#### **SOUTH MOUNTAIN PARK**

**Alta East (South Mountain). Rating C+.** This is a 6.4 mile out and back hike with an elevation gain of about 1,300 ft. It's a fairly steady climb with a full circle view at the top. We start on the Bajada Trail, then cross the road to get to the Alta Trail. Hike up to a ridge then turn west and hike towards the summit. There is an unusual crested saguaro about 50 yards straight ahead at a sharp hairpin turn about half way up. After your snack break, you return same way. Trail condition - overall a good trail, but there are several steep switchback sections. Restrooms are at the Ranger Station. There are no park fees. Driving distance is 60 miles RT.

http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Other-4/Alta-Trail

#### Directions to South Mountain Park (North) Main Entrance

Take I-10 east to I-17 south (exit 143B).

Exit I-17 at 7th Ave.

Turn right on 7th Ave to Baseline.

Turn left on Baseline to Central Ave.

Turn right onto Central Ave.

Follow Central into South Mountain Park.

Meet at park office / restrooms.

Caravan to trailhead.

**Bajada/National/Alta Trail Loop (South Mountain). Rating B.** 9 mi. loop with an elevation gain of about 1860 ft. It is 2.2 miles from the Bajada Trail parking lot to the National Trail, then 1.5 miles to the Alta trailhead, then 1.5 miles and 1,100 ft climb to the summit and then 2.6 miles back to the parking lot. Restrooms are at the Ranger Station. No park fee. Driving distance is 60 miles RT. http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Other-4/Alta-National-Bajada-Trails

# Directions to South Mountain Park (North) Main Entrance

Take I-10 east to I-17 south (exit 143B).

Exit I-17 at 7th Ave.

Turn right on 7th Ave to Baseline.

Turn left on Baseline to Central Ave.

Turn right onto Central Ave.

Follow Central into South Mountain Park.

Meet at park office / restrooms.

Caravan to trailhead.

**Bursera/Valley Trail Loop (South Mountain). Rating C.** This is a 6.6 mile loop hike with an elevation gain of about 1200 ft (this includes the short hike to the ruins). Starting from the south side of South Mountain, we hike up a ridge to the west with great views of the Estrella Mountains and areas to the south. We then drop into a valley of typical desert vegetation. We then return up over a saddle and down through a second valley. You can take an optional .25 mile trail to the ruins before going back to the trailhead. No facilities. No park fee. Driving distance is 90 miles RT.

http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Other-4/Busera-National-Pyramid

## Directions to South Mountain Park (South) Telegraph Trailhead

Take I-10 east.

Turn right (south) on Pecos Road (exit 161B) and go about 9 miles.

Turn right on 17th Ave.

Turn left on Chandler Blvd.

At the end of the road turn right, then left into the trailhead parking lot.

No restrooms at trailhead.

**Busera-National-Pyramid (South Mountain). Rating B.** This is a 10 mile loop hike with an elevation gain of 900 feet. The trail starts off through typical desert landscape (which would be colorful after good winter rains) before going up to the ridgeline of South Mountain 620. The ridgeline provides great views to the south including the Estrella Mountains, Gila Indian Reservation, and Ahwatukee. The trail drops down to the valley and goes back up through the Gila Valley to the National Trail before returning to the trailhead. No restrooms and no park fee. Driving distance is 52 miles RT.

http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Other-4/Busera-National-Pyramid

# Directions to South Mountain Park (South) Telegraph Trailhead

Take I-10 east.

Turn right (south) on Pecos Road (exit 161B) and go about 9 miles.

Turn right on 17th Ave.

Turn left on Chandler Blvd.

At the end of the road turn right, then left into the trailhead parking lot.

No restrooms at trailhead.

**Fat Man's Pass from the East (South Mountain). Rating C.** This is a 7.1 mi. round trip hike with an elevation gain of about 960 ft. A nice hike to Fat Man's Pass starting in Ahwatukee at the 48<sup>th</sup> Street entrance to South Mountain Park. The trail starts out flat going out of the parking lot on an old road, then climbs to Hidden Valley where it loops back through large rocks and tunnels. There are great views of the valley from the ridge on which we will be hiking. This popular trail is considered to be fun by many past hikers. Trail condition – an average hiking trail, but a steady climb up to Hidden Valley. Restrooms are at the trailhead. There are no park fees. Driving distance is approx 66 mi RT.

http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Other-4/Fat-Mans-Pass-East

### **Directions to South Mountain Park (East) Pima Trailhead**

I-10 east to 48th St.

