MAROON BELLS FOUR PASS LOOP

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MAROON BELLS

WILDERNESS

BACKPACKING TRIP

FYI: The map on the reverse side is for general orientation, not for navigation. *P.S.* Get and post trail updates at www.facebook.com/oriccolorado

Location: Maroon Bells Wilderness Snowmass Wilderness White River National Forest

Contact Info: Aspen Ranger District 970-925-3445 www.fs.fed.us/r2

Length: 24.23 miles (estimate using Nat'l Geo Mapping Software)

Time: 3 nights, 4 days. The average person hikes approximately 2 miles an hour. Adjust your time based on terrain, trail and weather conditions and your skill and fitness level.

Elevation Gain/Loss: See trail profile on reverse side

Difficulty: Strenuous

Trail Users: Hikers, backpackers, climbers, fisherman and photographers

Season: July through September

Dogs: On hand-held leash

Permits: Free wilderness permit required at trailhead

Getting There from Denver: I-70 West past Frisco. Exit at #195 and take CO Highway 91 south through Leadville. Follow US Highway 24 south to Twin Lakes. Turn right on to CO Highway 82 and take it over Independence Pass and ½ mile past Aspen to the roundabout. Drive the Maroon Creek Road approximately 9½ miles to Maroon Lake. Plan to arrive before 8:00 am or after 5:00 pm if you want to drive to the overnight parking area. Otherwise, you'll need to take a shuttle bus from Ruby Park in Aspen since private vehicles are prohibited from 8:00 am - 5:00 pm from Jun - Sep. Contact the Roaring Fork Transit Agency at 970-925-8484 for details.

Maps: Nat'l Geo T.I. #128E; Lat 40° Aspen, Crested Butte, Gunnison Rec Topo Map; Sky Terrain Aspen, Crested Butte, Maroon Bells Map and or the Maroon Bells and Snowmass Mtn. USGS 7.5 topo maps. **IMPORTANT:** Stay found with the aid of a topo map, a compass, a GPS receiver and the skill to use them

Safety Considerations & Supplemental Info: ■ Check fire restrictions and weather at <u>www.oriconline.org</u> ■ Expect River and stream crossings to be high in the Spring ■ Food, refuse and any scented items must be stored in an Interagency Grizzly Bear Committee (IGBC) approved bear resistant container

The Trail: Hike SW apx. 7mi. from Maroon Lk to W. Maroon Pass. NW apx. 11 mi. over Frigid Air Pass to a crossing over the N Fork River. Then tackle a series of switchbacks up to Trail Rider Pass and NE through a basin on Geneva Lk Tr. to Snowmass Lk. Cross another crk and then pass through the Red Rocks to Buckskin Pass. Then SE apx. 7mi. on Maroon-Snowmass Tr. to origin. **SUGGESTION:** Contact the Aspen Ranger District for trail updates, conditions, and a more detailed description of the loop.

Highlights: Climbing thru high mountain passes and hiking thru lush basins Fragrant forests Meadows come alive with seasonal wildflowers Most of the trail is above tree line Spectacular views of the Maroon Bells and other high peaks of the Elk Mountain Range Soothing cascades and plunge pools that accompany you along the trail

Visit us in the REI DENVER FLAGSHIP STORE **OUTDOOR RECREATION INFORMATION CENTER** ■ 1416 Platte Street ■ Denver CO 80202 Ask us. We'll Tell You Where To Go ■ <u>www.oriconline.org</u> ■ Updated: 2-22-2018 Follow us on: ■ facebook.com/oriccolorado ■ Twitter: @oricbryan



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