

Panther Meadow & Gray Butte



Summer/Early Fall

Panther Meadow features a beautiful subalpine meadow and forest with a delicate and fragile ecosystem. When visiting, visitors are asked to be extremely mindful of the meadow and its conditions and stay on the trail.

Panther Meadow is a major trailhead for both mountain climbers and day hikers. Panther Meadow is accessible for access around July 1st- October 31st; however, these dates are subject to change based on snowpack and ecological conditions. Panther Meadow is an access point for Panther Meadow Spring, Gray Butte, and Southgate Meadows.

Location: Near-top of Everett Memorial Highway on Mount Shasta, past Gate 2.

PUBLIC RESTROOMS AND WATER

Bring your own water. At the parking lot of Lower Panther Meadow, there is a portable toilet. If hiking for long periods, please be sure to bring waste disposal bags.

CAMPING

You can camp at the Panther Campground (first come first serve) and/or disperse camp at the parking lot adjacent to the upper Panther Meadow Trailhead. Follow Forest Service rules and regulations on camping and respect the ecological space.

IMPORTANT TRAIL ROUTES FROM TRAILHEAD

Upper Panther Meadow Roundtrip

Distance: .5 Miles to Springhead, .5 Miles Back

Elevation Climb: 70 Feet Total (There and Back)

This out and back trail takes you along Panther Meadow upper trail. Journey into the rock garden and to the upper portion of the meadow where trickling waters feed a subalpine meadow, through the forested zone and up to the spring source.

Loop Around the Meadow

Distance: .5 Mile Loop

Elevation Climb: 60 Feet

Once you arrive at the meadow either from the upper or lower part of the trail, this loop will take you around the meadow and rock garden. The total distance of the loop is .5 miles.

Lower Panther Meadow Roundtrip or Loop

Distance: .6 Miles There, .6 Miles Back (Along Right Trail) 1.2 Miles Total. Loop is .6 miles There, .9 Miles Back (Following the upper Trail back) 1.5 Miles Total.

Elevation Climb: 350 Feet

This route starts at the Lower Panther Meadow Campground. From the trailhead, you head out and at the first fork you take the left to upper Panther Meadow. From there, hike up into the subalpine forest where the creek meanders down through trees and rocks. At the next fork, take a right and continue through the forested section of the meadow up to the Panther Creek Spring source. On your way back down, you can either take the same route down or take a right to the upper meadow and see the upper meadow. Walk out to the head of the loop and turn left back down to Panther Meadow Campground.

Gray Butte There and Back Again

Distance: 3.4 Miles Round Trip

Elevation Climb: 750 Feet

This route starts at the Lower Panther Meadow Campground. From the trailhead, you head out and at the first fork you take the right to stay on the Gray Butte trail. Continue across the meadow into the forested divide. Climb to a fork at .6 miles and stay right. Head southerly along a ridge, cross a talus slope, and then reach a saddle at 1.5 miles. Take the faint trail to your right .2 mile to the top of Gray Butte.

Southgate Meadow: See separate Pamphlet.

PANTHER MEADOW TRAILS MAP

Trail Access Points Include Lower Panther Meadow, Upper Panther Meadow, Gray Butte, and South Gate.

Distance: — .1 Mi

LEGEND

- P Parking
- Bathroom
- Junction
- Trailhead
- Campground
- ▲ Summit
- Graded Terrain/Butte/Ridge
- Mt Shasta Wilderness
- Elevation Marker
- Everitt Memorial HWY A10 (Paved)
- Focal Trail
- - - Adjacent Trail

