

TONTO National Forest



Recreation
Opportunity
Guide

www.fs.fed.us/r3/tonto



HIKING AND TRAIL RIDING

PARK TRAIL 66

RANGER DISTRICT

Tonto Basin Ranger Station
HC02 Box 4800
Roosevelt, AZ 85545
Phone (928) 467-3200 Fax (928) 467-3239

TERMINI

North End: Park Creek Trailhead (TH): Turn off State Hwy. 188 across from the southern exit for the Punkin Center Bypass. Turn onto Forest Road (FR) 409. Drive 1¼ miles east (4-wheel-drive vehicles recommended). Turn south (left) onto a short spur/FR 1382. The trail begins at the end of this road. This trailhead has limited room for vehicles.

South End: Edwards Park Trailhead (TH): From the Four Peaks Road/ FR 143, drive north on FR 422 for 11.2 miles (4-wheel-drive vehicles only). The trail begins at the end of the road. There is adequate parking for several vehicles.

TRAIL INFORMATION

Trail use: Light

Trail difficulty: More difficult

Trail length: 3.6 miles

Season of Use: Spring - fall

USGS maps: Tonto Basin

Elevation: Highest: 5000 feet, Lowest: 2700 feet

CONNECTING TRAILS

None; however Sycamore Trail 68 is approximately 1 mile away, accessible by FR 422. The Arizona Trail is approximately 2 miles away accessible by FR 422.

TRAIL NARRATIVE

From the Park Creek Trailhead, the trail crosses Park Creek and climbs gradually through lower Sonoran Desert and riparian vegetation for ½ mile. The trail then ascends steeply towards the crest of the divide, passing through chaparral, semi-desert grassland and juniper woodland. The final 1¼-mile follows fairly even contours until meeting the headwaters of Park Creek. It terminates at Edwards Park in a stand of large ponderosa pines.

ATTRACTIONS

- Outstanding views of Tonto Basin and the Mazatzal and Sierra Ancha Mountains
- Trail terminates at Edwards Park, which is an open meadow with large trees, ideal for camping.
- Park Creek, at the upper end, runs near the trail and offers pools and waterfalls seasonally for the enjoyment of hikers.

CONSIDERATIONS

- Closed to motor vehicles wider than 40 inches.
- Carry an adequate supply of drinking water. One gallon/per person/per day is recommended during hot periods.
- At the lower elevations, temperatures can exceed 110°F in summer. At the higher elevations, snow occurs during the winter.
- Help keep your trails clean. **If you PACK IT IN, PACK IT OUT!!**
- Travel by vehicles is very difficult due to rugged terrain.

