

## South Tahoe Area Trail Descriptions (From Kingsbury Grade to Highway 89)

**VAN SICKLE TRAIL:** Connecting the core of South Lake Tahoe up to the Rim Trail this is the latest addition to the South Shore trail system, new for 2012. It's a great ride providing some of the best lake views around over 4 fun miles. The trail is built to be ridden both up and down incorporating rest areas and overlooks along the way. Bring a camera and try to time your decent back down to see the sunset over the lake.

Directions: The trail is easily accessible from South Lake Tahoe, so when possible, just ride your bike here. The trail head starts in the Van Sickle-Bi State Park located just behind the Heavenly Gondola and Stateline Casinos on Montreal Avenue.

**TAHOE RIM TRAIL (TRT):** Ringing 165 miles around Lake Tahoe this spectacular trail provides many connections to allow for truly epic rides. Keep in mind that some sections around the lake are closed to bicycles, however every section shown here is legal to ride. For more information visit the Tahoe Rim Trail Association website: www.tahoerimtrail.org

POWERLINES TRAIL: Smooth rolling single track takes you from town near Heavenly Cal Base up and along the forest above the neighborhoods of South Lake Tahoe. Very suitable for beginners to intermediates and everyone can use it to connect to other trails, such as Corral, Cedar and Cold Creek. Easily accessible from many points in town. West of High Meadow road this turns into a dirt road that meets Fountain Place and the Corral area. Directions: Head to the top of Ski Run Blvd and take a right onto Saddle Road, this dead ends after about a block, there is limited on street parking. Another access area is the High Meadow trail head, turn up High Meadows Road off Pioneer Trail and drive on the dirt road until the gate, you will see a map kiosk here.

**COLD CREEK TRAIL:** Reworked and rebuilt between 2009 and 2010 this trail follows alongside its name sake Cold Creek from for about 1,600 vertical feet over roughly 4 miles. The lower half is suitable for beginner to intermediates and as you get higher the level of technical riding increases. Amazing rock work on the upper portions make for a super fun downhill ride through aspens, ferns and past small waterfalls.

Directions: Park at the trail head at the end of High Meadow Road off of Pioneer Trail or access from the water substation just past Sierra House School on Pioneer Trail. This is also very logical continuation of a ride on Powerlines Trail.

STAR LAKE CONNECTOR: Brand new for 2011, this trail climbs roughly 2,000 vertical feet over 4 miles to connect High Meadow to Star Lake and the TRT. This is a well built trail fun to both climb or descend. Link in with Cold Creek trail if you are descending down from the TRT and Star Lake. Directions: There is no direct vehicular access, however you can most easily access it from High Meadow Road off of Pioneer Trail. Ride up either the gated dirt road or climb up Cold Creek single track to High Meadow, the new trail can be found off the dirt road on the South end of the meadow.

MAP DISCLAIMER: This trail map is for trip planning informational purposes only and should not be relied on for navigation. This map was compiled using a variety of GIS data graphically illustrating the general legal multi-use trail system around South Lake Tahoe, California. TAMBA does not warrant the accuracy or currency of the data shown on this map. In no event will TAMBA be liable for any incidental or consequential damages to personal property or personal injury arising out of the use of or inability to use this map.

Please keep in mind that trail conditions may vary greatly depending on weather and season. Be prepared for the unexpected and always exercise caution in the backcountry. Distances may seem short on the map, but do to terrain challenges and elevation gain it may take many hours to travel a short distance. This map is provided free for download on the TAMBA website. DO NOT PAY FOR THIS MAP!

## ABOUT THE TAHOE AREA MOUNTAIN BIKING ASSOCIATION:

The Tahoe Area Mountain Biking Association (TAMBA) is dedicated to the steward-ship of sustainable, multiple-use trails and to preserving access for mountain bikers through advocacy, education and promotion of responsible trail use. TAMBA is 100% volunteer run and non profit. We rely on the support of our members and volunteers. Please consider joining TAMBA and getting involved on trail work days and events. A complete listing of our projects, events, and trails days can be found on the TAMBA website.



