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United States Department of Agriculture



BIKING

SUMMER ROAD #123

Length: 4.5 miles one-way (7.2 km)

Difficulty: Difficult

Trail Use: Heavy

Beginning Elevation: 9,000 feet (2743 m)

Ending Elevation: 11,212 feet (3417 m)

USGS Map(s): Aspen, Hayden Peak

ATTRACTIONS/CONSIDERATIONS: This is a fairly well maintained dirt road, which gets heavy 4WD use, especially on weekends. A loop ride can be made by going up Little Annie and down Midnight Mine Road. This is very scenic with great views of the Castle Creek Valley.

ACCESS: From Main Street in Aspen, turn onto Aspen Street heading towards Aspen Mountain. The road ends at Lift 1A. You can pick up Summer Road from here.

NARRATIVE: The paved road quickly becomes a steep, unpaved 4WD road. Stay on the main road. The road switchbacks across the front of Aspen Mountain and reaches Ruthie's Restaurant at approximately 2 miles. The steep switchbacks continue, passing under and to the right of the gondola. The road reaches the Sundeck Restaurant at the top of Aspen Mountain. There are spectacular views in all directions. From the top, you can access Richmond Hill Road (it follows the ridge behind Aspen Mountain) or Little Annie and Midnight Mine Roads.

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.