

Aspen Ranger District
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United States Department of Agriculture

MAROON CREEK ROAD

Length: 7 miles one-way (11.3 km);

Difficulty: Moderate

Trail Use: Moderate

Beginning Elevation: 7,900 feet (2408 m)

Ending Elevation: 9,590 feet (2923 m)

USGS Map(s): Aspen, Highland Peak, Maroon Bells

ACCESS: Go 1/2 mile west from the Aspen Ranger District Office on Hwy. 82 to the Roundabout. Go around the Roundabout and turn right onto Maroon Creek Road. Follow the road approximately 3 miles to its end at the T Lazy 7 Ranch (only during the winter season). Snowmobile 7 miles to Maroon Lake.

NARRATIVE: Going up the valley you will see one of the most prominent peaks in the area, the rugged 14,018 foot Pyramid Peak, directly ahead of you. As you go up the road you may see some signs of avalanches that have come down from the steep valley walls, trees will be flattened and wide paths will be cleared by the tumbling snow. Some of these avalanches may even come across the road, forcing the trail to close. Most of the time, however, the road will be open. Further on, where Pyramid Peak dominates the middle of the main valley, the side valley going off to the left will be East Maroon Valley. The road will take you to the right, in front of Pyramid Peak, following Maroon Creek to Maroon Lake.

ETHICS/REGULATIONS: Motorized vehicles are not allowed within adjacent Wilderness Areas. Before you go out, check into available routes, their conditions, ownership of land, posted areas, regulations that apply and the following rules:

- * **Respect private property.** Ask permission before entering.
- * **Be considerate** of other winter back-country travelers. Remember, we're all out to enjoy the outdoors.
- * **Avoid disturbing wild animals** by staying out of elk and deer wintering areas. Detour if you spot wildlife.
- * **Take care not to damage fences and/or gates.** When using gates, please close them behind you.
- * **Wilderness areas and Primitive areas are CLOSED to motorized recreational vehicles.** If in doubt, inquire at a local Forest Service office. Obey all signs.
- * **BEWARE OF AVALANCHES!** Avalanches may occur at any time during the winter. Avoid mountainous terrain after heavy snowfalls or prolonged periods of high wind. Stay on the windblown side of ridges. Avoid crossing steep hillsides and entering narrow, steep canyons.

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 snowmobile trip.