

SOLEDAD BAR CANYON

Moderate



Challenge type: Hiking & Trail Running

Challenge length: 3.3 miles

Trail notes: This hike is mostly on improved trails, but it is still a good idea to wear sturdy shoes. Although the hike is not long, the first half has significant elevation gain that requires a moderate level of fitness. After a rain, you may see water in the waterfall and arroyo, but much of the year it is dry.

Driving Directions: The Soledad Canyon/Bar Canyon Day Use Area is located on the west side of the Organ Mountains, 10 miles east of Las Cruces. From Exit 1 on Interstate 25, take University Avenue/Dripping Springs Road east for about 4 miles to the Talavera sign, then turn south on Soledad Canyon Road. That road will turn east in .7 miles, at the fire station; follow it all the way to the end. Day Use Area is open from 8:00am to 4:30pm. No fee. Controlled dogs allowed.

Hiking Directions: Begin the hike at the trailhead. Stay to the right, follow the trail counter-clockwise. In about 1 mile, ignore the spur trail to the right. At 1.4 miles, the trail joins the return trail. A bench is located at that point. At 1.53 miles, the trail splits again. Take the right-hand fork and continue down into the arroyo. Follow it into the narrow dead-end canyon to the waterfall. Take your picture here!



To complete the loop, take the right-hand fork of the trail when you leave the canyon. At mile 2.25, you will arrive at the ruin of a small rock house. (Take another selfie!) The trail continues downhill. Stay to the right at all of the junctions to return to the trailhead and parking area.



DON'T FORGET to take your selfies at the falls and the rock house ruins.