

T45

Camp Wilderness Ridge Trail

Guadalupe Ranger District



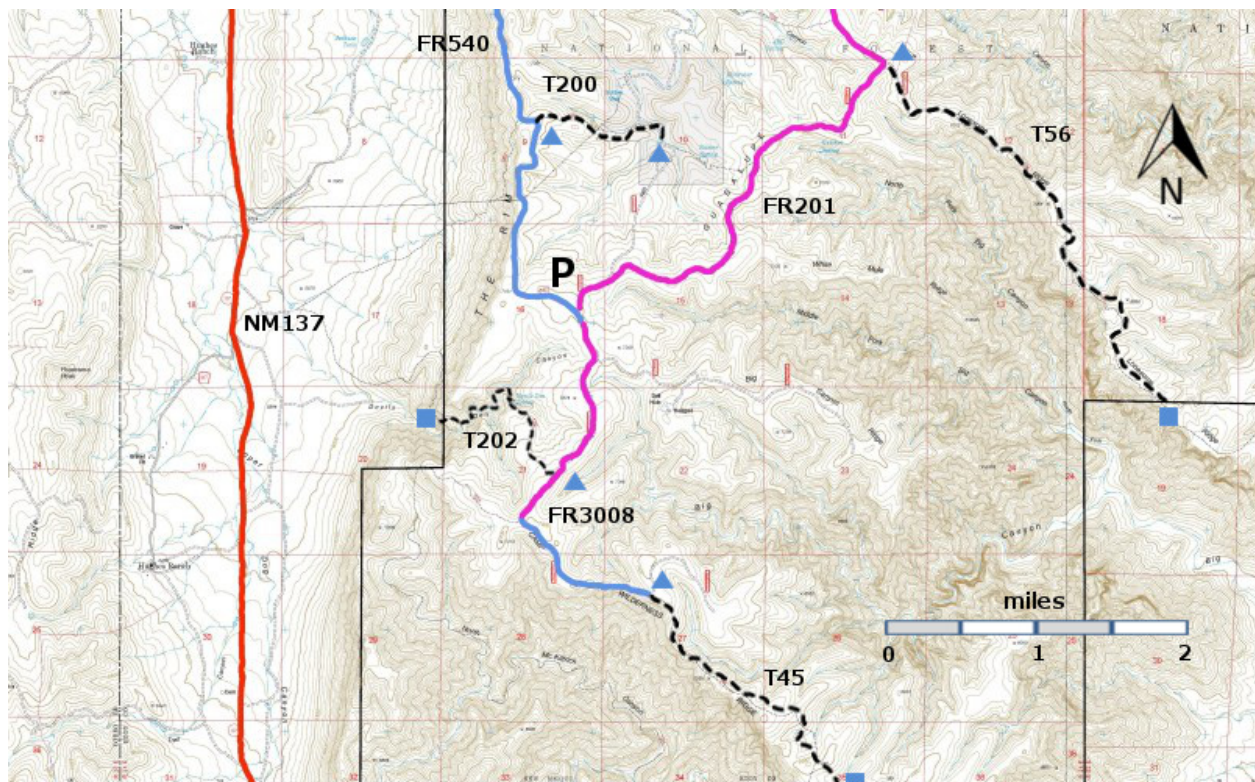
T45

GPS Track (as .GPX)

Left click to open in your browser; then save from browser.

LENGTH	ELEVATION	DIFFICULTY	SCENERY
1.8 miles See Text	6960 - 7340 ft 380 ft difference	Moderate	3

Allowed Usage				



[Link to map color/symbol codes](#)

T45 is open for hikers and horses only.

T45, T56, T200, and T202 are shown as black dashed lines on the map. The portions of FR3008 and FR201 shown in magenta are so bad that they are impassable for most high clearance 4WD vehicles. The

large "P" shows the location of an open gravel pad where most hikers will park. In this area there is also a "kiosk" with decent cell phone contact (Verizon, at least) and the GPS coordinates for the site. In case of emergency, you will need to state where you are.

NOTE: Welcome to the Guadalupe Ranger District and really bad roads. Lovely hikes are coupled with difficulty in driving to the starting points of the trails! The segment of FR540 south of the parking area (P) (.0.3 miles) and the segment of FR3008 from its junction with FR540 to the canyon rim (1.2 miles), and all of FR201 are so bad that they require a high clearance 4WD vehicle. In planning hikes that might make use of these roads, count the bad road distance as part of the hike rather than part of the “drive to” access.

DESCRIPTION: Park your vehicle at the parking area P (approximately the intersection of FR540 and FR201) and walk 1.5 miles along bad roads (segments of FR540 and FR3008). When you reach the canyon rim, you will be rewarded with wonderful views into McKittrick and other canyons. From this point hike 1.0 miles along a good segment of FR3008 [“Good” doesn’t help you – you couldn’t get your vehicle to this point!] to the official trailhead for T45. Hike another 1.8 miles and you will reach the barbed wire fence (and hiker gate) that mark the northern boundary of Guadalupe National Park. There is no need to show your park pass at this unmanned gate. You may continue on to a wilderness primitive camping area and to connections with the trail system in Guadalupe National Park.

Now count up the distance. $1.5 + 1.0 + 1.8 = 4.3$ miles! This trail, which is on the books as 1.8 miles long, requires a 4.3 mile hike (one way). Let’s be fair. That 1.0 mile of (good) FR3008 also has great views. so you get 2.8 miles of great views and the gradients are low. Have a great hike!

ACCESS: To reach T45, take US285 northwest from Carlsbad (about 12 miles) to 0.6 mile beyond milepost 45 at its junction with NM137, Queen Highway. Turn left and follow the paved road 32 miles to milepost 22. If you need to get water, take the FR68E turnoff (right) to Guadalupe Ranger District Administrative Site and the public water hydrant. Otherwise continue along NM137 for 6.5 miles to the turnoff (left) for FR540 (which may also be signed as Klondike Gap Road). FR540 is a very good gravel road. Follow it 11.6 miles to a large open gravel are (“P” on the map). Park in this area, and hike south 0.3 miles along a bad segment of FR540 and 1.2 miles along a bad segment of FR3008 to the canyon rim. Hike another 1.0 miles along a good segment of FR3008 as it follows the canyon rim to the trailhead for T45.

GPS Coordinates for Key Points

NAD83	Lat/Lon hddd mm ss.s	UTM (13 S)
Trailhead	N32 01 02.3 W104 47 33.8	519575 3542371
Guadalupe NP Boundary	N32 00 00.9 W104 46 35.7	521103 3540484
Parking Pad - "P"	N32 02 31.0 W104 48 00.9	518859 3545103

Links to Other Resources

[Guadalupe Ranger District Trails](#)

[Area Topo Map \(36 MB\)](#)

[Six Topo Maps](#)

Last Hiked: 2009 (trail), 2013 (roads)

1/13/2016