

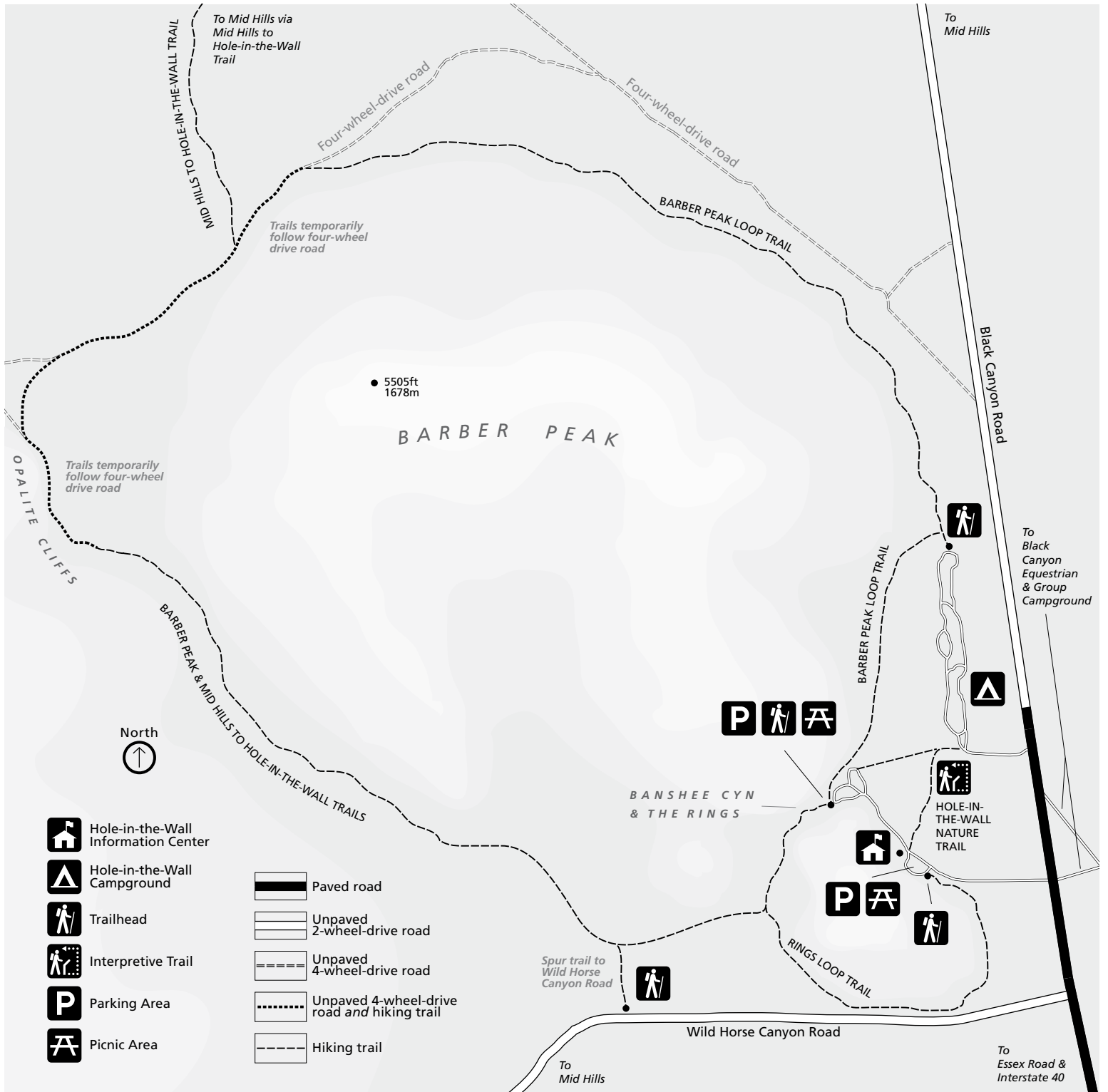


Hole-in-the-Wall Area Trails



Something for Everyone

With four hiking options to choose from, Hole-in-the-Wall is a great place to begin a hike. Trailheads are located at the information center, picnic area, and along Wild Horse Canyon Road. For more information, talk to the ranger on duty at Hole-in-the-Wall Information Center or call 760 928-2572 or 760 252-6104.



Hole-in-the-Wall Nature Trail

½-mile round-trip

Trailheads: *Hole-in-the-Wall Information Center and south end of Hole-in-the-Wall Campground.*

Learn to identify desert plants on this easy hike that connects the Information Center and Campground.

Rings Loop Trail

1-mile round-trip

The trail connects to other routes (see map).

Trailhead: *Hole-in-the-Wall Information Center parking area.*

About ¼ mile along the trail, look for faint petroglyphs on rocks to your right. Feel free to take pictures but please don't touch or disturb the rock art. Then, discover how Hole-in-the-Wall got its name as you enter Banshee Canyon. Resembling Swiss cheese, the walls of the canyon invite further exploration, but be careful where you put your hands and feet. Climb out of Banshee Canyon to the picnic area with the help of metal rings mounted in the rock. Return to the Information Center on a short dirt road.



A hiker ascends narrow Banshee Canyon using metal rings embedded in the rock.

Barber Peak Loop Trail

6-mile loop

The trail connects to other routes (see map).

Trailheads: *Hole-in-the-Wall Picnic Area & Hole-in-the-Wall Campground.*

This trail showcases the Mojave's dramatic geology. One mile north of Hole-in-the-Wall Campground, a viewpoint offers scenic vistas in all directions, including nearby Table Top Mountain, an easily recognizable landmark for travelers heading west across the desert more than a century ago. A stone staircase skirts volcanic ash deposits known as tuff, while the Opalite Cliffs glisten like diamonds among the rocks. About 1 mile of the trail follows a dirt road, which is also the same route as the southern portion of the Mid Hills to Hole-in-the-Wall Trail (see below).

Caution: Dirt roads and cattle trails criss-cross the route. Pay attention, watch for signs, and follow along on the the map.



Volcanic ash deposits create colorful cliffs north of Hole-in-the-Wall Campground.

Mid Hills to Hole-in-the-Wall Trail

8 miles one-way

The trail connects to other routes (see map).

Trailheads: *Entrance to Mid Hills Campground, and about 1 mile west of Black Canyon Road on the south end of Wild Horse Canyon Road.*

The route, a combination of hiking trails and sections of dirt roads, works especially well if you have two vehicles or are planning to camp overnight along the trail. From Mid Hills, the trail descends 1,200 feet to Hole-in-the-Wall through a maze of washes decorated with barrel and cholla cacti. The charred skeletons of juniper, pinyon, and yucca remain from the 2005 Hackberry Fire, though many small shrubs and wildflowers have returned to the area. Nearing Hole-in-the-Wall, the white deposits of the Opalite Cliffs sparkle in the sunlight. The world's tallest yucca, over 31 feet tall, grew near the southern section of the trail until it blew over in 2008, but there are many possible contenders for that title among the remaining yuccas.

Caution: Dirt roads and cattle trails criss-cross the route. Pay attention, watch for signs, and follow along on the the map. Trail crosses a grazing allotment, so you may see cattle along the way.



Tall Mojave yucca grow among a mix of cactus at the southern end of the Mid Hills to Hole-in-the-Wall Trail.