

Conejo Canyons - Hill Canyon to Elliott Mountain



Highlights

- Moderate hike of 5.2 miles with about 800' of climbing
- Mountain bikers will find the Outlaw Loop and Elliott Mtn. Trails a challenging climb.
- One of the segments of the 2023 Conejo Open Space Challenge (<https://cosf.org/challenge>; colored green on the map)

Description

This is a moderate hike of 5.2 miles with 800' of climbing. It starts with an easy stroll along the Hill Canyon Trail, climbs up the Western Plateau Edison Road, then turns onto the Outlaw Loop Trail that winds its way up to Elliott Mountain, which has tremendous views of the Western Plateau, Hill Canyon, Lizard Rock and Mt Clef Butte.

Start at the parking area on Hill Canyon road, cross the bridge and head south on Hill Canyon Trail for a mile before turning right and up the Western Plateau Edison Rd. After 0.6 miles, turn right again and follow the Outlaw Loop Trail around to the right (southeast), soon bending north. After a mile, the route turns right onto the Elliott Mountain trail, but about a third of the way up you may want to take the short trail to an overlook of Hill Canyon for a break. The Elliott Mountain Trail continues the final 0.2 miles to the top. Return around the west half of the Outlaw Loop and when you get back down to the Western Plateau Trail, retrace your steps.

Key Statistics

Distance: 5.2 miles

Cumulative Climbing and Descent: About 800'

Popularity: The Hill Canyon Trail is very popular with hikers and equestrians while the Outlaw Loop is popular with mountain bikers.

Parking: Free on Hill Canyon Road

Tread Surface: Firm dirt road and singletrack trail

Hazards: No shade and this area gets hot in the summertime. Multiple sharp turns can lead to serious injuries for mountain bikers going too fast to navigate them – it's a long way down!

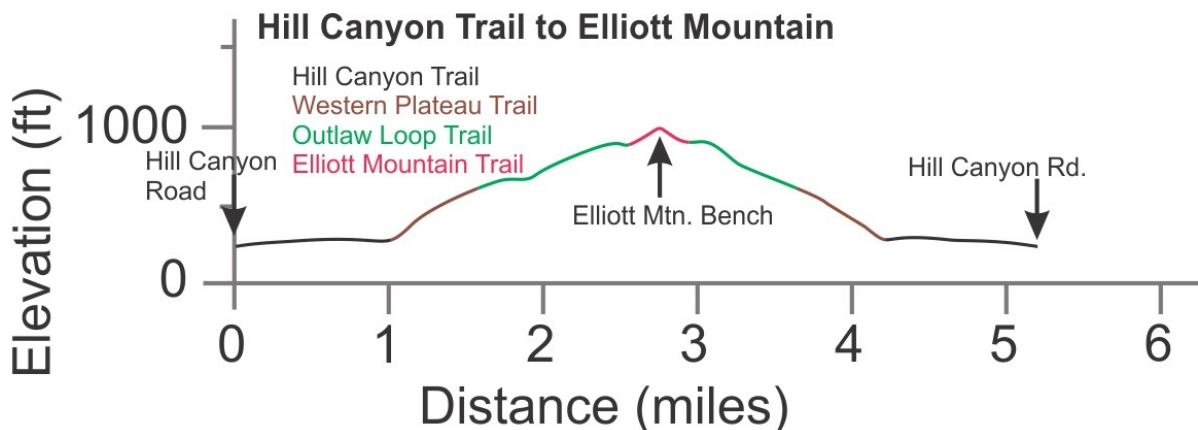
Facilities: Bathrooms at the nearby Santa Rosa Valley County Park

Connections: To all the other trails in the Conejo Canyons area directly or by way of the Western Plateau Fire Road