Right turn onto 48<sup>th</sup> St. (exit 153).

Turn left at the roundabout (just before entering The Pointe at South Mountain--Pointe Pkwy East).

One block past Guadalupe Rd turn right onto 48th St.

Turn left onto Pima Canyon Rd (just before stop sign to enter The Pointe at South Mountain).

Follow Pima Canyon Rd into South Mountain Park.

No park fee. Restrooms are at the trailhead.

**Fat Man's Pass/Desert Classic (South Mountain). Rating B.** This is a 11.5 mi. round trip hike through to Fat Man's Pass starting in Ahwatukee at the 48<sup>th</sup> Street entrance to South Mountain Park. The trail starts out of the parking lot flat, climbs then levels off to Hidden Valley where it passes through large rocks and tunnels. From here the trail will continue to the left on the National Trail to the Buena Vista parking lot. Then it's down the road a short ways to an unnamed trail down to the Desert Classic Trail. Turn left on the Desert Classic Trail and take it back to the parking lot. There is an optional big climb near the end of the trail before we return to the 48<sup>th</sup> St parking lot. There are great views of the Valley from the ridge on which we will be hiking. The ascent is 890 ft. Restrooms are located at the trailhead. There is no park fee. Driving distance is approx 66 miles RT.

# **Directions to South Mountain Park (East) Pima Trailhead**

I-10 east to 48th St.

Right turn onto 48<sup>th</sup> St. (exit 153).

Turn left at the roundabout (just before entering The Pointe at South Mountain--Pointe Pkwy East).

One block past Guadalupe Rd turn right onto 48th St.

Turn left onto Pima Canyon Rd (just before stop sign to enter The Pointe at South Mountain). Follow Pima Canyon Rd into South Mountain Park.

No park fee. Restrooms are at the trailhead.

Fat Man's Pass via Javalina Canyon (South Mountain).Rating C. A 7.3 mile hike along the Javelina Canyon Trail, left onto the Mormon Loop Trail, right on the National Trail, then left on the Hidden Valley Trail. Go over and thru boulders and rock tunnels and Fat Man's Pass. You return on National Trail to Mormon Loop Trail. Near the end of the Mormon Loop Trail turn left onto the Javelina Trail. An interesting, fun hike, with only a 250 ft elevation change with a few large boulders to climb over and slide down. We will carpool down I-10 E to Baseline Rd, exit to the right on Baseline Rd, straight ahead to 46<sup>th</sup> St. Turn left onto 46<sup>th</sup> St and follow it into South Mountain Park. There is no restroom at this trailhead. There is no park fee. Driving distance is 60 miles RT.

### Directions to South Mountain Park (46th St) Beverly Trailhead

Take I-10 E to 48TH Street.

Right turn onto 48th Street.

Right turn onto Baseline Road.

Left turn onto 46th Street.

46th Street will end at the parking lot inside the park.

Fat Man's Pass from the West (South Mountain). Rating D+/C. A 4.5 to 6.2 mile out and back hike with an elevation gain of about 600-1080 ft. It follows the National Trail starting at the Buena Vista lookout, looping at Hidden Valley through boulders and rock tunnels, and returning on National Trail. Interesting, fun hike, with a few large boulders to climb over and slide down. An optional extra half-mile hike with an elevation change of 130 ft can be added by taking a side trail to the right at marker #18. This trail goes to the top of the ridge giving hikers a 360-degree view of the surrounding area. A second optional addition is a 1 mile out and back hike (150 ft elevation change) going west from the parking lot to the China Wall, a natural rock formation that looks like a manmade wall from a distance. Trail condition - mostly an uneven surface of rock so you need to keep your eyes on the trail. Restrooms are at the park office. No park fee. Driving distance is 60 miles RT. [SCG=5.0/750/2.6]. http://pchikingclub.smugmuq.com/Other-4/Fat-Mans-Pass-West

# Directions to South Mountain Park (North) Main Entrance

Take I-10 east to I-17 south (exit 143B).

Exit I-17 at 7th Ave.

Turn right on 7th Ave to Baseline.

Turn left on Baseline to Central Ave.

Turn right onto Central Ave.

Follow Central into South Mountain Park.

