



Grindstone Lake Trails



Attractions

Located within Ruidoso, NM at and around Grindstone Lake are approximately 14 miles of custom built mountain biking trails for which hiking and horseback riding are also permitted.

Trail #	Trail Name	Length (miles)	Uses Allowed
94	Alfred Hale Connector	2.3	  
95	Grindstone Mesa Loop	3.1	  
96	Grindstone Canyon Loop	6.1	  
97	Grindstone Ridge	3.3	  
98	Grindstone Connector	1.7	  

Access

There is one main trailhead for all of the trails at this site. Take Carrizo Canyon Rd (the road leading to the Inn of the Mountain Gods) to Grindstone Canyon Rd. Turn left onto Resort road and follow the signs to Grindstone Lake. Once at the lake, park in the upper parking lot to access the trailhead.

Use

The area is open all year but snow and icy conditions may be present in the winter months. Trails in this area are considered moderate difficulty for mountain bikes due to steep climbs and descents with narrow treads. It is considered easy difficulty for hiking and horseback riding. There are no corrals for horses or other pack animals in the area.



Figure 1 – Bikers enjoying one of the 5 trails

Facilities

Restrooms are available at the Grindstone Lake parking area. No other developed features are available in the area. Be sure to **PACK OUT WHAT YOU PACK IN** to leave your public lands better than found them. There are **no facilities for WATER** at the site so bring your own.

Narrative

This trail system is generally rated excellent by all users for scenery and interest. Forested in parts with lovely open meadows and views of Sierra Blanca abound throughout the system. Short and long loops are available.

Please keep in mind that your average elevation is approximately 7,500' and at these elevations it can be hot in the summer and cold and icy in the winter.

As always, let someone know before you go.



Figure 2 – Bikers coasting downhill along the trail.

Please call or visit the Smokey Bear Ranger District in Ruidoso at (575) 257-4095 for more information.



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