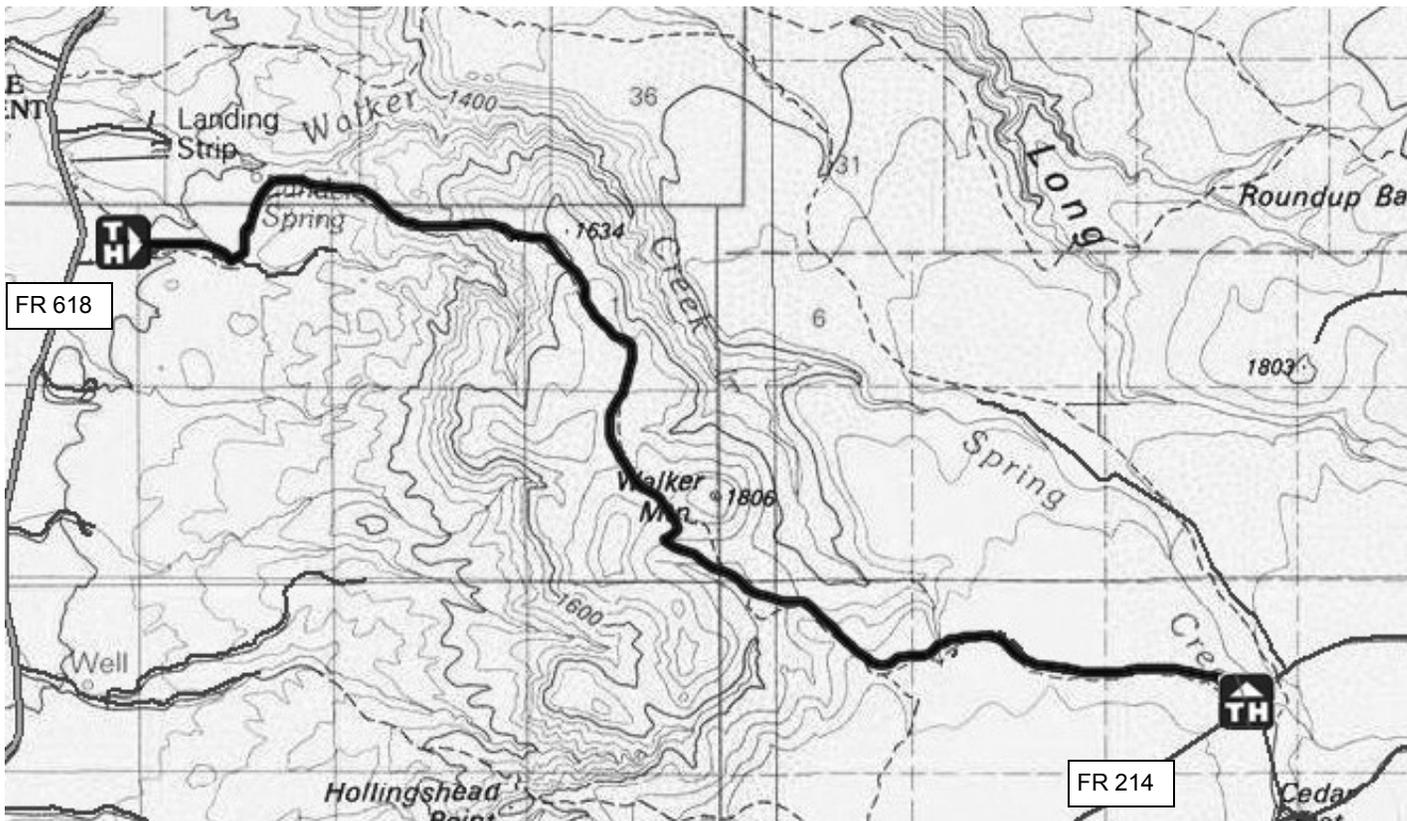


# Coconino National Forest Trail Guide - Walker Basin Trail #81



**Length:** 8 miles  
**Rating:** Moderate  
**Elevation :** 2,162 feet  
**Use:** Light  
**Season:** All year  
**Hiking time:** 4 hours

**Notes:** No motorized vehicles . This trail is a bit hard to find in places where rock pile cairns are all that mark the way. At Walker Mtn. Tank, follow the perimeter fence around the tank to a cairn at the north-west corner.

**USGS Map:** Walker Mtn.

**Location:** 53 miles south of Flagstaff on paved and graveled forest roads in picturesque Desert Canyon Country.

**For more information contact:**

Red Rock Ranger District, P.O. Box 20429,  
Sedona AZ 86341, (928) 282-4119

There's a classic western landscape waiting for you along this trail, with broad panoramas on the horizon and a collection of bluff-rimmed basins, basalt buttes, rocky canyons and lots of cactus covered desert closer at hand. Once used mainly to move livestock between seasonal pastures, the Walker Basin Trail now provides forest visitors with an access route into this *land* of big skies and expansive views.

A short distance from the upper trailhead, the panorama unfolds like a gigantic mural painted on the sky. Prominent on the horizon are the San Francisco Peaks, with the northern Arizona rim country stretching out at their feet, Wet Beaver Creek and Woods Canyons are obvious as jagged rifts in this otherwise flat plateau. Off to the west, the sculptured buttes and pinnacles of Sedona Red Rock Country are plainly visible. The route leads from one forest road to another as the trail drops off of the Colorado Plateau. For the best views, you will want to start from the upper end and travel downhill. From the trailhead, the route follows a rough jeep track through old juniper brush where the trees were removed to promote grazing. The trail wanders into Walker Basin, a forested depression rimmed with volcanic cliffs. From there the trail gradually descends from the basin into desert canyon landscape of red rock cliffs and volcanic buttes.

**Access—Upper Trailhead:** Drive 40 miles south of Flagstaff on Interstate 17 to the AZ 179 exit and turn east under the freeway. Drive about 9 miles on FR 618 to FR 214. Turn east and drive 7.3 miles to the trailhead where a jeep track turns off to the left.

**Access—Lower Trailhead:** Drive 40 miles south of Flagstaff on Interstate 17 to the AZ 179 exit and turn east under the freeway. Drive 4.5 miles on FR 618 to FR 9201C. If you don't have a high clearance vehicle you will want to park here and walk the last mile to the trailhead.