



Franklin Canyon Lake Loop Trail Guide

DISTANCE: .6 Miles Roundtrip
ELEVATION: 840'
ELEVATION GAIN: -50' from Parking Lot
TYPE: Loop
HIKING TIME: .5 hour, longer with kids
RATING: As easy as they come

Directions to Trailhead

Franklin Canyon Park
2600 Franklin Canyon Dr.
Beverly Hills, CA 90210
34.120880, -118.410440

From the Valley, take Coldwater Canyon Dr. south from exit 15 on the 101. Proceed 2.5 miles to Franklin Canyon Dr and turn right. Continue for 1.4 miles to the parking area.

From the Los Angeles Basin, head north on N Beverly Dr for .65 miles to the junction with Coldwater Canyon. At the junction, stay on N Beverly Dr by veering left and continue .9-miles to the junction with Franklin Canyon Dr. Veer right on Franklin Canyon Dr and continue 1.9 miles to the parking area. This route will circumnavigate the lake.

Stop signs in the park are photo enforced, so make sure you come to a full and complete stop or you may receive an unexpected surprise in the mail.



Parking

Day use parking is located at various points around the lake. For the purposes of this guide, use the large dirt lot located on the west side of the reservoir just north of Heavenly Pond.



Trailhead

The trail begins at the wooden railing in the dirt parking area located on the west side of the lake. Descend the steps and follow the trail in a northerly direction for about .1 mile to the old pump house facility. Here the trail will make a hairpin turn to the right and descend to lake level.



1 Rocky Traverse

Cross the rocky traverse across the wash to the east side of the lake. There are some great photo opportunities across the grasses and cattails crowding the northern end of the lake. Continuing south you will reach Turtle Beach at about .2 mile.



2 Photo Opportunity

Looking west across the lake provides some picturesque shots of cattails.



Turtle Beach

This spot on the edge of the reservoir is a great place to meet some friendly turtles looking for handouts. Be warned though that the park service frowns heavily on feeding the wildlife.

Continuing on the trail for .15 miles leads through a dense, lush primeval landscape, through a stand of pine and arriving at the steps leading to the top of the dam.

Dam Steps

You will reach the steps at about .35 miles into your journey. Ascend the steps to reach the top of the dam.



Dam Steps

You will reach the steps at about .35 miles into your journey. Ascend the steps to reach the top of the earthen dam.



Trail Junction 1

From the top of the steps and turn right to cross the dam with its unobstructed views across the lake.



Photo Opportunity 2

As you leave the dam, the trail follows the paved road through another stand of pine with some great photo opportunities across the lake. This view is particularly nice just before sunset.

Continue on the road to Trail Junction 2 at Heavenly Pond.



Trail Junction 2

Turn left off the paved road onto the Heavenly Pond trail which loops around this waterfowl habitat for .1 mile.



Heavenly Pond

A waterfowl habitat for migratory birds constructed as part of Boy Scouts' project.



Trail Junction 3

Turn left onto the paved Franklin Canyon Drive and proceed back to the parking area where you began.



End of Trail

Congratulations! You've completed the loop around Franklin Canyon Lake. Now take a few minutes and explore the other great features this park has to offer.