

Pacific Crest Trail – Round Valley 8k/15k/20k Trail Rated 3D Y0983

Start Point and Directions: The Start is the Donner Pass PCT Trailhead.

The trailhead is about 10 miles West of Truckee. From Highway I-80, take exit 176 at Boreal Ridge Road. Follow the brown signs to the PCT Trailhead parking area (zip code is 96161).

Notes: This is a high altitude hike in the High Sierra that starts at 7200 feet and climbs over 800 feet. The 8k turnaround is halfway up Castle Valley, while the 15k continues through boulder fields and along forest trails over Castle Pass and down to the Peter Grubb Hut in Round Valley. The portion beyond Round Valley Lake runs uphill, then descends considerably. At a minimum, carry water, food, and a jacket to prepare for the elements, including patches of snow! Wear hiking boots, sunscreen, insect repellent and a hat. A walking stick is recommended. Restrooms are available only at the trailhead and Peter Grubb Hut. Dogs are permitted on leash with clean-up.

Special Programs: Points of Reference (Donner Pass Trailhead), Treasure Hunt (California is the Golden State), You Never Walk Alone (Peter Grubb Hut – 15k and 20k).

1. Start the trail at the rest area on the North side of Highway I-80.
2. Take the Pacific Crest Trail to the Left, as it climbs toward Castle Pass.
3. At about 4k, the Andesite Ridge Road comes into the PCT from the Left. This is Castle Pass and the turnaround for the 8k. Retrace your route back to Highway I-80.
4. For the 15k and 20, continue on the PCT. Ignore the Castle Peak trail that veers off to the Right.
5. Climb through boulders, then descend toward Round Valley.
6. Off to the Left of the PCT is the Peter Grubb Hut—named in honor of a young man who perished here before there was a place with food, wood, and shelter (reservations required).
7. The Peter Grubb Hut is the turnaround for the 15k. Retrace your steps back to Highway I-80.
8. Walking beyond the Peter Grubb Hut through a meadow, the PCT turns Left (West).
9. Descend well into Round Valley.
10. When the trail begins to ascend again, you have completed 10k. Retrace your route back to Highway I-80. sg5/17

These walk directions and map may only be used in conjunction with a signed American Volkssport Association athletic waiver. All other uses are prohibited.

In case of EMERGENCY, call 911
Event related assistance: **Suzi Glass**
(408) 592-3935 glass2walk@gmail.com