Meet at park office / restrooms.

Caravan to trailhead (trailhead is at the Buena Vista Parking area).

**Gila ruins Trail (South Mountain). Rating D.** This is a 4 mile in-and-out hike with an elevation gain of about 300 ft. Starting from the south side of South Mountain, we hike through a valley up to the ruins of an old resort. After our break, we then return to the trailhead. No facilities. No park fee. Driving distance is 90 miles RT.

# Directions to South Mountain Park (South) Telegraph Trailhead

Take I-10 east.

Turn right (south) on Pecos Road (exit 161B) and go about 9 miles.

Turn right on 17th Ave.

Turn left on Chandler Blvd.

At the end of the road turn right, then left into the trailhead parking lot.

No restrooms at trailhead.

**Holbert Trail (South Mountain). Rating C+**. This is a 5.7 mile in and out hike, with an elevation gain of 1,330 ft. The trail starts out flat, goes onto a paved road uphill for a short distance then off to the right where it continuously climbs up to Dobbins Lookout (a paved parking area with benches, optical viewers & restrooms). The Holbert Trail intersects with the National Trail near the top. We go up to the National trail and then return to the Dobbins Lookout for our break. There may be Native Americans at the lookout selling jewelry. Trail condition – mostly a steady uphill/downhill hike. Restrooms are at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is 60 miles RT.

http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Other-4/Holbert-Trail

### **Directions to South Mountain Park (Holbert Trail)**

Take I-10 east to I-17 south (exit 143B).

Exit I-17 at 7th Ave.

Turn right on 7th Ave. and continue to Baseline.

Turn left on Baseline and continue to Central Ave.

Turn right onto Central Ave.

Follow Central Ave. into South Mountain Park.

Turn left just past the entrance hut.

Drive to the end of the parking lot on the left.

Restrooms at the trailhead.

# Holbert/National/Box Canyon Loop/Los Lomitas Loop/Kiwanis (South Mountain).

**Rating B.** This is a 7.7 mile loop, with an elevation gain of 1,420 ft. This hike starts at the top of Telegraph Hill on the Summit Rd. Take the National Trail North & East for 2.25 miles to the Horton Trail. The Horton Trail leads to Dobbins Lookout and then to the parking lot at the bottom of South Mountain. Take the road to the left about .1 miles to the Box Canyon Loop Trail and follow it for about 1.0 miles and then turn left onto the Los Lomitas Loop Trail. From here begin the climb back to the car. In about ½ mile you will come across a parking lot with picnic tables to the left. This is where you will find the Kiwanis Trail. Take the climb up the Kiwanis Trail to the car. Restrooms are at the ranger station just after entering the park. There is no park fee. Driving distance is approx 60 mi RT.

### **Directions to South Mountain Park (Holbert Trail)**

Take I-10 east to I-17 south (exit 143B).

Exit I-17 at 7th Ave.

Turn right on 7th Ave. and continue to Baseline.

Turn left on Baseline and continue to Central Ave.

Turn right onto Central Ave.

Follow Central Ave. into South Mountain Park.

Turn left just past the entrance hut.

Drive to the end of the parking lot on the left.

Restrooms at the trailhead.

**Holbert/National/Kiwanis/Los Lomitas/Box Canyon Trails (South Mountain). Rating B.** Distance 9.0 miles round trip loop, with an elevation gain of 2000 ft. We carpool on I-10E to I-17S, Exit at 7<sup>th</sup> Ave, straight ahead to Central Ave. Turn Rt onto Central which goes into So.

Mountain Park. There are no park fees. There is a restroom near the Holbert trailhead. This starts with a climb up Holbert Trail past Dobbins Lookout and on to the junction with the National Trail. Turn right and proceed up the road and then follow the trail to the north of the microwave towers to the junction with the Kiwanis Trail. Take the Kiwanis down to the valley, then turn right onto the Los Lomitas trail to the junction with the Box Canyon Trail. Again turn right and follow the trail back to the parking lot. Restrooms at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is 60 miles RT. http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Other-4/Holbert-Trail

# **Directions to South Mountain Park (Holbert Trail)**

Take I-10 east to I-17 south (exit 143B).
Exit I-17 at 7th Ave.
Turn right on 7th Ave. and continue to Baseline.
Turn left on Baseline and continue to Central Ave.
Turn right onto Central Ave.
Follow Central Ave. into South Mountain Park.
Turn left just past the entrance hut.
Drive to the end of the parking lot on the left.
Restrooms at the trailhead.