CORRAL AREA TRAILS, INCLUDING SIDEWINDER, CEDAR AND ARM-STRONG CONNECTOR: This area has a high density of trails for all ability levels and serves as the unofficial hub of mountain bike activity in the South Shore. You will find the largest amount legal features including log rides, jumps large berms and rock rolls in South Tahoe. The trails all run parallel to the Fountain Place paved road so with only moderate climbing involved these trails can keep anyone interested for hours. Most people do not ride up these trails, so be cautious if do you ride uphill here! Larger connections are possible by linking these trails to Armstrong Trail, the Rim Trail, Powerline, Railroad Grade, and this is also where Mr. Toads ends.

Directions: From town, take Pioneer Trail towards Meyers, turn left onto Oneidas Street, after passing a few houses this turns into a paved forest service road called Fountain Place, follow for about 1/2 mile and park in the dirt parking lot on the left just past the creek crossing.

ARMSTRONG TRAIL: This trail gradually climbs through the forest for approximately 4 miles from the top of Fountain Place Road (above Corral trail) all the way to the Tahoe Rim Trail at Armstrong Pass. There is nothing particularly brutal on the climb or overly technical on the decent; it's just a fun trail to ride up or down. Use it to loop over to Toads or as a downhill coming from Star Lake or Stagecoach on the TRT. If you ride down from Freel Peak, link to Armstong and down Corral it's about a 4,000 foot single track decent! Directions: Same directions as Corral. Armstrong Trail is located at the top of Fountain Place Road where the pavement ends.

RAILROAD TRAIL: Short beginner to intermediate trail that connects the Montgomery Estates neighborhood to the bottom of Corral Trail. 2 miles of flat trail through ponderosa pine and meadows alongside Trout Creek. Directions: Park at the Corral Area off Onedias Street (see above) or at the end of Columbine Road off Marshal Trail.

MR. TOADS WILD RIDE/SAXON CREEK: An iconic rocky, technical and fun decent, this trail gives advanced riders a satisfyingly long 6 mile downhill. Plunging through towering forests and boulders on the upper sections then giving way to fast, banked turns on the lower sections. Bring your longer-travel bike. By starting at Heavenly's Stagecoach Lodge off Kingsbury Grade and riding the TRT to Star Lake, over Freel Peak and onward to Toads you can make this a longer ride of nearly 30 miles, typically called the "Punisher" - or for the super endurance riders, start at Mount Rose for the 60+ mile "Uber Punisher".

Directions: Take Pioneer Trail towards Meyers, turn left onto Oneidas Street, after passing a few houses this turns into a paved forest service road called Fountain Place, follow for about 1/4 mile, there is a large dirt parking lot on your right, this is where the bottom of the trail ends. If you park here you can loop it by riding up the paved Forest Service Road to Armstrong trail. The other option is to ride or shuttle up to Highway 89 and meet up with the Big Meadow TRT trail head.

## **RULES OF THE TRAIL:**

- 1. Ride Open Trails: Respect trail and road closures. Do not trespass on private land. Be aware that bicycles are not permitted in federal Wilderness areas or on the Pacific Crest Trail.
- 2. Leave No Trace: Be sensitive to the dirt beneath you. Wet and muddy trails are more vulnerable to damage than dry ones. When the trail is soft, consider other riding options. This also means staying on existing trails and not creating new ones. Don't cut switchbacks. Be sure to pack out at least as much as you pack in.
- **3. Control Your Bicycle**: Inattention for even a moment could put yourself and others at risk. Ride at a safe speed and ride within your limits.
- 4. Yield Appropriately: Do your utmost to let your fellow trail users know you're coming a friendly greeting or bell ring are good methods. Try to anticipate other trail users as you ride around corners. Bicyclists should yield to other non-motorized trail users. Bicyclists traveling downhill should yield to ones headed uphill. In general, strive to make each pass a safe and courteous one.
- **5. Never Scare Animals**: Animals are easily startled by an unannounced approach, a sudden movement or a loud noise. Give animals enough room and time to adjust to you.
- **6. Plan Ahead:** Know your equipment, your ability and the area in which you are riding and prepare accordingly. Be self-sufficient: keep your equipment in good repair and carry necessary supplies for changes in weather or other conditions. Always wear a helmet and appropriate safety gear.