

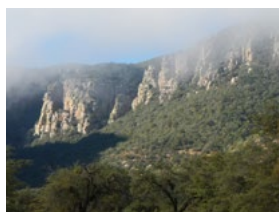


**Carr Canyon**  
Come and experience this beautiful canyon in the Huachuca Mountains. Explore area history and Carr Creek in the lower canyon, view seasonal Carr Falls, or drive up to the high country for incredible vistas and access to trailheads and campgrounds.

**Know before you go**

- SEASONS:** Year-round. Road closes seasonally for snow, floods, or fire danger. Contact ranger station for current conditions.
- BEAR SAFETY:** Store and dispose of all food in bear-safe containers and trash receptacles.
- CAMPING:** First come, first serve. Pay with cash or check on site. Reserve Reef Townsite Group Area at [www.recreation.gov](http://www.recreation.gov).
- WATER:** No drinking water at campgrounds or picnic area. Drinking fountain outside Carr House during warm months.
- RESTRICTIONS:** Vehicles longer than 20 feet and trailers longer than 12 feet are prohibited beyond the picnic area.
- ROAD SAFETY:** Watch for hikers, bicyclists, equestrians, and wildlife. OHVs must be licensed and remain on the road.

**Attractions**



**CARR CANYON SCENIC DRIVE**

This rugged road climbs 2,500 feet as it winds past the cliffs of Carr Reef and up into the pines. The first 1.4 miles are paved; the remaining 6.3 miles are dirt with steep, narrow, and rocky sections and many switchbacks. A high-clearance

vehicle and mountain driving experience are recommended beyond Clark Spring. Allow 40 minutes drive time plus stops.