**Kiwanis/National/Gila West/Ruins/National/Ranger/Los Lomitas Trails Loop (South Mountain). Rating B+.** This is a 10.6 mi loop with an elevation change of 1000 ft. This is a way to incorporate the trail system to the south of the National Trail. It is 1.45 miles gradual climb up the Kiwanis Trail parking lot to the National Trail, then up past the ramada to the near the top of the hill in just over .5 miles to the Gila West Trail. Follow the Gila West trail around the first hill top, then down a steep hill to a junction with a service road. This section should be about 2.1 miles. Turn right down the service road and enter a wash for about 1 mile. To your right there will be a path out of the wash point to the ruins. Follow this path to the southwest corner of the ruins and start the climb back up to the National Trail. This is a 1.2 mile climb and will get your heart rate pumping. At the junction with the National Trail turn right and follow it for 2 to the Ranger Trail. Turn left onto the Ranger Trail and go down the hill and across Summit Road to the Los Lomitas Trail in almost 1.5 miles. Turn right on the Los Lomitas Trail for a 1 mile hike back to the parking lot. Restrooms are at the Ranger Station. No park fee. Driving distance is 60 miles RT.

http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Other-4/KiwanisNationalGila

#### **Directions to South Mountain Park (North) Main Entrance**

Take I-10 east to I-17 south (exit 143B). Exit I-17 at 7th Ave.
Turn right on 7th Ave to Baseline.
Turn left on Baseline to Central Ave.
Turn right onto Central Ave.
Follow Central into South Mountain Park.
Meet at park office / restrooms.
Caravan to trailhead.

**National/Kiwanis/Los Lomitas Loop/Ranger/Bajada Trails (South Mountain). Rating A.** This is a 20.0 mile loop, with an elevation gain of 3,900 ft. None of the hill climbs are difficult there just are a lot of them. Start at the San Juan Parking lot and take the National Trail to the east. At the 3.6 mile mark is the first mine shaft, at 4.6 there is another mine. The junction with the Ranger Trail is at the 6.0 mile mark, stay on the National Trail. At 6.9 miles there is the Telegraph Pass ramada. Continue on the National Trail, which crosses the Summit Rd at 7.25 miles until .5 miles beyond the junction with the Holbert Trail. Turn around at the 10.0 mile mark and return to the Kiwanis Trail just below the Telegraph Pass ramada (12.8 miles). Take

the Kiwanis Trail to the parking lot then find the Los Lomitas Loop trail going off to the left and follow that for almost 1 mile to the Ranger Trail. Take the Ranger Trail left for about .2 miles to the Bajada Trail. Follow the Bajada Trail for 3.2 miles to the National Trail and go west 1.7 miles back to the San Juan parking lot. Restrooms at the Ranger's station. There is no park fee. Driving distance is approx 60 mi RT.

# Directions to South Mountain Park (Far West) San Juan Trailhead

Take I-10 east.

Turn right (south) on 51st Ave.

Turn left on Estrella Drive.

Parking is on the right near the end of the road.

San Juan lookout is over the hill heading southeast.

No restrooms at trailhead.

**Pima/Javalina/Ridge Line/Beverly Canyon/Desert Classic trails from 48<sup>th</sup> St (South Mountain). Rating C.** This is a 6.5 mile hike with an elevation change of about 800 ft. The hike starts out at the 48<sup>th</sup> St entrance to South Mtn Park. Take Pima Wash past a golf course to Javalina trail. Take Javalina to the top of the ridge, then take the Ridgeline trail left. There are great views of downtown Phoenix along this ridge. Turn right on Beverly Canyon to the Desert Classic trail. Turn left on Desert Classic and take this back to the parking area. There are 100s of pincushion cactus on the beginning and ending sections of this hike. Trail condition - overall a good hiking surface. Restrooms are at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is 66 miles RT.

## **Directions to South Mountain Park (East) Pima Trailhead**

I-10 east to 48th St.

Right turn onto 48<sup>th</sup> St. (exit 153).

Turn left at the roundabout (just before entering The Pointe at South Mountain--Pointe Pkwy East).

One block past Guadalupe Rd turn right onto 48th St.

