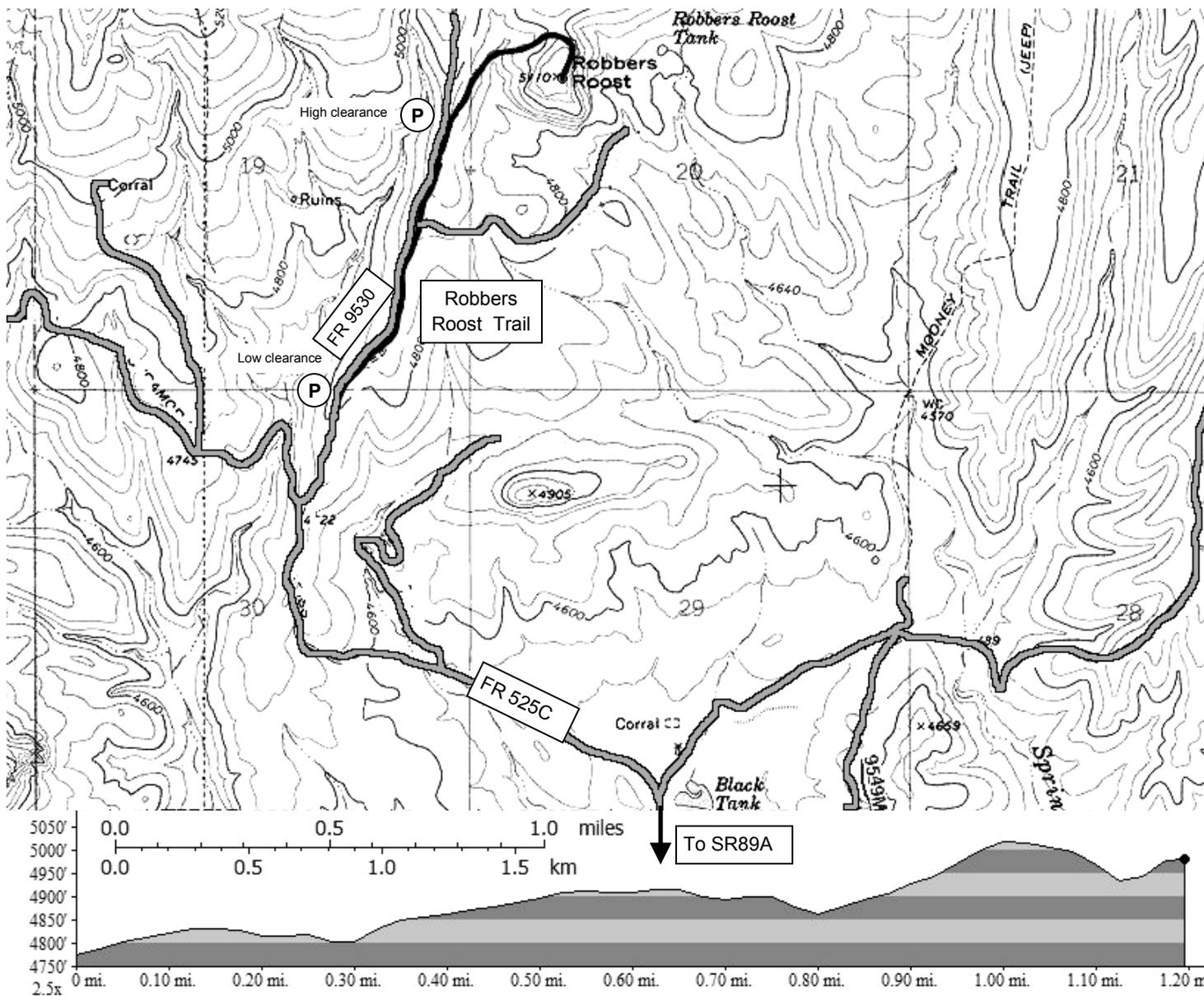


Coconino National Forest Trail Guides - Robbers Roost Trail (Shaman Cave)



Length: 2.4 miles (round trip) from low clearance parking off FR 525C at FR 9530.

Rating: Easy

Use: Hiking

Season: Year 'round. It is very hot during summer months.

Hiking time: 1 hour one way

Cumulative Elevation: 200 ft.

USGS Maps: Loy Butte, Sycamore Basin

Location: About 50 miles south of Flagstaff (14 miles west of Sedona) on paved and graveled roads.

Notes: The trailhead parking areas are unmarked. It is recommended that low clearance vehicles be parked a short distance off FR 525C on FR 9530.

For more information contact: Red Rock Ranger District, P.O. Box 20429, Sedona AZ 86341, (928) 203-2900

Robbers Roost, sometimes referred to as Shaman's Cave, is a room sized cave with a natural window located on the southeast side of Robbers Roost Butte. The cave was reputedly used by rustlers, robbers and bootleggers. As you walk up the road to the unmarked trail, Robbers Roost is the loaf-shaped red butte just in front and to the right. When you get to the bare spot where high-clearance vehicles park, the trail is across the road. The goes downhill into a ravine and then then up the other side. The trail curls around to the north side of Robbers Roost. When the trail seems about to reach the top, the trail forks. The

right fork goes to the top where there are 360 views, while the left fork goes along slanted slick rock several yards to where you will see the mouth of the cave. The circular window facing south is the source of the cave hideout's name, Robbers Roost, who legend has it, used the window to watch for ranchers coming after them.

Access: Drive 30 miles south from Flagstaff through Sedona on US 89A. Five miles past Sedona turn north on FR 525 and follow the signs to Sycamore Pass. Turn west on FR 525C and continue for seven more miles to the parking area at the intersection with FR 9530. Hike up the road up to the unmarked high clearance parking area. The trail is on the east side of the road.