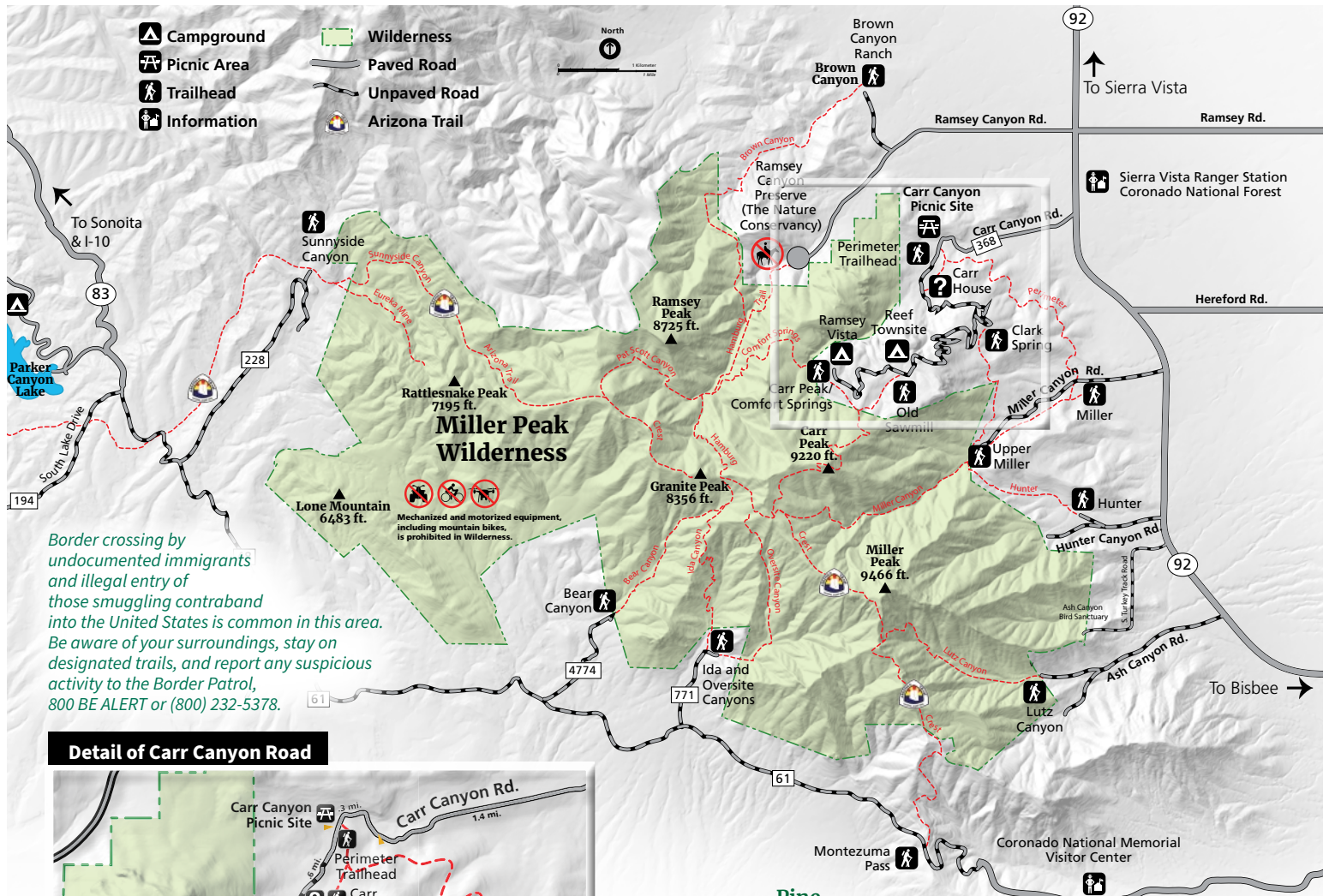


**CARR HOUSE INFORMATION CENTER**

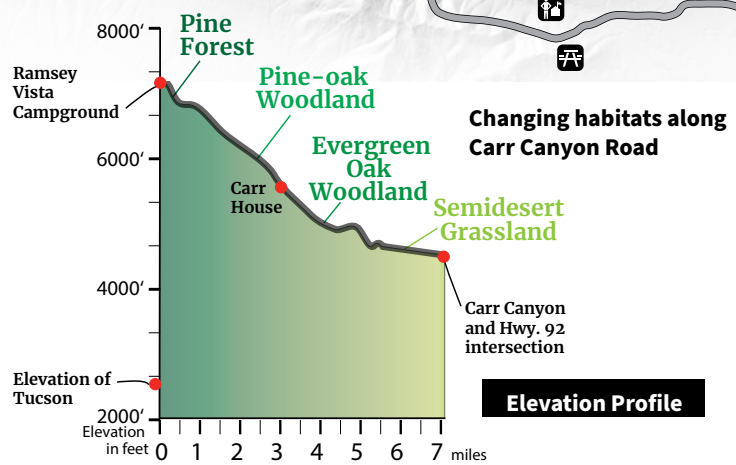
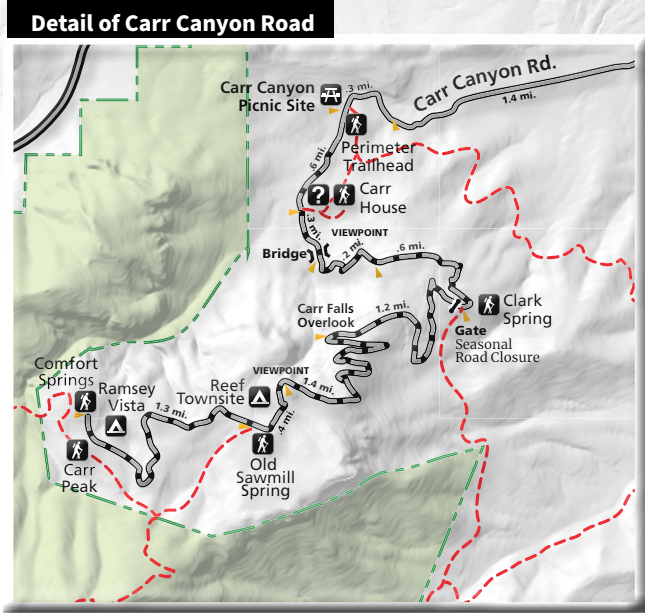
This historic home near the base of Carr Falls offers exhibits, a children's discovery room, educational videos, nature programs, and maps. Carr House closes in winter; picnic tables and Nature Trail access are available

year-round. Walk in from the road when the gate is closed. For current hours and event schedule, visit [www.huachucamountains.org](http://www.huachucamountains.org).

