

# Saguaro

National Park  
National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

## Day Hiking Trails of the Rincon Mountain District



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### Interpretive Trails

The **Desert Ecology Trail** is a paved quarter-mile wheelchair accessible loop trail located near the Mica View Picnic Area. Interpretive signs explain how plants and animals use the limited water resources of the Sonoran Desert.

The **Freeman Homestead Nature Trail** is a one-mile loop trail located near the Javelina Picnic Area. Interpretive signs discuss early and modern Tucson as well as homesteading in the desert during the late 1800's and early 1900's.

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### Frontcountry Trails

Approximately forty miles of trails wind their way through the cactus forest in the Rincon Mountain District. The terrain varies from fairly level to gently rolling to moderately steep.

Use the map of the trail system, shown on the reverse side of this brochure, to plan your own hiking adventure in Saguaro National Park. Park staff will be glad to offer suggestions.

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### Backcountry Access

The Tanque Verde Ridge and Douglas Spring Trails lead to the higher elevations of the Rincon Mountain Wilderness Area.

Backcountry permits are required for all overnight stays. Permits can be obtained free of charge at the visitor center.



## Regulations

Please observe the following regulations to help preserve the park and assure the safety of yourself and other visitors.

- \* Leave all plants, animals, rocks, wood and other natural features undisturbed.
- \* Off-trail hiking is prohibited in the Cactus Forest Trail system.
- \* Firearms and other weapons are prohibited.
- \* Pets are allowed on paved roads only and must be leashed.
- \* Camping and fires are permitted in designated areas only.

\* Trash must be packed out or placed in litter containers.

\* Horses are prohibited from traveling off trail throughout the park.

\* Horseback riders must access the Douglas Spring Trail via the Wildhorse Trailhead. It is located on Speedway Boulevard, 1/8 mile west of the Douglas Spring Trailhead.

\* Bicycles are permitted on the 8-mile paved loop drive and on the section of the Cactus Forest Trail located inside the loop drive. A bicycling brochure is available at the visitor center.

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## Safety Tips

A few precautions can ensure a safe, enjoyable experience.

- \* Be prepared! Carry snacks and at least one gallon of water per person, per day.
- \* Dress appropriately! Wear a hat and closed-toe shoes. Apply sunscreen often.

\* Be alert! Watch for cactus and other prickly plants. Avoid encounters with wildlife by keeping your hands and feet out of places you can't see into.

\* Don't get lost! Stay on established trails at all times. Staying on the trail also helps preserve this fragile desert ecosystem.



# CACTUS FOREST TRAIL SYSTEM



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

SPEEDWAY BLVD.

