

Aspen Ranger District
806 West Hallam
Aspen, CO 81611
(970) 925-3445
(970) 925-5277- Fax



United States Department of Agriculture

ANDERSON PEAK 13,631 feet

LENGTH: 6 ½ miles round-trip

ELEVATION GAIN: 2,500 feet

AVERAGE HIKING/CLIMBING TIME:
6 hours round-trip

USGS MAP(S): New York Peak;
Independence Pass

SKILL FACTOR: Moderate-difficult due to
steepness and loose terrain

RECOMMENDED SEASON(S):
Summer/ Early fall

ATTRACTIONS/CONSIDERATIONS: Anderson Peak is the highest of the three peaks in the Anderson/Petroleum area. It also offers the most varied of climbing conditions. Experienced climbers can climb the rock on the north face, which is extremely loose in spots and dangerous. The ice on the southeast face is a challenging climb approached from Ruby Lakes. It is also loose and dangerous.

ACCESS: Drive east of Aspen on Highway 82 for 10 miles to Lincoln Creek Road. Turn right and drive 7 miles to Portal Campground. From there, either walk or drive the 4WD road about 3.3 miles to the Petroleum Lake trailhead.

NARRATIVE: The approach for the average person is to walk west from the trailhead approximately 1 ½ miles gaining 600 feet in elevation. From the lake, head west to the ridge dividing Anderson and Petroleum Lakes. Follow this ridge to the top of the main ridge which goes south and west. It is approximately 1 mile and a 1,300 foot elevation gain to the junction of these ridges. From here walk ½ mile and gain 400 feet in elevation to a false summit. Go another ¼ mile and gain 200 feet to the true summit. Return the same way.

It is your responsibility to know the hazards involved in your activities and to use the proper safety procedures and equipment to minimize the inherent risks and hazards related to your activity. As a user of National Forest System Lands, you have significant responsibility for your personal safety during any activity you might pursue. The Forest Service installs signs and other information devices at various locations where conditions limit placement of signs or other specific warnings and necessitates the use of more general education efforts. Hazards are not limited to, but include: changing weather conditions, snow, avalanche, landslides and falling rock, caves, overlooks, falling trees or limbs, high or rushing water, contaminated water, wild animals, becoming lost or over exerted, hypothermia, remnants of mining and other activities involving excavation, tunnels, shafts, decaying structures and a variety of equipment, and changing road and trail conditions. You may also be exposed to unreasonable acts of others. **The Forest Service does not manage or control all of these occurrences.**

The peaks in the White River National Forest do not have designated routes to the top. The Forest Service is currently studying the present, user-created trails to determine the feasibility and desirability of designated routes. For further sources on information and routes to the peaks, please call the office at (970) 925-3445.

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY CALL - PITKIN COUNTY SHERIFF - 920-5310

