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United States Department of Agriculture



BIKING

RIO GRANDE TRAIL

Length: To Woody Creek - 7 miles
One-way (11.3 km); 2 miles paved

Beginning Elevation: 7,900 feet (2408 m)

USGS Map(s): Aspen

Difficulty: Easy

Trail Use: Heavy

Ending Elevation: 7,400 feet (2256 m)

ATTRACTIONS/CONSIDERATIONS: This is a very popular trail for joggers, bicyclers, hikers and their dogs. It is an easy trail that follows the Roaring Fork River. The trail provides a pleasant walk or bicycle trip and is a good trail for those adjusting to the altitude.

ACCESS: To access the paved portion, take Main Street in Aspen. Turn north on Mill Street and then left onto Puppy Smith Road (4 way stop sign). The trail entrance is across from the Post Office.

The trail can also be accessed from Cemetery Lane. Drive west from Aspen 1/4 mile on Highway 82 to the Cemetery Lane stoplight. Turn right and follow the road 1 mile to the Slaughterhouse bridge. There is a parking area on the left. Both the paved and unpaved trails can be accessed from this point.

NARRATIVE: The first 2 miles are paved and follow the Roaring Fork River. The trail crosses under Cemetery Lane to the unpaved portion located on the other side of the Slaughterhouse Bridge. The unpaved trail continues to follow the old railroad bed. Cross McLain Flats Road to continue on the trail to Woody Creek. From Woody Creek the trail is paved all the way to Basalt.

ETHICS/REGULATIONS: Before you go out, check on available routes, their condition, ownership of land, posted areas, regulations that apply and the following rules:

- * Avoid running over young trees, shrubs, and grasses - **Stay on established routes.**
- * Avoid wetlands, meadows, steep hills, and streams where the surface is easily scarred by churning wheels.
- * Ford streams at designated sites only.
- * **Sanitation** - Bury human waste 100 feet from water and 6 inches in the soil.
- * A reminder: Wilderness Areas are closed to all mechanized vehicles, including mountain bikes.

PACK IT IN—PACK IT OUT!! LEAVE NO TRACE!!

This map is intended for use as a general guide only, not for actual land navigation. The White River National Forest suggests purchasing a topographical trail map prior to your biking trip.