

# TONTO National Forest



Recreation  
Opportunity  
Guide

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HIKING AND TRAIL RIDING

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## PINE CANYON TRAIL 26

### RANGER DISTRICT

Payson Ranger Station  
1009 East Highway 260  
Payson, Arizona 85541  
Phone (928) 474-7900 Fax (928) 474-7999

### TRAILHEADS (TH)

Pine TH  
Cinch Hook TH

### TERMINI INFORMATION

**South end:** (5000 feet elevation): at Highline Trail 31, near Pine Trailhead

**North end:** (7200 feet elevation): off State Hwy. 87, 1.2 miles past its junction with State Hwy. 260

### TRAIL INFORMATION

**Trail use:** Medium

**Trail difficulty:** More difficult

**Trail length:** 8 miles

**Estimated hiking time:** 4 hours one-way

**Season of Use:** Spring - fall

**USGS maps:** Pine

**Elevation change:** 2200 feet

### TRAIL NARRATIVE

This trail travels through one of the most peaceful and verdant canyons below the Rim. Rocky Mountain maples, alders and oaks abound near the creek. Mixed conifers spread out on the canyon walls. Several dripping springs make Pine Canyon the epitome of a storybook scene where yellow columbines and scarlet monkey flowers adorn fern-covered walls.

### ATTRACTIONS

The trail offers a variety of scenery including distant views of pine-covered hills and a bird's-eye view of Pine Canyon.

### CONSIDERATIONS

- No motorized vehicles are allowed
- If you PACK IT IN, PACK IT OUT!!**
- Carry an adequate supply of drinking water. One gallon/per person/per day is recommended during hot periods.
- Do not drink untreated water. Giardia, a protozoan, is in many water impoundments and streams.
- Portions of the trail are rough in places and should be traveled with caution.
- From the north termini, the trail rapidly descends the Mogollon Rim, west of Milk Ranch Point. It drops into Pine Canyon and continues to the Highline Trail 31. From there, it is a short distance to the Pine Trailhead.

### RELATED INFORMATION SOURCES

- Visitors Guide to Mogollon Rim*, Southwest Natural & Cultural Heritage
- Arizona's Mogollon Rim*, Don Dederer, Arizona Highways Books

