



# Black Canyon National Recreation Trail



## General Location

The trail is 40 miles north of Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport. The northern end is 40 miles east of Prescott, Arizona.

## Brief Description

Hikers, horse riders and mountain bikers are welcome on this 80-mile trail, which is designed and designated for non-motorized use. The Copper Mountain Loop, an 8-mile connector loop, has recently been built east of Mayer and is accessed at Big Bug TH.

## National Recreation Trail Designation

Trails with this designation are recognized as having exemplary local and national significance. The Black Canyon National Recreation Trail (NRT) received the designation in 2008 because of its scenic beauty, rugged features and historic importance. As you hike or ride this trail, you are following a route used continually since the times of prehistoric Native American travelers and traders. Some stretches are part of the Black Canyon stagecoach and historic livestock driveway.

## Access

Here are four ways to access the Black Canyon NRT from Interstate 17:

**Emery Henderson Trailhead:** Take Exit 232 at New River Road. Go west about two miles on New River Road and turn right at the developed area.

**Black Canyon City Trailhead:** Take Exit 242 at Rock Springs in Black Canyon City. Go west. Turn right at the stop sign and then take a quick left onto Warner Road. Follow the road to the white tank which sits near the trailhead.

**Gloriana Parking Area:** Take Exit 248 to Bumble Bee and Crown King. Proceed about a half-mile to the trailhead on the left. The dirt parking area accommodates five to eight vehicles.

**Big Bug Trailhead:** Take Exit 262 toward Prescott on Highway 69. Proceed 4.2 miles and turn left into the entrance on the south side of the highway. The trailhead will be just beyond mile marker 266.

## Permits, Fees, Limitations

There are no use fees. Segments of the trail are not recommended for novice horseback riders. Some terrain is challenging for mountain bikers. New River, Black Canyon City, Bumble Bee, and Cleator U.S. Geological Survey topographic maps are pertinent.

## Contact

Hassayampa Field Office  
BLM Phoenix District  
21605 N. 7th Avenue  
Phoenix, AZ 85027  
(623) 580-5500  
[www.blm.gov/arizona](http://www.blm.gov/arizona)  
[www.blm.gov/visit/az-black-canyon-trail](http://www.blm.gov/visit/az-black-canyon-trail)

# Black Canyon National Recreation Trail

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT



PHOENIX DISTRICT OFFICE  
HASSEYAMPA FIELD OFFICE



PREScott NATIONAL FOREST

Prescott

MAYER

Copper Mtn Loop

Flagstaff

69

CORDES

Exit 262

BUMBLE BEE

Agua Fria  
National Monument

BLACK CANYON CITY

Exit 242

- Big Bug Trailhead
- Gloriana Trailhead
- Black Canyon City Trailhead
- Table Mesa Trailhead
- Emery Henderson Trailhead

Black Canyon  
National Recreation Trail

BLM  
National Forest  
State  
Local/State Parks  
Private

Existing Trailhead

Highway Exit

Agua Fria N.M.

Location



Lake Pleasant  
Regional Park

NEW RIVER

Exit 232

While every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this information, the BLM makes no warranty, expressed or implied, as to the accuracy and expressly disclaims liability for the accuracy thereof.

0 2.5 5 10 Miles

17  
74

Trail Not Maintained

Phoenix

Wickenburg

TONTO NATIONAL FOREST