



The Madera Canyon Trail offers a glimpse into The Nature Conservancy's Davis Mountains Preserve, a unique sky island with plants and animals found nowhere else in the world.

The trail offers a moderate hike. Most of the trail is on sloping terrain. After crossing Madera Creek, the trail winds through pinyon-oak-juniper woodlands to a scenic view of 8,378 foot Mount Livermore. The cliff tops in front of you offer a beautiful overlook of Madera Canyon.

CALL 911 IN CASE OF EMERGENCY
 Phone service is available at the McDonald Observatory Visitor's Center, 10 miles south on Highway 118.

TRAIL USES

Hiking



Photography



Wildlife Viewing



TRAIL DETAILS

Length: 2.4 mile round-trip loop
 Elevation Change: 175 feet
 Max Elevation: 6,050 feet
 Facilities: No restrooms or drinking water on trail
 Trail Hours: Sunrise to sunset
 Average Grade: 3% to 8% with short, steeper sections (a standard ramp is 8%)
 Average Cross Slope: Mostly level with some sections ranging from 5% to 7%
 Average Tread Width: 18 inches
 Surface Type: Dirt, gravel, and bedrock

TRAIL HAZARDS

Rocks on Trail: Loose gravel and uneven terrain are common. Watch Your Step.

Creek Crossings: The trail crosses Madera Creek just past this kiosk. Please exercise caution when crossing the creek and never cross when the creek is at flood stage.

Drop-offs: The first one-tenth mile of the trail after crossing Madera Creek travels cross-slope. Portions of this section have drop-offs along the trail side, and the overlook at the top of the trail is a cliff face. Please exercise caution at all times.

GENERAL INFORMATION

- Please remember you are on private property.
- Take care of the trail so that others can continue to enjoy it.
- Do not trespass. Stay on marked trail.
- No bikes, ATVs, or off-leashed pets allowed. Please keep pets on a leash at all times.
- Leave what you find. No rock or plant collection allowed.
- No camping allowed.

For your comfort: The Madera Canyon Trail is an outdoor experience. Take plenty of water. Wear sturdy shoes, a hat, and sunscreen. A walking stick may be useful. Remember that you are hiking at an elevation of 6,000 feet. You may feel out-of-breath if you have come from lower elevations.

Wildlife: The best times to see wildlife activity are in the morning or early evening. If you are fortunate enough to see any wild animals, enjoy their beauty but please do not approach or disturb them. Several venomous or dangerous snakes occur on the preserve. Please watch your step during warm periods when snakes may be active.