

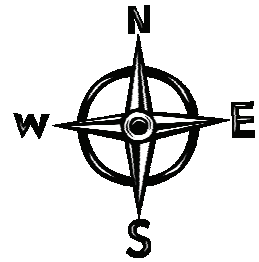
Old Baldy (10,740) (4)

Difficulty: Class 2

Elevation gain: 1000'

Distance: 2.3 miles roundtrip

Time: 40 RP



Introduction:

Old Baldy offers great views as well as challenging terrain. A steep, 1000 ft. climb in one mile will challenge your lungs and legs but you will be rewarded with fantastic views of the Pikes Peak Massif as well as Raspberry Mountain. For those who like rock scrambling, Baldy offers many interesting spots south of its main summit.

Description:

From main camp, the Old Baldy trail is a short distance away. From the intersection below the lodge, turn right on the fork in the road (FS 383) that leads to the Craggs Campground. Continue on this road for about .3 mile. When you reach a sharp bend in the road to the Southeast (left) you will see a turnoff for vehicles as well as a USFS trail marker saying "no motor vehicles". Walk past this marker and cross Fourmile creek. You will see two roads leading up the mountain into the woods. Take the road to the right and continue on the rugged, washed out trail. Immediately upon entering the woods you will begin the steep, constant climb to Baldy. After about .7 mile you will reach a flat spot in the trail. Don't be fooled, the trail continues the steep trend immediately after this flat section. Follow the cairns to the top of the ridge then head east until you meet some massive boulders. Climb these and you will have gained Old Baldy's summit.

Extra Credit: Baldy cave (Class 3)

This cave is hard to find. From the summit of Baldy, go back down the boulders to the ridge. Go south (left) and descend approximately 150 feet in elevation. You will see a giant boulder and the entrance is directly in front of it. The entrance to the cave is very small. Explore the area and you will find it. It takes you down into the rocks and then turns to the left and into a small, 3 sided cave. There are logs in the cave which form a place to sit. You can either hop down from the logs and circle the boulder or go back up the way you came down.

Extra credit: Old Baldy to Solution Pools Traverse (Class 2)

This is relatively easy extra credit. From the summit of Old Baldy go back to the ridge and head south. Merely follow this gentle ridge over to Solution Pools. You can either take the trail down from Solution Pools (Class 3) or retrace your steps back to Baldy.