Turn left onto Pima Canyon Rd (just before stop sign to enter The Pointe at South Mountain). Follow Pima Canyon Rd into South Mountain Park.

No park fee. Restrooms are at the trailhead.

Ranger/Bajada/Max Delta/Tusk/Crosscut Loop (South Mountain) Rating D. This is a 4 miles hike with an elevation gain of about 300 ft. This route goes through typical desert vegetation with some unusual barrel cacti and a crested Saguaro. The high point provides a view of downtown Phoenix. Restrooms are at at the ranger station. There are no park fees. Driving distance is 60 miles RT.

#### Directions to South Mountain Park (North) Main Entrance

Take I-10 east to I-17 south (exit 143B).

Exit I-17 at 7th Ave.

Turn right on 7th Ave to Baseline.

Turn left on Baseline to Central Ave.

Turn right onto Central Ave.

Follow Central into South Mountain Park.

Meet at park office / restrooms.

Caravan to trailhead.

Ranger/National/Bajada Trails (South Mountain). Rating B. Distance 8.3 miles round trip loop, elevation change 900 ft, elevation gain/descent 1,300 ft. The hike starts by going up the Summit Rd for about .5 miles to the Ranger Trail. Proceed to the right and climb to the National

Trail then turn right to the Bajada Trail. Following the Bajada Trail to the left will bring you back to the Summit Rd and the auto(s). We carpool on I-10E to I-17S, Exit at 7<sup>th</sup> Ave, straight ahead to Central Ave. Turn Rt onto Central which goes into So. Mountain Park. We will stop at the restroom by the park office. Car pool to the junction of the Summit Rd and San Juan Rd, near the two mile post. There are no park fees. Driving distance is 60 miles RT.

http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Other-4/Ranger-National-Alta-Bajada

# Directions to South Mountain Park (North) Main Entrance

Take I-10 east to I-17 south (exit 143B). Exit I-17 at 7th Ave.
Turn right on 7th Ave to Baseline.
Turn left on Baseline to Central Ave.
Turn right onto Central Ave.
Follow Central into South Mountain Park.
Meet at park office / restrooms.
Caravan to trailhead.

Ranger/National/Kiwanis/Los Lomita Loop Trails (South Mountain). Rating C. This is a hike of 5.5 miles with an elevation gain of about 1000 ft. This hike has nice views of downtown Phoenix and the mountains on the North side of Phoenix. The hike starts by climbing up 800 feet to the National Trail on the ridge. It then goes along the National Trail to a ramada where we will take our break. We will then follow the Kiwanis trail down to the bottom and take Los Lomita back to the cars. Restrooms are at the ranger station on the right after you enter the park. Trail condition - steep going up to the ridgeline and steep with lots of steps coming down the Kiwanis trail. There are no park fees. Driving distance is 60 miles RT.

# Directions to South Mountain Park (North) Main Entrance

Take I-10 east to I-17 south (exit 143B). Exit I-17 at 7th Ave.
Turn right on 7th Ave to Baseline.
Turn left on Baseline to Central Ave.
Turn right onto Central Ave.
Follow Central into South Mountain Park.
Meet at park office / restrooms.
Caravan to trailhead.

# Ranger/National/Mines/Pyramid/National Trails (South Mountain) Rating B

This is a hike of 9.3 miles with an elevation gain of about 2000 ft. This hike has nice views of downtown Phoenix and the mountains on the North side of Phoenix. The hike starts by climbing up 800 feet to the National Trail on the ridge. It then goes to the Pyramid trail, which goes down the south side of the mountain before going back up to the National Trail. It then goes along the National Trail to a ramada where we will take our break. We will then follow the Kiwanis trail down to the bottom and take Los Lomita back to the cars. Restrooms are at the ranger station on the right after you enter the park. There are no park fees. Driving distance is 60 miles RT.

http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Other-4/Ranger-National-Mines-Pyramid

### Directions to South Mountain Park (North) Main Entrance

Take I-10 east to I-17 south (exit 143B). Exit I-17 at 7th Ave.
Turn right on 7th Ave to Baseline.
Turn left on Baseline to Central Ave.
Turn right onto Central Ave.

Follow Central into South Mountain Park. Meet at park office / restrooms. Caravan to trailhead.

