



Name of Trail Loop: Mt. Wrightson Loops

Passage and location: Temporal Gulch Passage 4; west of AZ83

Length of loop trail: Gardner Canyon Loop: 10.2 miles

Temporal Gulch Loop: 17.7 miles

Loop trail description: Gardner Canyon Loop. Starting at Tunnel Spring Trailhead, head south (west) on the Arizona Trail. This stretch of trail, Chinaman Trail #137 will follow the water transportation system for gold mining of the late 1800s. After 5.3 miles take Walker Basin Trail #136 to the right/north for about 1.8 miles. Turn right/northeast onto Gardner Canyon Trail #143. In about 0.9 mile the trail reaches a trailhead. Turn right/east onto the jeep and follow back to Tunnel Spring Trailhead.

Temporal Gulch Loop. At the start of the Temporal Gulch Trail #595, head northwest up the Temporal Gulch drainage until reaching Josephine Saddle. Take the Old Baldy Trail #372 over to the Super Trail #134 then head south/right. Alternatively, one could stay on the Old Baldy Trail for about 2.6 miles going around Mt. Wrightson's north flank. When reaching the Gardner Canyon Trail #143 head to the east/right until reaching the Walker Basin Trail #136 in about 1.8 miles. Head south/right on the Walker Basin Trail then south on the Arizona Trail until reaching the starting point at Temporal Gulch Trail.

Recommended seasons of use: Spring, Summer, Fall

Elevation Start: Gardner Canyon Loop: 5,640'

Temporal Gulch Loop: 5,036'

Elevation Gain/Loss: Gardner Canyon Loop: 2,066'

Temporal Gulch Loop: 4,591'

Access point: Gardner Canyon Loop: At an intersection 21 miles south of Interstate 10 and 4 miles north of Sonoita on AZ 83, turn west onto Gardner Canyon Road (FR 92). After 5.5 miles, pass Gardner Trailhead. In another 0.8 mile, turn left onto FR785. In 2.8 miles, after crossing the Arizona Trail twice, there is a small parking area at the Tunnel Spring Trailhead. A two-wheel drive vehicle with good clearance can access the trailhead.

Temporal Gulch Loop: Drive north out of Patagonia on 1st Avenue and continue 2.5 miles to the National Forest boundary where the road becomes FR 72. Follow FR 72 for 4 or 5 miles depending on the condition of the road. Usually this route is passable by passenger cars to the FR 72/FR 72A junction—a good place to park your horse trailer. Walk/ride 2.5 miles up FR 72, now a rough jeep track requiring a 4-wheel drive vehicle, toward Walker Basin to the trailhead. Temporal Gulch Trail #595 is also accessible from Madera Canyon trailhead in about 2.5 miles via the Old Baldy Trail #372 and Super Trail #134 at Josephine Saddle.

Water: Bear Spring is a fairly reliable water source. There is seasonal water in Casa Blanca Canyon, Tunnel Spring, and Gardner Canyon. There is seasonal water in Temporal Gulch, including waterfalls and cascades. For up to date details on water sources please visit the Arizona Trail Water sources at <https://aztrail.org/explore/water-sources/> and even use the Arizona Trail App <https://aztrail.org/explore/maps/mobile-app/> which has user comments about the status of water sources.

Notes: For the Temporal Gulch Loop, it is possible to go around the north side of Mt. Wrightson on the Old Baldy Trail #372. Both loops can be combined, excluding the Walker Basin Trail, for a total of 26.1 miles. For specific turn by turn information on the Arizona Trail visit the Arizona Trail databook <https://aztrail.org/explore/databooks/> and even use the Arizona Trail App <https://aztrail.org/explore/maps/mobile-app/>

Additional Sources: Coronado National Forest web site: Recreational Activities-Trails

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