Lower Loop Trail



Lower Loop Trail requires about 2 hours of moderate to brisk walk/hiking. The climb to the ranch overlook is gradual with moderate ascents and descents. The trail begins at dining hall front entrance. Follow the dirt road behind the chalet and towards bathhouse. Past the bathhouse and right beside Honeymoon Cabin is the trailhead on your left heading up along the left side of a small creek.

Follow the well-marked path on a gradual climb along the creek. After about twenty minutes of walking and before the trail goes alongside a large open meadow by the creek, will be a cairn (pile of rocks) and branches pointing the way for Loop Trail. Turn left and head up hill. The climb is a reasonably ascent but not exceedingly strenuous. Trail will go through pine forest and then open into side hills with exquisite wildflowers and large Ponderosa pines.

Continue on the trail for about 15 minutes, over one hump of the side hill, down a slight descent and back up another small hump. At the crest of this hump off to your left you will see a rock outcropping to which you can follow a small trail. This outcrop of boulders offers an incredible view of the entire Ranch. Follow the same small trail back to the Loop Trail, turn left and keep hiking.

The trail will then start heading downhill gradually through a dense pine forest. The downhill gradient increases as you begin to head towards a visible wetland grassy area below with large Cottonwood trees. Follow the trail through this grassy area to a much more distinct larger trail which will have a will be a cairn (pile of rocks) and branches. Turn left and continue on this trail with a small creek on your left.

Finally the trail will go through a fence gate. There you will see a yurt. Follow the trail past the yurt and over a small hill and onto the dirt road. Turn left and head downhill to the main ranch road. (The lake will be visible at this point.) Turn left at the main dirt road and go by the parking lot and right back to the dining hall.



START ELEVATION	MAX ELEVATION	GAIN	CLIMBS ON ROUTE
4993 FT	5403 FT	386 FT	