

#11 MINE/SKYHY TREEHOUSE LOOP
Red Mountain Park
September 30, 2021, 9:00 am
4.1 miles

Take Exit 255 (Lakeshore Drive/Parkway) from I-65, and drive west for approximately 3 miles.

At the traffic light at Frankfurt Drive/Frankfurt Circle, turn right onto Frankfurt Drive. There is a large sign reading “Red Mountain Park.”

Stay on Frankfurt Drive for 0.6 miles and park in the lot on the right. Walk across the street and enter the park at “Gate 1.” We will gather in the large gravel area, in front of the old trailers, approximately 25 yards ahead.

There is no admission fee to the park, but users are asked to support the park with a suggested donation of \$3 per visitor.

Wear comfortable shoes (hiking boots or workout shoes) and bring water, snacks, and a rain jacket if there is a possibility of rain.

If you find you can't make it, or are running late, call Jim at 205-602-6845 or Eric at 205-919-0560.

TRAIL NOTES:

Trails in the park are numbered, and marked with color-coded signs nailed to trees along the way. There are also a number of kiosk maps, though some of these are out of date.

You can view or download a trail map for Red Mountain Park at redmountainpark.org.

There is no drinkable water in the park. There are portable restrooms near the entrance, but no other facilities on our hike.

MILE 0.0: Begin walking uphill on Trail #1.

MILE 0.15: Turn left at the kiosk onto Trail #2.

MILE 0.35: Continue straight on this wide trail/road, which becomes Trail #3.

MILE 0.55: Turn right onto Trail #6 and continue uphill until it dead-ends.

MILE 0.85: Turn right onto Trail #8.

MILE 1.05: At the end of Trail #8, turn left onto Trail #17. Very soon, just after the parallel bars, turn left onto Trail #12, beginning on an old railroad track.

MILE 1.55: Just after #11 Mine, turn left on an un-numbered trail and hike uphill on railroad-tie stairs.

MILE 1.85: In a gap, turn left onto an un-numbered trail and hike through a cut. In about 100 yards, turn left onto a gravel road. Keep left of the antenna and continue on the trail, which is Trail #8.

MILE 2.05: Turn left to visit Haskell Hideaway, about 50 yards up the trail. Cross the swinging bridge to the Skyhy Treehouse if you like, then return to Trail #8 and turn left.

MILE 2.55: Just after the pipeline easement, bear right to continue on Trail #8.

MILE 2.75: Turn right onto Trail #16, aptly named the "Skyhy Ridge Walk." This is by far the prettiest section I have found in the Park.

MILE 3.35: Take the right fork to follow the fence.

MILE 3.4: Just after the picnic area, turn right onto Trail #4.

MILE 3.55: Take the left fork and descend steeply.

MILE 3.65: Walk through the cleared area to take the trail to the right, along the fence. Continue on this wide trail.

MILE 3.95: Turn left at the kiosk.

MILE 4.1: Return to park entrance.