

Turn by turn directions (find a nice spot to sit down while reading)

Start Rock Tree Sky School Start at an Elevation of 1,574 Ft Mile 0.0 to mi 7.1 to Topa-Topa Aid station #1 at an Elevation of 5,273ft. There is +3,697 ft. of climbing and – 3 ft. of descent.

Climb # 1 Total Mi. for this section 7.10 mi

From the School run North on Sisar Rd passing several homes on your left and right. At .5 mi you will come to an iron gate and leave the asphalt road to dirt fire road. Continue north on Sisar Canyon passing several stream crossings and switch backs. At mi 4.24 and at 2,768ft you will find a large iron brown gate. Right after the gate you will see a forest service sign that states RED Reef Trail 21WO8, White Ledge Camp 1mi, and JCT Road 5NO8. Take the single track trail called Red Reef on your right. Take Red Reef trail to White ledge campground mi 5.29 at 3,667ft. Continue climbing North to Forest Service Road 05NO8. You will arrive to intersection of FS05NO8 and Red Reef trail, this is Mi. 6.94 and at an Elevation of 5,111ft. Turn Right (East) towards the TopaTopa bluffs and you will find Aid station #1 at Mi. 7 at an Elevation of 5,273ft. Get fueled up and prepare for your first ascent of the TopaTopa's. You will be making a loop around the Topa-Topa's and return to Aid station #1 Topa-Topa.

Topa-Topa Aid station #1 at an Elevation of 5,273ft. Mile 7.1 to mi 10.60 to Topa-Topa Aid station #1 at an Elevation of 5,273ft There is +1,267 ft. of climbing and – 1,267 ft. of descent

Climb # 2 and Descent #1 Total Mi. for this section 3.79 mi

Leaving Aid station #1 head East towards the summit on the fire road. At mi 7.47 and at an Elevation of 5,412ft turn right you will leave the Fire road for the TopaTopa Bluff trail continue up the switchbacks not the direct fire line break. You will reach the summit at mi 8.2 mi and at an Elevation of 6,379. From the summit follow single track ribbons down towards Old TopaTopa Bluff Road. Once on the Old TopaTopa Bluff Road turn left on the Old TopaTopa Bluff Road at mi 8.27 at an Elevation of 6,191ft. Continue Northeast on Old TopaTopa Bluff Road until you reach Red Reef trail intersection at mi 9.29 at an Elevation of 6,048. Follow Red Reef trail to Aid Station #1 at mi 10.60 at an Elevation of 5,273ft.

Topa-Topa Aid station #1 at an Elevation of 5,273ft. Mile 10.60 to mi 17.56 to Rose Valley Aid Station #2 at an Elevation of 3,416 ft. There is + 461 ft. of climbing and – 2,376 ft. of descent

Descent #2 and Rolling climb #3 Total Mi. for this section 6.63mi

Refuel and head west on FS05NO8 towards Lion Canyon trail. At the intersection turn right you will be at mi 11.41 at an Elevation of 5,135. Continue North West on the narrow single track Lion Canyon trail, there aren't any other trails intersecting Lion Canyon trail until you reach West Fork and East fork Lion campground. This intersection is at mi 15.1 at an Elevation of 3,412. (**Observe this area closely as when you return it's easy to take the wrong trail back up to the ridge.**) From the Camp ground intersection continue straight across the stream follow along the east side of the stream until you reach the intersection on Middle Lion trail, Rose-lion trail and Lion Canyon Trail. Turn Left on to "Rose-Lion Trail" this is at mi 15.70 and at an Elevation of 3,377. Shortly after the intersection you will cross the stream and continue west on Rose-Lion Trail towards Rose Valley campground. After winding through this canyon and a small climb you will arrive at Aid Station #2 Rose Valley campground at mi 17.56 and at an Elevation of 3,416.

Rose Valley Aid Station #2 at an Elevation of 3,416ft Mi 17.56 to mi 23.65 Topa-Topa Aid station #1 at an Elevation of 5,273ft. There is + 2,376 ft. of climbing and – 461ft of descent

Climb # 4 Total Mi. for this section 6.63mi

Leave Rose Valley campground head east towards the intersection on Middle Lion trail, Rose-lion trail and Lion Canyon Trail at mi 18.95 and at an Elevation of 3,377. Turn right towards West Fork and East fork Lion campground. Once at the West Fork and East fork Lion Campground This intersection is at mi 19.67 at an Elevation of 3,412. At the intersection continue straight on Lion Canyon trail no other trails intersect as you are going up towards FS05NO8. Once you reach FS05NO8 at mi 23.29 at an Elevation of 5,139 turn left (west) towards Aid station #1. Once arrive at Aid station #1 you will be at mi 23.77 and at an Elevation of 5,271. Climb #4 has been completed, time to go Down, well maybe?

