



Trail 26--Powder Park

Duration: 2 hours

Distance: 1.47 miles

Difficulty: Moderate trail in to the bowls; Strenuous to get to the top of the bowls

Trailhead: Spruces Campground Parking Lot

Elevation: Spruces Campground 7400'; Top of Powder Park 9265'

Avalanche: Known Avalanche Path

Map: Salt Lake City 100K UT, WY

GPS Coordinates: Leave the horizontal wash trail to head up mountain--12 T 446714/4500347; Top of Powder Park: 12 T 447741/4499941

Dogs: Not Allowed in Big Cottonwood Canyon

Introduction: The open bowls of Powder Park provide wonderful downhill floating if the powder is good. During good snow, the descents down the bowls are sweet fun. This is a favorite backcountry ski area as well, all enjoy that open view from the top. From the ridge above the bowl, Reynolds Peak and Mount Raymond sit to the west; Salt Lake Valley sits down canyon; and the resorts lie across and up Big Cottonwood Canyon. The pluses of this trail include the great backcountry fun, the escape from the city, and the views. This trail will provide the most fun on a powder day.

How to get there: Spruces Campground is 9.7 miles up Big Cottonwood Canyon/S.R. 190 on the south side of the road. The parking lot sits just past the big red and white road-block arms. The trail takes off from the north side of SR 190.

Trail Description: Follow the trail northwest into the summer cabin area. At about .4 miles you will see a big wooden Mill D Cabin Area map. Head left at this sign. The trail leads past a few cabins and starts you on a horizontal trek, with only a slight incline, along the side of the wash as you head up canyon. You will head straight up Mill D wash for .45 of a mile. At about .85 of a mile head out of Mill D to the right, up the aspen-dotted slope. Weave your way north and slightly east up the mountain for about .25 of a mile, then switchback east up the mountain. From here head north until you see a big gulley/canyon on your right. Continue around the north side of that gulley/canyon to find Powder Park. Powder Park is a set of three open bowls. There is a distinguishable peak that sits to the north of Powder Park. Powder Park 2 is a set of bowls on the other side of that peak.