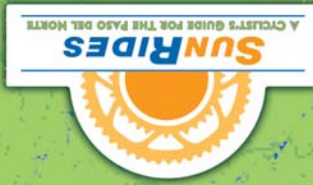


For more information log on to
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TOM MAYS PARK TRAIL
MOUNTAIN BIKING INTERMEDIATE

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GUIDE TO THE BEST PLACES
TO RIDE YOUR BIKE

General Information on the TOM MAYS PARK TRAIL

TRAIL DESCRIPTION

This trail is located in the Franklin Mountain State Park. This trail has something for everyone, with six different loops raging from 6 to 15 miles, this is a perfect area for anyone to practice mountain biking in the Paso del Norte Region. This particular map shows Loop #1 which is a 6.2 miles trail. If you would like to go pro, there are many other loops and trails located throughout the mountain that are very accessible and a lot more challenging. The Franklins are the largest sustained mountain range in Texas, the North Franklin Peak rises 7,192' above sea level, some 3000' above the city level. The mountain biking trail itself is a challenging one but there are other activities for the whole family.



WHEN TO RIDE

During the summer season it is recommended to ride the trail in the early morning and late afternoon when the temperature is not too high. In the winter you can ride throughout the day, since the sun warms up enough but still not too hot. The average temperature in December and January is 60°F. Day guests are only allowed in the park during regular operating hours from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily. There is a fee of \$4.00 per person. In any case, wear sun block, since you or your kids might get sunburned. Make sure your bike is in good working condition for the mountain terrain. There is no lighting along this trail, therefore, it is recommended that you keep good track of time and get back to your car before sunset. On the other hand, at sunset you can enjoy a beautiful view of the sun in the Horizon.

FEATURES OF INTEREST

- Franklin Mountain State Park is the largest urban park in the nation, with 24,247.56 acres, covering some 37 square miles, all within the city limits of El Paso. It became a park in 1979 after the legislature passed a bill authorizing Texas Parks and Wildlife to acquire the Franklin Mountains as a state park, protecting the area from further urban development.
- If you pay close attention, you will be able to see many marks left by natives that once called this land home over 12,000 years ago.
- A network system that will have a little over 51 miles open for mountain biking is expected to open soon.
- The park itself provides a wide variety of activities such as rock climbing, hiking, bird watching, guided tours, even the unique Wyler Aerial Tramway, which is on the east side of the mountain.
- The park offers a limited number of tent camping sites with traditional facilities.
- The park abounds in birds, reptiles, and small mammals. The observant visitor may also catch a glimpse of mule deer, fox, and perhaps an occasional cougar. The skies above the Franklins are home to golden eagles, a variety of hawks, the occasional falcon, and come night, a variety of bats and owls.
- Existing vegetation typifies the northern Chihuahuan Desert, with lechuguilla, sotol, ocotillo, several yuccas, and numerous cacti. The Franklins are the only known location in Texas for a number of plant species, including the Southwest barrel cactus



HOW TO GET THERE?

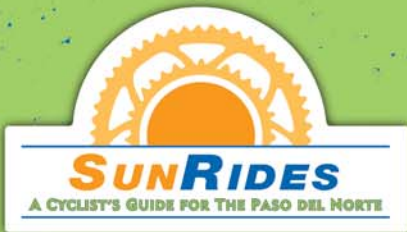
If you are coming from Downtown El Paso, take I-10 West, take exit #6 which is Canutillo /Transmountain, make a Right on Transmountain towards the mountains. Keep going for about a mile and turn left at the State Park entrance. The park is 3.8 miles from the interstate.

If you are coming from Las Cruces take I-10 East, take exit #6 which is Canutillo/ Transmountain, and make a left on Transmountain towards the mountains. Keep going for about a mile and turn left at the State Park entrance. The park is 3.8 miles from the interstate.

If you are coming from Northeast El Paso, take the Transmountain exit and go over the mountain. As you descent the mountain the entrance to the State Park will be on your right.

OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS

- Take plenty of water to drink, as there are no water fountains along the trail. Bring about 1 quart of water per hour of pedaling.
- Don't forget that this is an open area with little supervision from park staff therefore take caution when riding.
- Sunscreen is recommended at all times.
- There are designated resting areas on this trail. You can always use a rock as a seat.
- The closest bike shop in the area is River Trail, located on 7,073 Doniphan about 5 miles west from the park. Revolution Cyclery and Crazy Cat, Red Rock are also about 8 miles away from the park entrance.
- There are no emergency phones available on the trail, so it is recommended that you bring a cell phone with you at all times. In case of an emergency call 911 and follow instructions or try to contact a Park Ranger who will be willing to help in any emergency.
- If you like photography, you will regret not taking your camera with you.



GENERAL SAFETY RULES

- ALWAYS WEAR A HELMET WHILE RIDING
- WEAR BRIGHT COLORS WHILE RIDING
- ALWAYS RIDE DEFENSIVELY
- OBEY AND FOLLOW MOTOR TRAFFIC LAWS AND SIGNS
- DRINK FLUIDS
- CARRY A PHONE WITH YOU
- ALWAYS RIDE ON YOUR RIGHT AND IN A STRAIGHT LINE
- YIELD FOR PEDESTRIANS
- LET MOTORISTS KNOW WHERE YOU INTEND TO GO WHILE RIDING

GENERAL INSPECTION BEFORE RIDING

- TIRES (correct air pressure)
- CHAIN (lubed)
- BRAKES (pads)
- GEARS
- WHEELS



**FRANKLIN MOUNTAINS
STATE PARK**

MAIN ENTRANCE TO
THE TOM MAYS PARK

STATE PARK BOUNDARY

LOOP 375

LOOP 375
TRANSMOUNTAIN ROAD