TopaTopa Aid station # 1 at an Elevation of 5,271ft mi 23.65 to mi 34.90 Thacher Creek trailhead Aidstation #3 at an Elevation of 1,370ft. There is + 1382 ft. of climbing and –5338ft of descent.

Descend #3 with small climb in-between ☺ Total Miles for this section 11.24 mi.

Leaving the TopaTopa Aid station #1 head west on FS05NO8 until you reach single track trail Red Reef Trail on your left at mi 23.80 and at an Elevation of 5,234ft. Heading south on Red Reef continue going down towards White Ledge campground at mi 25.50 and at an Elevation of 3,667ft. Cross the stream at White Ledge campground and continue to Sisar Canyon fire road. Once you arrive at Sisar Canyon fire road turn right (West) going uphill. This will be at mi 26.5 and at an Elevation of 3,295. Stay on Sisar Canyon fire road until you reach the intersection of Horn Canyon Trail. This will be at mi 30.25 and at an Elevation of 4,670. Turn Left on Horn Canyon Trail going down towards "The Pines" campground. Once at "The Pines" campground this will be Mi. 31.9 and at an Elevation of 3,271. Stay on the single track going down towards Thacher Schools. Once you arrive at Horn Canyon trail head follow markers Thacher Creek trailhead Aidstation #3. Once

arrived at Thacher Creek trailhead Aidstation #3 at you will be at Mi 34.90 at an Elevation of 1,370ft.

**Thacher Creek trailhead Aidstation #3 at an Elevation of 1,370ft mi 34.90 to mi 46.86
Rose Valley Aid Station# 2 at an Elevation of 3,416ft. There is + 4,679 ft. of climbing
and -2,580 ft. of descent.**

Climb # 5 and Descend #3 Total Miles for this section 11.91 mi.

Return the same way you came down on Horn Canyon trail passing “The Pines” campgrounds at mi 37.59 and at an Elevation of 3,271ft. Continue northeast towards Sisar Canyon fire road. Once you arrive at the intersection of Sisar Canyon fire road and Horn Canyon trail you will be at mi 39.15 and at an Elevation of 4,670. Here you will turn left heading North West towards Chief Peak. Remain on Sisar Canyon fire road until you reach Chief Peak trail on your left. You will be transitioning from fire road to single track trail. This will be at Mi. 42.0 and at an Elevation of 4,837ft. Remain on single track until summit of Chief Peak. This is at Mi. 42.5 and 5,572ft. Take in the view and follow the ribbons north to rejoin FS-05NOB. This will be at Mi. 43 and at an Elevation of 5,161 ft. Stay on FS-05NOB going west until you reach a 3-way intersection. This is Mi. 44.54 and at an Elevation of 4,837. Turn right (North) going down towards Rose Valley campground. Once you arrive at Rose Valley Campground you will be at Mi. 46.86 and at an Elevation of 3,416.

**Rose Valley Aid Station# 2 at an Elevation of 3,416 ft. mi 46.86 to mi 52.24 Gridley
Top AS # 4 at an Elevation of 3,807 ft. There is + 1618 ft. of climbing and -1,246 ft. of
descent.**

Climb #6 and Descend #4 Total Miles for this section 4.92 mi.

Return the same way you came down on FS 05N42.2. The climb is steep and approximately 2.44 mi and 1,597 ft. of vertical gain. As you make your way to the 3-way intersection of FS 05N42.2 and FS-05NOBS Stay right (West) along the FS-05NOBS Fire Road. Once you reach the intersection you will be at Mi. 49.3. Continue on the ridge until you reach Gridley Top AS # 4. Once you arrive you will be at Mi. 52.24 and at an Elevation of 3,807.

**Gridley Top AS # 4 at an Elevation of 3,807 ft. mi 52.65 to mi 58.05, Gridley Bottom
AS #5 at an Elevation of 1,253ft. There is + 02 ft. of climbing and -2,633 ft. of
descent.**

Descend #5 Total Miles for this section 5.76 mi.

From Gridley Top Aid Station # 4 you will be at Mi. 52.65 and at an Elevation of 3,807. Refuel and prepare for the descend. Head south on Gridley Trail, this sweet 6 mi single track that’s winding down to Gridley Bottom AS # 5. Once you arrive at Gridley Bottom AS # 5 you will be at Mi. 63.44 and at an Elevation of 1,253ft.

Gridley Bottom AS # 5 at an Elevation of 1,253 ft. mi 58.05 to mi. 63.44 Gridley Top AS # 4 at an Elevation of 3,807 ft. There is + 2,633 ft. of climbing and -02 ft. of descent

Climb #7 Total Miles for this section 5.76 mi.

