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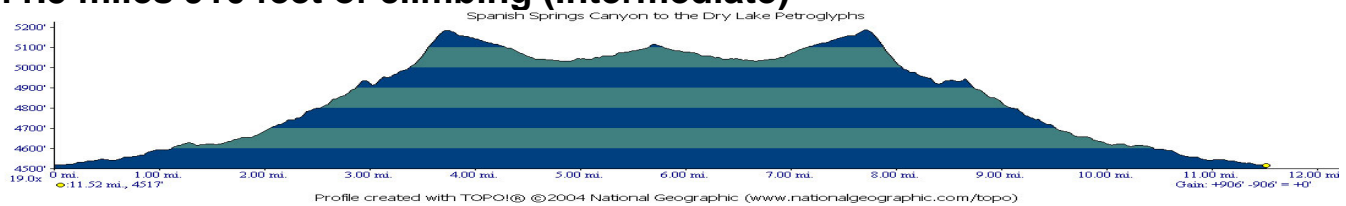


Pah – Rah Mountain Range

The Pah – Rah Mountain Range is located east of the city of Sparks, and parallels Vista Boulevard. The mountain range originates at Interstate 80, and terminates at Pyramid Lake. Most of the riding in this range is jeep road. There is a little single track, but not much. This is also one of the rockiest areas that I have ever been. My personal feeling is that if you can ride this area well, you can ride anywhere. The Pah – Rah range has much to offer. The views are all unobstructed, there are deer, antelope, coyotes, mountain lions, and golden eagles. So keep your eyes open. There are also many ancient Indian petroglyphs scattered throughout this range. So take lots of water, and a couple of extra tubes for pinch flats.



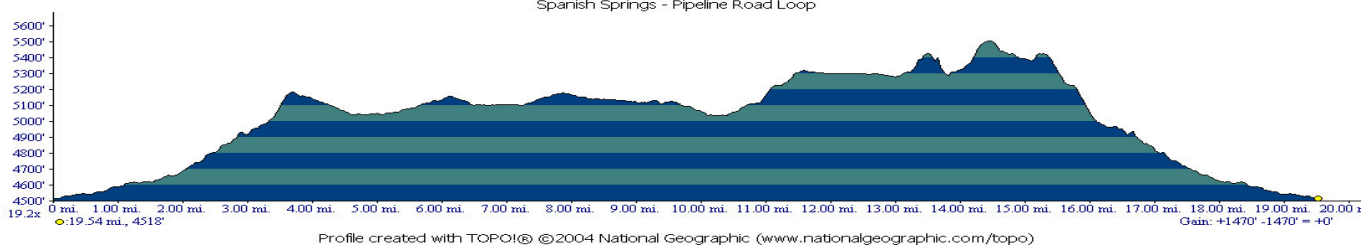
Spanish Springs Canyon to the Dry Lake Petroglyphs (Red Trail) 11.5 miles 910 feet of climbing (Intermediate)



This ride is very rocky and best suited for the intermediate rider. However, this is a great outing for the high clearance vehicle and the entire family.

Take Interstate 80 east to the city of Sparks, and take the Vista Boulevard exit. Take a left on Vista Boulevard. Follow Vista Blvd. just past Red Hawk Golf Course. You will pass the golf course entrance on your left. Continue east on Vista Blvd and you will see a dirt road on your right. Most people miss this road, so if you do, continue east on Vista. You will have a couple of dirt road options on your right. All will lead up Spanish Springs Canyon which you can now see on your right. This is a north – south canyon. Park on any of the dirt roads and ride south. You will immediately hit the main dirt road. Take a right and follow this dirt road to your first right. This right is your only choice up the canyon, and if you miss it, you will end up at a ranch. So turn around and take the road you missed. From here, follow this public access road up Spanish Spring Canyon for 1.4 miles where you will see a single track come in on your right. This is the return single track for the **Spanish Springs Canyon Single Track Loop**. Continue south on the main road, and in 1.8 miles (3.2 miles from the start) you will come to a “Y” intersection. Stay to the left, and yes, that is your climb in front of you. It is steep, rocky, and loose. However, once to the top the worst is over. So stay to the left, and in .5 miles (3.7 miles) you will come to another intersection. The left will take you out onto another dry lakebed, and dead end at the far north end. So stay strait, east, and follow the road east where it will drop into a lower dry lakebed and take a turn heading north. Continue on this road and in 2.55 miles from the top of the ridge (5.75 miles) you will be at your turn around point. From here, you have just started to climb out of the lower dry lake bed, and are just short of the ridge that drops into the upper dry lakebed. If you look left (west) you will see a scattering of rocks. You need to hike to the largest rock pile that you see. This pile is not quite to the rim rock of the ridge. So drop your bikes off of the road and hike .25 miles to the rocks. This is one of the largest collections of petroglyphs in the area. From this point you can hike around and explore, continue the entire **Spanish Springs – Pipeline Road Loop**, or just hike back to the bikes and retrace your path 5.75 miles (11.5 miles) back to your car. Be careful for pinch flats on the down hills.