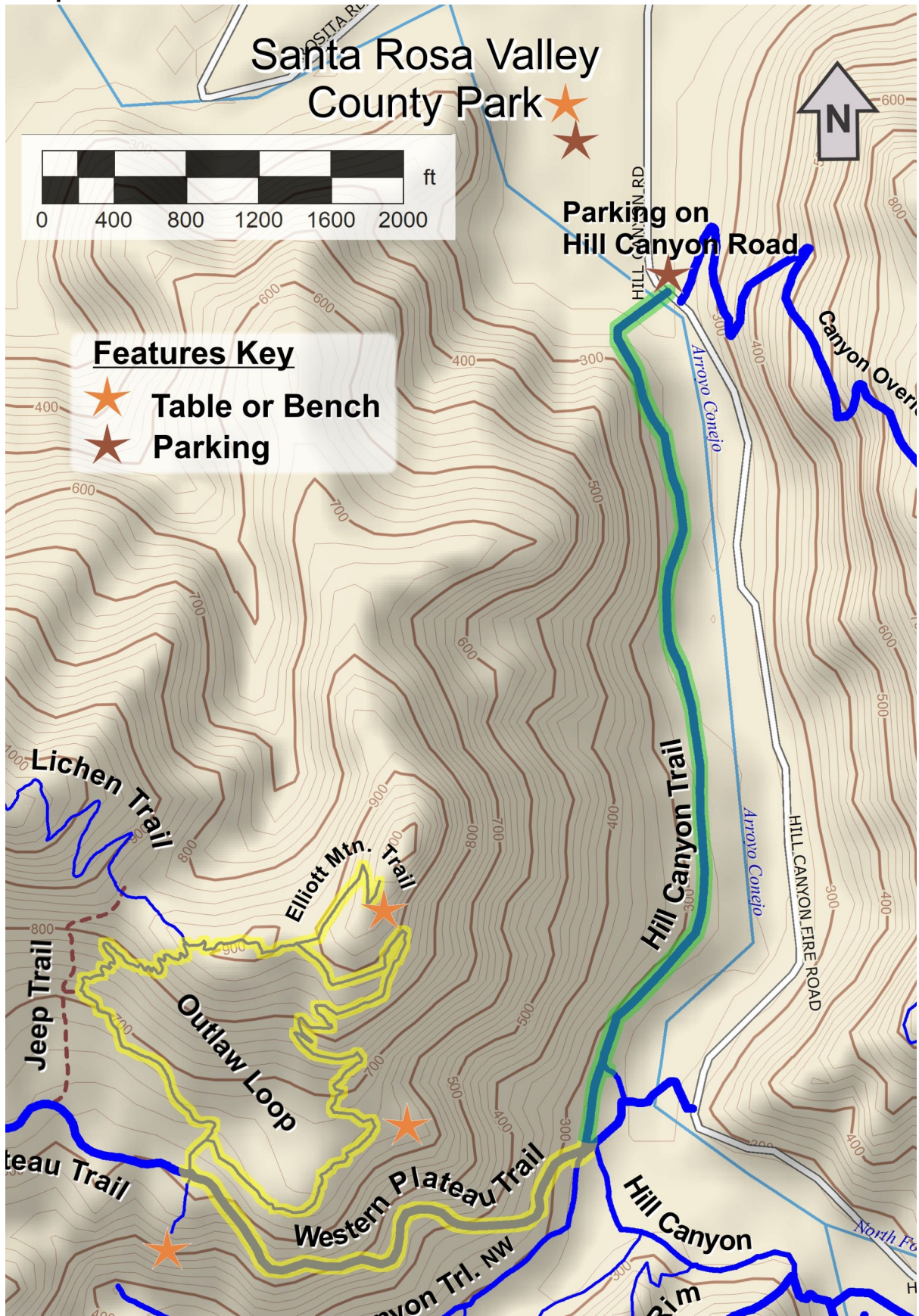
Directions: From Newbury Park and points west – From the 101 freeway, take exit 52 onto Santa Rosa Road in Camarillo. Drive 5 miles before turning right onto Hill Canyon Rd. The parking is 0.6 miles in, on the left. From Thousand Oaks and points east – Head north on the 23 freeway, taking exit 15 onto Avenida De Los Arboles and head west. After 1.3 miles, turn right onto Moorpark Rd, drive 2.6 miles, then continue straight onto Santa Rosa Road. Drive another 3.7 miles then turn left onto Hill Canyon Road. The parking is 0.6 miles in, on the left.

Map: <https://bit.ly/yyTU4r>

Elevation Profile (traveling counterclockwise around the Outlaw Loop):



Route Map



Map courtesy of <https://www.venturacountytrails.org>

Updated January 29, 2023

Photos

Lots of people use the Hill Canyon FR!



Outlaw Loop



Elliott Mountain