<b>Multiuise Trails</b>		<b>H - Hike B - Bike E - Equestrian</b> Share the trail. Communicate and be courteous with other users.
<b>Carr House Nature Trail</b> (H, B, E)	0.5 mi. to junction w/ Perimeter Trail	Access this easy trail from Carr House. Follow the path to the stone walls of Carr Ranch ruins where a plaque tells about area pioneers. Multiple loops wind through the riparian woodland. Great for birding.
<b>Perimeter Trail</b> (H, B, E)	3.75 mi. one way to Miller Canyon	Access this rocky trail overlooking the San Pedro Valley from the parking area on lower Carr Canyon Road. Hike out and back any distance or connect with the Carr House Nature Trail. Popular for mountain biking.
<b>Clark Spring Trail</b> (H, B, E)	1.6 mi. one way to Miller Canyon	Access this rocky trail from the parking area below the seasonal closure gate. Popular with mountain bikers who use the alternate John Cooper Trail to avoid a section of the Miller Peak Wilderness.
<b>Old Sawmill Spring Trail</b> (H, E)	0.7 mi. one way to Carr Peak Trail	Access this trail from the parking area across from Reef Townsite Campground. The trail passes Sawmill Spring at 0.5 mi. Link with the Carr Peak Trail to reach the summit (2.8 mi. one way with 2,000 ft. of climbing).
<b>Comfort Springs Trail</b> (H, E)	2.3 mi. one way	Access this moderate trail from Ramsey Vista Campground. Reach Comfort Springs at 0.6 mi.; continue another 1.7 mi. (one way) to the Hamburg Trail (Ramsey Canyon) junction. Great for birding.
<b>Carr Peak Trail</b> (H, E)	2.7 mi. one way	Access this moderate trail from the parking area outside Ramsey Vista Campground. Follow the trail to the more difficult Carr Peak Spur Trail for the last 0.3-mi. pitch to the spectacular summit (1,800 ft. of climbing).
<b>Reef Townsite Interpretive Trail</b> (H)	0.75-mi. loop	Access this easy trail at the Reef Townsite Campground. Learn about the historic Reef mines and see relics from the mining days. Old mine tailings are visible on the slope just before the campground entrance.



Border crossing by undocumented immigrants and illegal entry of those smuggling contraband into the United States is common in this area. Be aware of your surroundings, stay on designated trails, and report any suspicious activity to the Border Patrol, 800 BE ALERT or (800) 232-5378.



**Changing habitats along Carr Canyon Road**

## About Carr Canyon

The Huachuca Mountains, one of southern Arizona's isolated *sky island* mountain ranges, rise out of the surrounding grasslands like a forested island in a desert sea. Experience cooler temperatures as you ascend Carr Canyon and witness the vegetation change from agave-studded grassland, to oaks and juniper, then pines and fir. Deciduous, riparian trees, including sycamore, cottonwood, and maple, shade Carr Creek. This varied environment creates excellent habitat for an amazing diversity of wildlife. More than seventy species of mammals,

including coati, javelina, black bear, and mountain lion, occur here. Resident and migratory birds, including trogons, gray hawks, wild turkeys, and many species of warblers and hummingbirds, can be found throughout the range. More than sixty species of reptiles, including the rare ridge-nosed rattlesnake, make their home here as well. This canyon bears the name of James Carr, who operated a sawmill on the slopes of Carr Peak in the 1880s. He filed a claim for the Huachuca Mill Toll Road, the original route up the mountain, in 1881. Other pioneers

pursued livelihoods in the canyon over the decades, raising horses and cattle and tending fruit orchards. Remnants of their homesteads are still visible today. Waves of prospectors drifted into southern Arizona in the late 1800s, and signs of their toils abound in the range. Reef Townsite, named for the band of cliffs known as Carr Reef, grew as a community in the early 1900s. Miners dug for gold, silver, and tungsten here with limited success into the 1950s. Some old mines and tailings are visible along the road.