Spanish Springs – Pipeline Road Loop (Red to Black) 19.5 miles 1470 feet of climbing (Strong Intermediate)

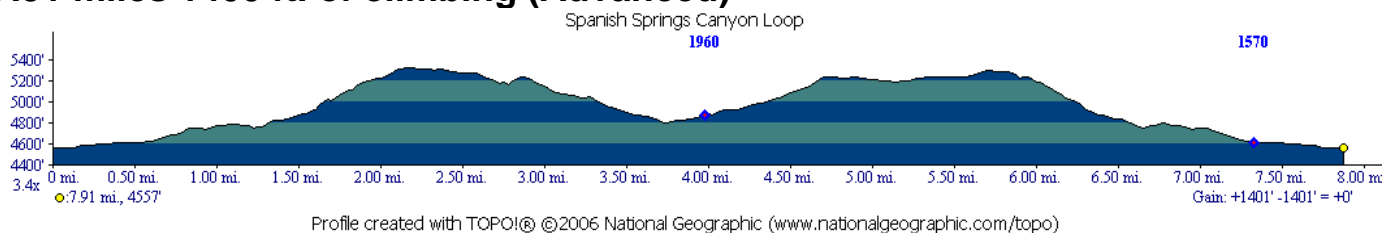


For this ride, follow the directions for the **Spanish Springs Canyon to the Dry Lake Petroglyphs** ride. From the petroglyphs, continue north over the ridge and into the lower dry lake bed. From the petroglyphs, you will travel 2.1 miles (7.85 miles from the start) where the jeep road will take a turn to the right (east.) You will encounter a couple of roads to your right, but ignore those and continue east down the draw for 2.05 miles (9.9 miles) where you will come to a "T" intersection. If you go left you can drop out at Tracey Power Plant on the Truckee River. However, for this ride, take a right and head west. Follow this road for 1.5 miles (11.4 miles) where you will crest the climb, then drop into yet another dry lake bed. During the winter months, I have seen herds of over 60 antelope in this dry lake bed. However, continue from the ridge for 2 miles (13.4 miles) where you will climb out of the lake bed onto another ridge. Follow the road for .8 miles (14.2 miles) where you will end another climb. Congratulations, most of your climbing is done. Continue west for 1.3 miles (15.5 miles) where you have an option. If you take a hard right, you will drop down Spanish Springs Canyon back to your car. If you go straight west, you may drop out at Pah – Rah Park on Vista Blvd. Problem here is that the construction tends to block this path. Your last choice is to take the single track on the ridge heading north, on the ridge to the west of Spanish Springs Canyon. Please note, this single track is very technical and for the expert rider only. So, take a right and be very careful on this down hill. It is very loose and rocky. Watch your speed. Continue north for .75 miles (16.25 miles) where you will be back on the main Spanish Springs Canyon jeep road. At this intersection, take a left and follow this jeep road for 3.2 miles (19.5 miles) where you will be back at your car.



Spanish Springs Canyon Single Track Loop (Black Trail)

7.91 miles 1400 ft. of climbing (Advanced)



This is one of the most technical single tracks that I have ever been on. It is not a single track that will break you, rather it forces you to go slow, and rely on strength, balance, and ability. This single track is very rocky, and has some of the tightest switch backs that I have ever been on. It is completely rideable both directions up and down, but quite the challenge. This ride follows the start of both of the previous rides.

So, follow the main jeep road south up the canyon and in 1.4 miles you will see a single track come in on your right. Take this singletrack and follow it parallel to the jeep road to the north. The singletrack gradually climbs till mile marker 1.25 miles. This is where the climb begins. The trail starts to climb quickly to the west. The switchbacks are tight but can be ridden. Follow the singletrack uphill for .84 miles (2.09 miles from the start) where you will crest the ridge. The worst of the climbing is now over. But remember, this



is also your downhill. At this ridge, you will see your return singletrack to the left, here you need to take a right and follow the singletrack uphill to the west. This climb is short and simple. In .10 miles (2.19 miles) you will be on top of the ridge, and you have a long downhill in front of you. Once on the ridge, the trail turns northerly, and continues along the ridge, and in .32 miles (2.51 miles) you have an option. You are at a "Y" intersection in the singletrack. The left singletrack cuts down to the lower singletrack as a shortcut, and cuts out the very rocky and technical section to the north. For this ride, I am going to assume that you are an advanced rider, so continue strait to the north along the ridge, and in .10 miles (2.61 miles) the trail cuts back to the south and gets very rocky and steep. See pic. to the left and right. The trail continues south winding through the rocks, and in .22 miles (2.83 miles) you will see your shortcut singletrack on the left. Continue south on the singletrack and again, you will wind through another rocky section, then the trail will open out on the side hill, and in .21 miles (3.04 miles) you will cross over a dirt road, and the singletrack will pick up again on the south side of the road. Continue to the south on the singletrack and you will switchback down the side of the hill. Then in .38 miles (3.42 miles) you will cross over another faint jeep road, and the singletrack will drop south down the wash. In .35 miles (3.77 miles) the singletrack will drop out of the wash and onto another faint jeep road. If you go left the trail will drop you out in the housing development above Los Altos Parkway. Take a right and start the climb back up to the left. Follow this faint jeep road that has now turned into more of a singletrack for .73 miles (4.5 miles) where the singletrack will cross Pipeline Road. The singletrack picks up on the south side of Pipeline Road and parallels Pipeline Road for a short distance then turns south and climbs up to the saddle above. In .33 miles (4.83 miles) the singletrack will again cross over Pipeline Road. The singletrack picks up directly across pipeline road on the north side. Here the singletrack just climbs up the ridge to the north. It is a little rocky in places, but not as bad as anything else you have already been over. Continue up the ridge to the north, and in 1.05 miles (5.88 miles) you will be back at the intersection of your return singletrack. This downhill singletrack is the same one you came up earlier. Please be very careful on this downhill, take it slow and easy in the switchbacks. Continue to retrace your singletrack 2.03 miles (7.91 miles) back to your car.



119°43'00" W 119°42'00" W 119°41'00" W 119°40'00" W 119°39'00" W 119°38'00" W 119°37'00" W 119°36'00" W 119°35'00" W

