



# Mountain Biking

## **Philadelphia, Kraut, and Littleton Canyon**

These three trails all start out as old mining roads and turn into single track trails. They are all up, then down, then peak out onto Littleton Ridge. You will ride in the forest so there is always the possibility of seeing wildlife depending on the season and time of day.

- Route location: Lincoln National Forest
- Surface: packed double track
- Distance: 5 miles ( to the top and back down)
- Altitude change: 500—600 feet
- Driving time: 25 minutes from the Mechem & Sudderth intersection
- Maps: New Mexico road map or Lincoln National Forest map

To reach: Take Hwy 48 towards Capitan, turn onto Hwy 37, and follow for approximately 2 miles to Bonito Lake turn-off. Turn left and continue until you see signs for each canyon.

## **Perk Canyon**

This winding trail is a favorite of locals and tourists. One minute you're in town and the next, you're deep in the forest. The trail offers a variety of terrain. You will ride across a stream, through open meadows, and near a pond.

- Route location: Upper Canyon
- Surface: rocky single track
- Distance: 3 miles one way
- Difficulty: blue (intermediate)
- Altitude change: 500 feet
- Driving time: 5 minutes from Mechem & Sudderth intersection
- Maps: Ruidoso city map or obtain directions at Smokey Bear Ranger Station

To reach: Take Sudderth to the traffic circle and turn right to Upper Canyon. Go approximately 1 mile to Ebarb St. (Story Book Cabin sign), turn right and go two blocks to Perk Canyon Road. Turn left and continue until the paved road dead-ends.

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### **The Rim Trail**

Located south of Ruidoso near Cloudcroft, the Rim Trail offers one of the nation's premier biking paths. The 17 mile trail features spectacular views of mountain vistas and even White Sands. It is considered a top-10 trail in the nation.

- Route location: Sacramento Mountains
- Surface: rocky single track with some roots
- Distance: 17 miles
- Difficulty: blue (intermediate)
- Altitude change: 100—300 feet
- Driving time: approximately 1 hour from the Mechem & Sudderth intersection
- Maps: New Mexico road map or Lincoln National Forest map
- To reach: Take Hwy 48 (Sudderth) to Hwy 70 west. Go 10 miles to the Cloudcroft turn—Hwy 244. It is about 30 miles to Cloudcroft. Take Hwy 130 towards Sunspot. You will see the Rim Trail signs in a few miles.

### **Bonito Lake Road**

Bonito Lake Road (Forest Road 107) provides easy mountain biking on paved and gravel roads. The ride takes you through the forest, around the lake, and to the wilderness trail heads. Take Hwy 37 to the turn-off to Bonito Lake Road. Follow the road up and around the lake, past Bonita Stables, and as far as the Argentina/Bonito Wilderness trail heads. Bikes are prohibited in the wilderness.

- Route location: Lincoln National Forest
- Surface: asphalt and gravel forest road that varies between smooth and mildly rocky
- Distance: 20 miles (round trip)
- Difficulty: green (easy)
- Altitude change: 900 feet of rolling climb
- Driving time: 20 minutes from the Mechem & Sudderth intersection
- Maps: New Mexico road map
- To reach: Take Hwy 48 towards Capitan, turn onto Hwy 37, take Bonito Lake Road

### **Sawmill Canyon**

This trail is easy to access in Ruidoso. It is approximately 1.5 miles south of the intersection of Carrizo Canyon Road and Sudderth Drive. Turn right just north of Rainbow Lakes RV Park. The road is rough and not maintained.

- Route location: Carrizo Canyon Road
- Surface: gravel and dirt
- Distance: approximately 2 miles
- Difficulty: blue (intermediate)

### **Ruidoso Outdoor Adventures**

(575) 257-4905 415 Wingfield. Bike rentals, sales and services, education on outdoor trails, and maps.

For more information call:  
**The Ruidoso Valley Chamber of Commerce**  
1(877)-RUIDOSO (784-3676)  
Or email [info@ruidosonow.com](mailto:info@ruidosonow.com)



## **SMOKEY BEAR RANGER DISTRICT TRAILS PERMISSABLE FOR MOUNTAIN BIKES**



### **Trail #13 Cedar Creek**

**Location:** 2 miles north on Cedar Creek Rd to Spring Canyon Rd, proceed approx .08 miles north to trailhead sign.  
**Length:** Approx. 1.60 miles  
**Difficulty:** Moderate – 8% grade  
**Use:** Moderate, shared with hikers

### **Trail #91 Sawmill Canyon**

**Location:** South on Carrizo Canyon Rd. (off Sudderth Dr. by the Pizza Hut), proceed approx. 2 miles to the road just north of the Rainbow Lake RV Resort, turn right and follow this rough road to trailhead sign.  
**Length:** Approx. 2.0 miles  
**Difficulty:** Moderate  
**Use:** Moderate, Shared with ATV's

### **Trail #92& #93 Perk Canyon**

**Location:** West end of Sudderth Dr. at the circle turn right onto Main Rd in Upper Canyon until you come to Story Book Cabins approx. 1 mile, take a right on to Ebarb and proceed to Perk Canyon Dr. until it dead-ends, there is a old unmaintained road (not travelable) to go up before you get to trailhead, the two trails intersect at top.  
**Length:** #92 is approx. 2.25 miles #93 is approx. 3.0 miles  
**Difficulty:** Moderate to difficult  
**Use:** Moderate, shared with hikers

**Note:** None of the above listed trails are primary-use trails that are normally maintained by the USFS. Their suitability for mountain biking is questionable, but biking is permissible. Biking is not permitted in the White Mountain Wilderness.



