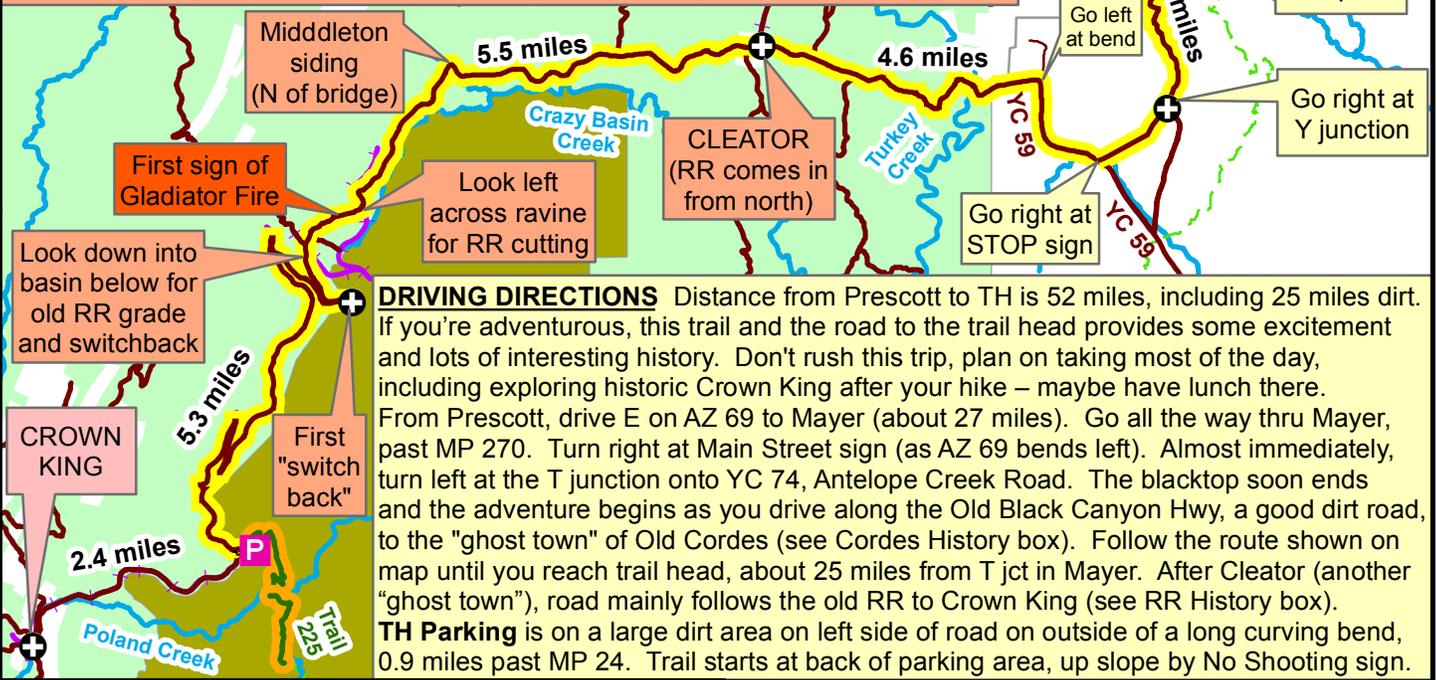


HISTORY OF CORDES

In 1883, a German immigrant named John Cordes purchased an adobe stage coach stop called Antelope Station, which was on the Old Black Canyon Road (Highway) – the main route then between Prescott and Phoenix. After the Bradshaw Mountain RR was built, the stage stop became a supply store for local miners and ranchers. It also became an important shearing and dipping station for the many shearers who moved their large flocks to the Mogollon Rim each spring, and back again in the fall. The gas station at Cordes, opened 1915, closed in 1971 after being bypassed by I-17 in the sixties. The Cordes family still owns the store and many of the nearby buildings. The old store is open on most weekends. Best website for Cordes info is: apcrp.org/Cordes/CORDES%20-%20MASTER%20DOCUMENT%20082907

RAILROAD HISTORY

The branch of the Bradshaw Mountain Railway from Mayer to Crown King was started in 1902 and completed in 1904 (28 miles). It reused the rails and trestle timbers from the old "Peavine" when that RR was rerouted over Hell Canyon in 1901. The branch line was abandoned in stages (Crown King to Middleton in 1926, to Cordes in 1932 and to Mayer in 1939). To climb the steep mountain slopes, "switchbacks" were used to gain altitude. After climbing, the train pulled into a siding, then reversed out over a redirected switch for the next climb to the next siding. From there, it pulled forward again through another switch for the continuing climb. In this way, the train zig-zagged up the side of the mountain! If you look carefully at each switchback (today a road hairpin), you will see these short sidings – now overgrown from disuse.



DRIVING DIRECTIONS

Distance from Prescott to TH is 52 miles, including 25 miles dirt. If you're adventurous, this trail and the road to the trail head provides some excitement and lots of interesting history. Don't rush this trip, plan on taking most of the day, including exploring historic Crown King after your hike – maybe have lunch there. From Prescott, drive E on AZ 69 to Mayer (about 27 miles). Go all the way thru Mayer, past MP 270. Turn right at Main Street sign (as AZ 69 bends left). Almost immediately, turn left at the T junction onto YC 74, Antelope Creek Road. The blacktop soon ends and the adventure begins as you drive along the Old Black Canyon Hwy, a good dirt road, to the "ghost town" of Old Cordes (see Cordes History box). Follow the route shown on map until you reach trail head, about 25 miles from T jct in Mayer. After Cleator (another "ghost town"), road mainly follows the old RR to Crown King (see RR History box). **TH Parking** is on a large dirt area on left side of road on outside of a long curving bend, 0.9 miles past MP 24. Trail starts at back of parking area, up slope by No Shooting sign.

11. Algonquin (TH Access)

ROADS

- Surfaced Roads
- Dirt Roads
- Spree road route
- Historical RR

TRAILS

- SPREE trail route
- Other trails

LAND USE 1

- Private Land
- Prescott National Forest
- Wilderness Area

- Road Point/Junction
(with approx. mileages between points/junctions)

Scale is 1:100,000

Yavapai County assumes no responsibility for errors, omissions, and/or inaccuracies in this mapping product. NJER Revised 08/27/13



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2013



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