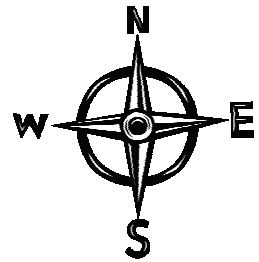


## The Craggs (10,817) (5)

Difficulty: Class 1  
Elevation gain: 820'  
Distance: 5.2 miles  
Time: 55 RP



### Introduction:

The Craggs offer a relatively easy hike with great views for those that haven't spent much time at high altitude or merely want a low intensity hike. It is not for those seeking solitude. Even on weekdays, you are likely to encounter several people as you hike because it is a USFS maintained trail. Weekends, especially holiday weekends, can feel like walking through a crowded city street. Another unique aspect of the Craggs is that most of the hike is not in the forest. It is not above treeline, however. At the top you are rewarded with views of the valley you just hiked up as well as excellent rock scrambling should you choose to explore the area.

### Description:

From the road intersection below the lodge, turn right on the fork in the road (FS 383) that leads to the Craggs/Devils Playground trailhead. At the trailhead, there is a large parking lot and primitive restroom facilities. To the right of the restrooms is the beginning of the trail. Cross Fourmile creek and begin switchbacking up a gentle slope. After about .6 mile you will reach a trail intersection. There is a sign that will direct you to the right if you want to go to Pikes Peak and to the left if you want to go to the Craggs. There is also a trail that heads down the creek to the Craggs campground. Take the fork to the left and continue on a well defined, gravel trail into a broad valley. You will enjoy views of Pinnacle and the Pikes Peak Massif to the southeast (right). Continue on this very gentle trail. There are several side trails that branch off of the main trail, do not follow these. If you stay on the widest trail you will be fine. After about 1.5 mile you will enter a forested area. The trail becomes less defined at this point. Follow this up a moderately steep slope. You will begin to encounter granite rock formations. Continue uphill on gravelly slopes until you reach the summit ridge. Enjoy the fantastic views to the west and try scrambling the nearby, craggy rock.

## Extra Credit: Prehistoric Valley (Class 1)

While hiking along the Craggs trail, you will cross several intermittent (not always flowing) streams on log bridges. After crossing the second bridge you encounter in the valley, turn left onto the trail and follow it up into the valley. Prehistoric valley offers a great place to hang out, throw ball, and picnic.