Ranger/National/Ruins/Gila West/National/Kiwanis/Los Lomitas/Ranger Trails Loop (South Mountain). Rating B+. This is a 11 mi loop with an elevation gain of 2000 ft. This is a way to incorporate the trail system to the south of the National Trail. It is 1.75 miles climb up the Ranger Trail from the parking lot to the National Trail, then turn left on the National Trail for 2 miles to a unmarked junction with the Ruins Trail. Turn left and go down the hill past the ruins and into the wash in 1.2 miles. Turn left in the wash to a service road. The junction with the Gila West Trail will be found in 1 mile. Turn left on the Gila West Trail and begin the big climb up to the National Trail. This leg is about 2 miles long. Turn right at the junction with the National Trail and start the descent going past the ramada to the Summit Road. Cross Summit Road to the Kiwanis Trail. Follow this trail for 1.45 miles to the Los Lomitas Trail just the other side of the parking lot. Turn right onto the Los LomitasTrail and follow for about 1 mile to the Ranger Trail. Turn right for about .25 miles to the Five Tables parking lot. Restrooms are at the Ranger Station. No park fee. Driving distance is 60 miles RT.

http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Other-4/KiwanisNationalGila

# Directions to South Mountain Park (North) Main Entrance

Take I-10 east to I-17 south (exit 143B). Exit I-17 at 7th Ave.
Turn right on 7th Ave to Baseline.
Turn left on Baseline to Central Ave.
Turn right onto Central Ave.
Follow Central into South Mountain Park.
Meet at park office / restrooms.
Caravan to trailhead.

**Telegraph Pass long Loop (South Mountain).Rating B.** This is a 9.9 mile loop with an elevation change of 800 ft, elevation gain of 1,783 ft. This is a loop on the south side of South Mountain going near the Foothills development. Take the Telegraph Pass Trail down .7 miles then turn left on to the Desert Classic Trail to sign post 45, turn left and follow the unnamed trail to the National Trail then turn left and return to the Telegraph Pass Trail. On the Desert Classic Trail there are two spots where determining the correct path may present problems. At sign post 62 take the path to the right and you will find the trail on top of the little rise. The other turn is at sign post 54, here you take the trail to the left. Restrooms are at the Park Office on the right as you enter the park. There is no park entrance fee. Driving distance is approx 64 miles RT.

# Directions to South Mountain Park (South) Telegraph Trailhead

Take I-10 east.

Turn right (south) on Pecos Road (exit 161B) and go about 9 miles.

Turn right on 17th Ave.

Turn left on Chandler Blvd.

At the end of the road turn right, then left into the trailhead parking lot.

No restrooms at trailhead.

**Telegraph Pass short Loop (South Mountain).Rating B.** This is a 7.0 mile in and out with an elevation change of 700 ft, elevation gain of 1,018 ft. This is a trail on the south side of South Mountain going near the Foothills development. Take the Telegraph Pass Trail down .7 miles then turn left on to the Desert Classic Trail to sign post 52, turn around and return to the Telegraph Pass Trail. On the Desert Classic Trail there are two spots where determining the

correct path may present problems. At sign post 62 take the path to the right and you will find the path on top of the little rise. The other turn is at sign post 54, here you take the trail to the left. Restrooms are at the Park Office on the right as you enter the park. There is no park entrance fee. Driving distance is approx 64 miles RT.

## Directions to South Mountain Park (South) Telegraph Trailhead

Take I-10 east.

Turn right (south) on Pecos Road (exit 161B) and go about 9 miles.

Turn right on 17th Ave.

Turn left on Chandler Blvd.

At the end of the road turn right, then left into the trailhead parking lot.

No restrooms at trailhead.

**Trail 620 Loop (South Mountain). Rating C+.** This is a 8 mile loop hike with an elevation gain of 700 feet. The trail starts off through typical desert landscape (which would be colorful after good winter rains) before going up to the ridgeline of South Mountain 620. The ridgeline provides great views to the south including the Estrella Mountains, Gila Indian Reservation, and Ahwatukee. The trail drops down to the valley and loops back to the trailhead. No restrooms and no park fee. Driving distance is 52 miles RT.

# Directions to South Mountain Park (South) Telegraph Trailhead

Take I-10 east.

Turn right (south) on Pecos Road (exit 161B) and go about 9 miles.

Turn right on 17th Ave.

Turn left on Chandler Blvd.

At the end of the road turn right, then left into the trailhead parking lot.

No restrooms at trailhead.