



# JPL HIKING +

<http://www.jplerc.org/hiking>

## Mt. San Jacinto Peak/Round Valley: Two Day Hikes Plus Dinner Option

**Sunday, October 7, 2001**

**LEADERS:** Dan Lee, 818-393-4797 [Daniel.J.Lee@jpl.nasa.gov](mailto:Daniel.J.Lee@jpl.nasa.gov)  
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**CLASSIFICATION:** Moderate to moderate/strenuous **TRIP LIMIT:** 30 (15 on each hike)

**TRAM PRICES:** Children: \$13.80 (ages 3-12) Adults: \$20.80 Seniors: \$18.80 (55+)

**Note:** ERC has discount "Alpine Club" cards for 15% off the tram fare.

**DESCRIPTION:** Mt. San Jacinto (10,804 ft) is located due east of Los Angeles, near Palm Springs. The peak and its surrounding area is preserved as the San Jacinto Wilderness, which includes a variety of terrain, from boulder-strewn desert and dense chaparral to pine forest. The north face of Mt. San Jacinto rises nearly 10,000 ft over a horizontal distance of approximately 5 miles. The summit can be approached from the east via the Palm Springs Tramway.

Trails range from the awe-inspiring five and one-half mile trek (one way) to the 10,804 foot peak of San Jacinto to a just over one mile nature walk\* through picturesque Long Valley, located just behind the Tram's Mountain Station.

\*Those wanting an easy day may take a self-guided nature walk in the Long Valley area, returning at your leisure.

**San Jacinto Peak Hike (12 Miles RT):** We'll start hiking in Long Valley with the Round Valley group, and continue on as the trail goes through the forest, climbs through some chaparral to Wellman Divide, then through pine trees to the junction with the short trail to the summit. The trail ends below the summit boulders, so be prepared to scramble over the boulders to the high point at the top.

**Round Valley Hike (5 Miles RT):** Starting at Long Valley, we'll continue on to Round Valley where we'll have lunch and enjoy the beautiful scenery. After lunch, we'll return to Mountain Station where some may elect to explore the nature trail, browse through the gift shop, or just simply relax before taking the tram back down to Valley Station.

We'll need to pick up wilderness permits for each group at the Long Valley Ranger Station before starting our hikes.

**DINNER OPTION:** Both groups are welcome to meet after the hikes for dinner at the top of the tramway. Enjoy the sunset over rugged mountain peaks, followed by fantastic nighttime views of Palm Springs and other desert communities from the tramway restaurant.

**BRING:** The normal day hike gear: day pack or fanny pack, lunch, at least 2 quarts/liters of water, trail snacks, hat, sun glasses, sunscreen, bug repellent, hiking boots, jacket and camera and/or binoculars (optional). You may also want to bring cold drinks and snacks to leave in coolers in the cars for the trip home. For those planning on the dinner option, a change of clothes, etc. may be left in lockers at Mountain Station.

See the tramway web site at <http://www.pstramway.com/> for current weather information, as the temperature at the top can be 30 degrees cooler than in Palm Springs.

**MEET:** At Mountain Station at the top of the tramway in Palm Springs, or meet nearby at JPL to carpool. Carpool arrangements may be coordinated through the trip leaders. Please **RSVP by Friday, October 5<sup>th</sup>** if you'd like to go on this hike, and let Dan or Nancy know if you want the dinner option so carpools may be planned accordingly. Since Palm Springs is about a 120-mile drive from Los Angeles, we want to leave early enough to take the 9 A.M. tram, allowing ample time for the San Jacinto Peak hike and dinner afterward.