Return back up Gridley Trail (North) 6.0 mi to Gridley Top Aid Station. Once you arrive at Gridley Top Aid Station you will be at Mi. 63.44 and at an Elevation of 3,807ft.

Gridley Top AS # 4 at an Elevation of 3,807 ft. 63.44 mi to mi. 71.89 Cozy Dell AS # 6 at an Elevation of 881 ft. There is + 969 ft. of climbing and -3,876 ft. of descent.

Climb #7and Descend #6 Total Miles for this section 8.00 mi.

After arriving at the Aid Station head West along the FS-05N08 Fire Road towards Nordhoff Peak. You will arrive at Nordhoff Peak Intersection Mi. 64.84 and at an Elevation of 4,396ft, turn right to the summit and climb up to the fire tower take in the views and turn back down to the intersection and follow FS-05N08 west to Pratt Trail. As you're running downhill on FS-05N08 you will see Pratt trail to your left. Once you reach the intersection of FS-05N08 and Pratt Trail turn Left (South) down on Pratt Trail. This intersection is at mi 65.84 and at an Elevation of 4,012. Run down Pratt Single track until you reach the intersection of FS 5N34 and Pratt Trail. Stay right (West) going downhill. This intersection is at 69.76 and at an Elevation of 2,033. Continue down FS-5N34 until you reach Cozy Dell trail 23W26. It is a hard right and you can easily run by the entrance of the trail. This will be at Mi. 70.33 and at an Elevation of 1,402. Continue on Cozy Dell trail 23W26 you will have some small up and down hills until you reach Cozy Dell AS # 6 at mi.71.89 and at an Elevation of 881 ft.

Cozy Dell AS # 6 at an Elevation of 881 ft. mi 71.54 to mi 79.50 Gridley Top AS # 4 at an Elevation of 3,807 ft. There is + 3,876 ft. of climbing and -969 ft. of descent.

Climb #8 and Descend #7 Total Miles for this section 8.00 mi.

Return up Cozy Dell trail 23W26 to the intersection of FS 5N34 and Pratt Trail. Go left (North) up Pratt Trail. This intersection is at mi 74.25 and at an Elevation of 2,033. You will stay on Pratt Trail until you reach FS 5N34 fire road and turn right towards Nordhoff Peak. Pass the summit trail road and continue to Gridley Top Aid Station that is at 79.50 and at an Elevation of 3,808ft. Fill up hear as you have close to 10 mi to arrive to the TopaTopa Aid station.

Gridley Top AS # 4 at an Elevation of 3,807 ft. mi 79.50 to mi 89.59 TopaTopa Aid station # 1 at an Elevation of 5,271ft There is + 2,339 ft. of climbing and -854 ft. of descent

Climb #9 and Descend #8 Total Miles for this section 10.27 mi.

Once you have rested and ready for the long stretch along the ridge. Follow east on FS-05N08 all the way to TopaTopa Aid station # 1 at an Elevation of 5,271ft.

Topa-Topa Aid station #1 at an Elevation of 5,273ft. Mile 89.59 to mi 93.50 to Topa-Topa Aid station #1 at an Elevation of 5,273ft. There is +1,267 ft. of climbing and – 1,267 ft. of descent

Climb # 10 and Descent #9 Total Mi. for this section 3.79 mi

Leaving Aid station #1 head East towards the summit on the fire road. At mi 90.18 and at an Elevation of 5,412ft turn right you will leave the Fire road for the TopaTopa Bluff trail continue up the switchbacks not the direct fire line break. You will reach the summit at mi 91.00 mi and at an Elevation of 6,379. From the summit follow single track ribbons down towards Old TopaTopa Bluff Road. Once on the Old TopaTopa Bluff Road turn left on the Old TopaTopa Bluff Road at mi 91.20 at an Elevation of 6,191ft. Continue Northeast on Old TopaTopa Bluff Road until you reach Red Reef trail intersection at mi 92.29 at an Elevation of 6,048. Follow Red Reef trail to Aid Station #1 at mi 93.50 at an Elevation of 5,273ft.

TopaTopa Aid station # 1 at an Elevation of 5,271ft mi 93.50 to mi 100.23 Rock Tree Sky School finish at an Elevation of 1,574 Ft. There is + 03 ft. of climbing and – 3,697 ft. of descent.

Descent #10 Total Mi. for this section 7.10 mi

Fill up and prepare for the long downhill to the finish. Leave the Aid station heading west on FS-05N08 after a short downhill you will turn Left on Trial 21W08 towards White Ledge campground. Continue passed the campground until you reach Sisar Canyon Fire road and you will find a large iron brown gate go passed the gate going downhill. Sisar Canyon Fire road this will be at mi 95.97 and at an Elevation of 3,291. Stay on Sisar Canyon Fire road to the finish at **Rock Tree Sky School 100.23mi**