
(horse user parking)

DOUGLAS SPRING TRAILHEAD
(hiker parking only-no horse trailers)

Park Boundary Fence

BROADWAY TRAILHEAD
BROADWAY BLVD.

TO DOUGLAS SPRING CAMPGROUND

Bridal Wreath Falls

FREEMAN ROAD

MICA VIEW PICNIC AREA

DESERT ECOLOGY TRAIL

Loma Verde Mine

Garwood Dam

Little Wildhorse Tank

Horses prohibited South of this Junction

LOMA VERDE TRAILHEAD

LEGEND

TRAILS

ROADS

WASHES

Numbers represent trail distance in miles

Wildhorse Trailhead

SPEEDWAY BLVD.

BROADWAY BLVD.

ESCALANTE RD.

Freeman Rd.

Old Spanish Rd.

Irvington Trailhead

Visitor Center

Mica View Picnic Area

Desert Ecology Trail

Lime Kilns

Lime Falls

Javelina Picnic Area

Freeman Homestead Trail (horses prohibited)

6.9 miles to Juniper Basin Campground (horses prohibited)

LOMA VERDE TRAILHEAD

CACTUS FOREST DRIVE

MAP AREA