



OTHER THINGS TO DO

Here are some great ideas for hikes, sightseeing and other things to do here in the Kern River Valley:

French Gulch Marina: Rentals of waverunners, pontoon boats, fishing boats, kayak and SUPs. www.frenchgulchmarina.com

Mountain Biking Trails: Remington Ridge, Mill Creek, Keyesville, Unal Trail, Just Outstanding to Waggy Ridge, Dutch Flat, Cannell Plunge, Nelson Trail, Bear Creek

Cannell Trail: The trailhead for the Cannell Trail is about 2 miles north of Kernville. It is an "out and back" trail that offers scenic views of Kernville and the surrounding countryside. I usually hike up to the "Singing Gate", a Forest Service gate that is on a saddle about 1 1/2 miles in. The first part of the hike is uphill, then the trail levels out. The final leg to the gate is also uphill. The roundtrip usually takes about 1 1/2 hours.

<http://kernriversierra.com/bike/cannelllower.html>

Packsaddle Trail: The trailhead for this hike is almost 15 miles upstream of Kernville. It is about a 5-mile Round Trip that leads up over a saddle, down to a creek, and then to a really cool Limestone cave.

http://kernriversierra.com/hike/packsaddle_trail.html

The River Trail: The trailhead for the River Trail (also known as the 4 Mile Trail) is right at the Johnsondale Bridge (about 18 miles upstream from Kernville). This is a relatively level out and back hike along the river. You can hike up to four miles before the trail heads up the mountain. This trail parallels the last four miles of our Class V "Forks of the Kern" run. About 3/4's of a mile in you'll see one of the Class V rapids we run, Carson Falls. If you continue, you'll come across several more beautiful rapids. They're impressive even at low flows.

<https://www.southern-sierra.com/Community/hiking.html>

I'd also recommend the following scenic drive and short hikes in the high country just outside of Kernville. You'll drive up past the Johnsondale Bridge to access these places. The drive is about an hour from Kernville. All three stops are in close proximity of one another.

The Trail of 100 Giants: This is a great, self guided tour through the Long Meadow Grove of Giant Redwoods. It is impressive (if not awe inspiring), and educational. The last time I was up there, one of the trees had fallen and to view one from a horizontal perspective is a special treat.

<http://www.redwoodhikes.com/SequoiaNM/TrailOf100Giants.html>

Dome Rock: After viewing the Trail of 100 Giants, I'd recommend driving a little further to Dome Rock. You can park at right next to this amazing monolith and stroll right up the back side (super easy walk) to the top where you'll find an amazing view of the High Sierra and the awesome canyon the North Fork of the Kern River has cut through the countryside. You also can't miss seeing The Needles, a group of granite spires not far from your vantage point. You'll see both of these landmarks in the distance on your drive up.

<https://www.hikespeak.com/trails/dome-rock-sequoia-nationa-monument/>

If you visit the High Country by driving a little further, you will find the ruminants of **The Ponderosa Lodge**. This establishment burnt down in the epic winter of 2023. They have a GoFundMe page to raise money to rebuild. Their phone number is 559 542 2579. Here is the link to the GoFundMe page: <https://gofund.me/71b8e857>

I hope you find this information helpful. Feel free to get in touch with us if you have any questions regarding this information.