5TH ST. EAST

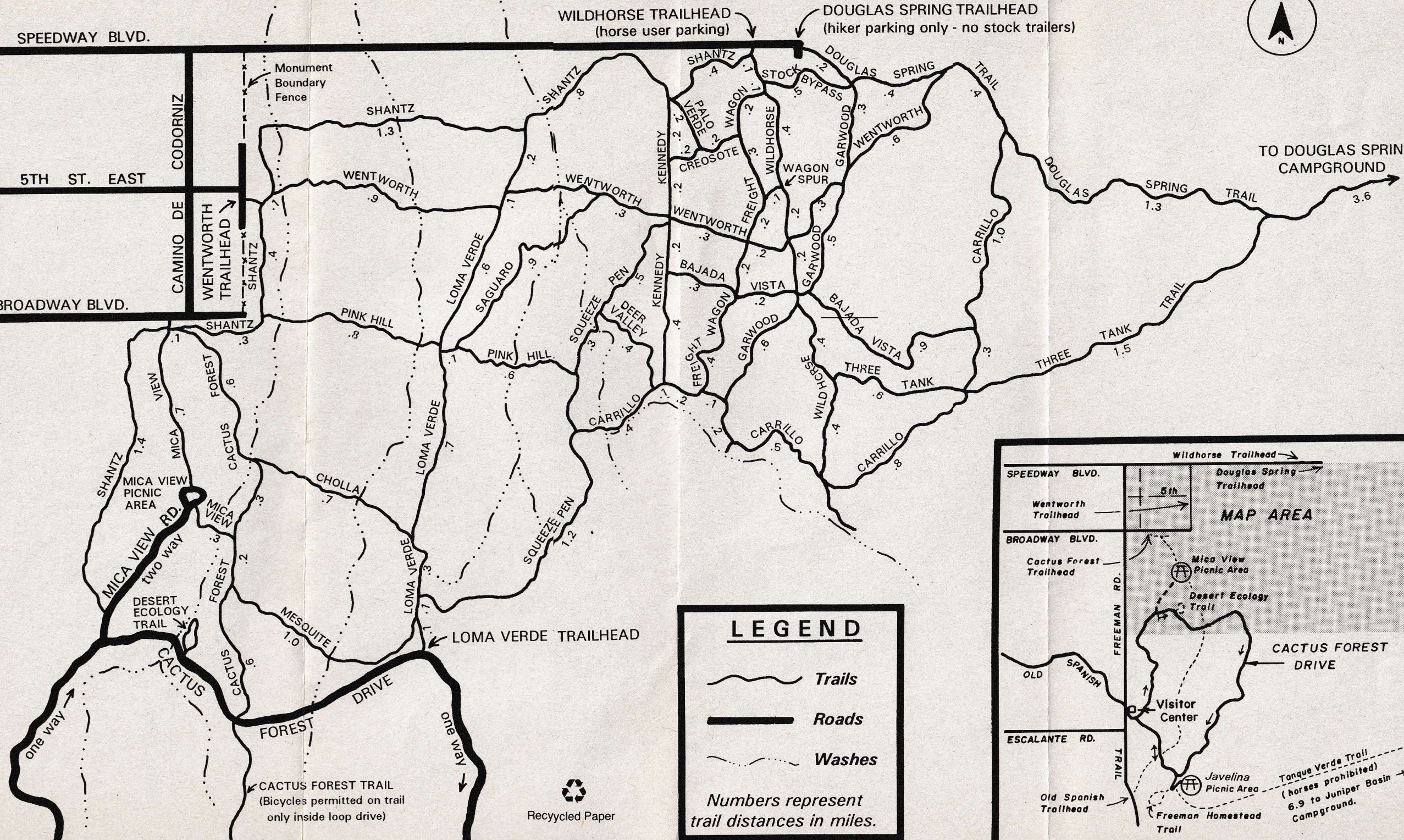
BROADWAY BLVD.

CAMINO DE CODORNIZ

WENTWORTH TRAILHEAD

FREEMAN ROAD

TO DOUGLAS SPRING CAMPGROUND



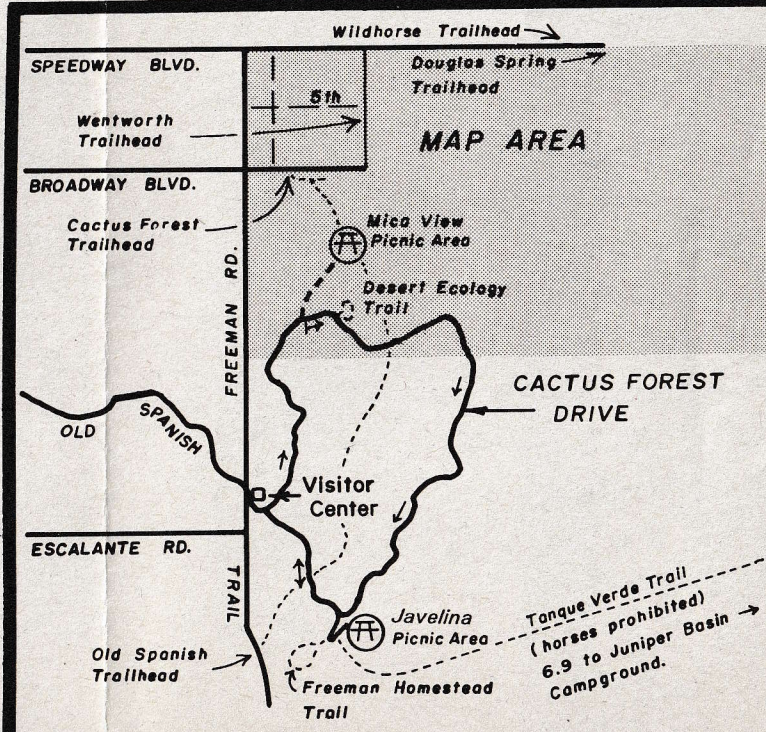
CACTUS FOREST TRAIL  
(Bicycles permitted on trail only inside loop drive)



**LEGEND**

- Trails
- Roads
- Washes

Numbers represent trail distances in miles.



MAP AREA

CACTUS FOREST DRIVE

Tonque Verde Trail  
(horses prohibited)  
6.9 to Juniper Basin  
Campground.