



Trail 46-- Iron Mountain

Duration: 2.5 hours

Distance: 3 miles out-and-back

Difficulty: Easy approach; moderate climb up Iron Mountain

Trailhead: Dead end of Iron Canyon Court

Elevation: Trailhead 7090'; Top of Iron Mountain 9013'

Avalanche: No recorded avalanche history because portions of Iron Mountain are private land, but avalanches can run on all slopes over 30 degrees.

Map: Park City West 7.5' quadrangle

GPS Coordinates: Water Tank/trail starting point--12 T 455270/4501744

Mid Mountain Clearing/Base of Iron Mountain--12 T 0454195/4500110

Dogs: Allowed on leash

Introduction: The trek up Iron Mountain makes for a wonderful short trip to a great view. The trip up the south face of Iron Mountain provides southern views of private land and The Canyons Ski Resort. The view from the top stretches across Park City and the mountains and canyons surrounding the area to the north, east and south. On a clear day the vivid broad scope takes your breath. This is one of the most enjoyable trails in the Park City area because you head into the mountains--away from the city, in a few short miles, but also get the views worth climbing for.

How to get there: From Salt Lake City take I-80 E. through Parley's Canyon. Take the Kimball/Junction exit and turn onto Hwy 224. Follow for 3 miles to Meadows Drive, just down from the Big White Barn on the right side of the road. A small green street sign marks the road. Take a left at Aspen Springs Dr. and follow for .2 of a mile to Delta Drive where you'll turn left. At the next stop sign turn right and stay in the middle lane of the three-pronged road fork along Iron Canyon Drive. At the stop sign

turn left, then make a right on Iron Canyon Court. The road dead ends at the trailhead parking. Four cars are allowed to park here, but others can park roadside.

As of the printing of this book, the trail starts down a road/driveway on the south side of the parking area. Since this land will one day be private land, the only public access entry is up this road. The road/driveway passes several private driveways and then at the end of the developed area continues onto a public water tank. Total from parking lot to water tank is only .2 of a mile. The access road to the water tank is a public access right of way due to Park City's public development code where developers have to allow rights of way upon development. The city also has an interest because of the water tank. There are no trail signs as of this printing.

Trail Description: The trail to Iron Mountain heads west from the water tank for a few hundred feet and then joins a main trail that follows along the base of the west mountain. If this primary trail has not yet been tracked, head south along the west face of the mountain on your right/west. The trail winds comfortably along the base of the mountain, through trees with a variety of slight inclines. At one mile, a clearing opens. This clearing sits at the base of Iron Mountain. The Mid Mountain trail crosses through the clearing. Iron Mountain sits to the northwest – it's the mountain sitting just to your right. At the far southwest side of the opening there is a sign that says "Please stay on trail, No public access." This sign marks the spot where the Mid Mountain trail cuts through the clearing into the aspen on the west side of the clearing. Snowmobile tracks may have established a packed snow road through to the end of the clearing, but if you pass the sign attempting to stay in the clearing you are headed onto private land. From this clearing, at the base of Iron Mountain, choose your route to the top. You can follow the Mid Mountain trail and then break off and head up through the trees approaching from the south side which will lead you through safe terrain. Stay away from the east facing slope as it may have high avalanche danger due to the steepness and lack of anchors. The southeast corner has a number of rock outcroppings and cliffs, so your best bet is to head up the south ridge – pick the route that looks good to you on the day you are out. Chances are you'll be breaking trail to the top. Once you've reached the top and enjoyed the view, return in the general direction. On a powder day the descent from Iron Mountain will provide a nice snowshoe run through the powder to the bottom and the trail back to the car.