

Inspiration Point via Tunnel Trail



Region: Santa Barbara County

Length: 3.4 mile round trip

Difficulty Rating: Moderate

Elevation Gain: 935 feet

Girls bring: Backpack, water, snack, hat, sunscreen. Adults add: Map/Info sheet Required paperwork, first aid kit, phone, TP & ziploc (pack it out) (though this trail is so popular, it'll be hard to find a private bush!)

When to go: Fall, winter & spring are best - summer can be hot so go early!

Getting There and Parking: Park along Tunnel Road, you might have to park a ways back. (Again, popular)

Bathrooms: nope

Safety Considerations: Dogs & bikes: discuss at the trailhead what to do when you encounter a dog (don't pet before asking; or not at all) or a cyclist (watch for a wide spot, then move to the right. Check for poison oak first.) Cyclists often have bells. There is poison oak, but it can be avoided if you take care to stay away from the edges of the trail.

Helpful Links:

<https://www.alltrails.com> (search Inspiration Point)

<https://www.santabarbarahikes.com/hikes/fromcountry/inspirationpt>

Route Description:

This is a great close-to-town trail with views at the top, that you can potentially knock out after school/work. There's some sunny exposed areas, but some shade also. Stay left at the trail junctions on your way up. The top (you'll see the power line towers) can be a little confusing because there are a few options through the chaparral to the views. Just don't continue down the other side of the mountain; that would be Jesusita Trail, and would return you to a different point in Santa Barbara. After enjoying the views at the top, return the way you came. (Note that some searches for Inspiration Point may point you to Jesusita Trail, which is a trail for another time.)

How to Get Your Charm:

Take a photo of yourself at the top (Inspiration Point) with a view of the ocean in the background. Email the photo and the names of the registered Girl Scouts in the photo to programs@girlscoutscoc.org with the subject "Happy Trails Program - Inspiration Point." You'll get an embroidered charm to hang on your patch loop.

Inspiration Point

