

Pat Keys Trail Out and Back

Distance: 12 miles

Elevation Gain: 11.5k

Location: Manzanar Reward Rd, south of Independence

Time of year: This is a great shoulder season run for early Spring or late Fall.

Directions from Bishop: Take US-395 south ~47 miles to Manzanar Reward Rd. Turn left (East) and drive ~4.7 miles to a three-way junction. Take the middle fork to stay on Manzanar Reward Rd, travel another 0.5 mile and turn left onto a dirt road heading North. Take this ~1.0 mile to the fourth turn on your right. Turn here and follow this road a short distance East toward the hills to a parking area.

Description: From the parking area head East, skirting the hills on your left into a wash. You should see a BLM sign and register at the trailhead. Pick up the trail as the wash turns and heads Northeast uphill. From here it's a steep 6 mile push to Pat Keys Pass, with nearly 11.5k feet of vertical over the whole run. Note that there is no water available on this route so plan accordingly and avoid during the hottest summer months.

