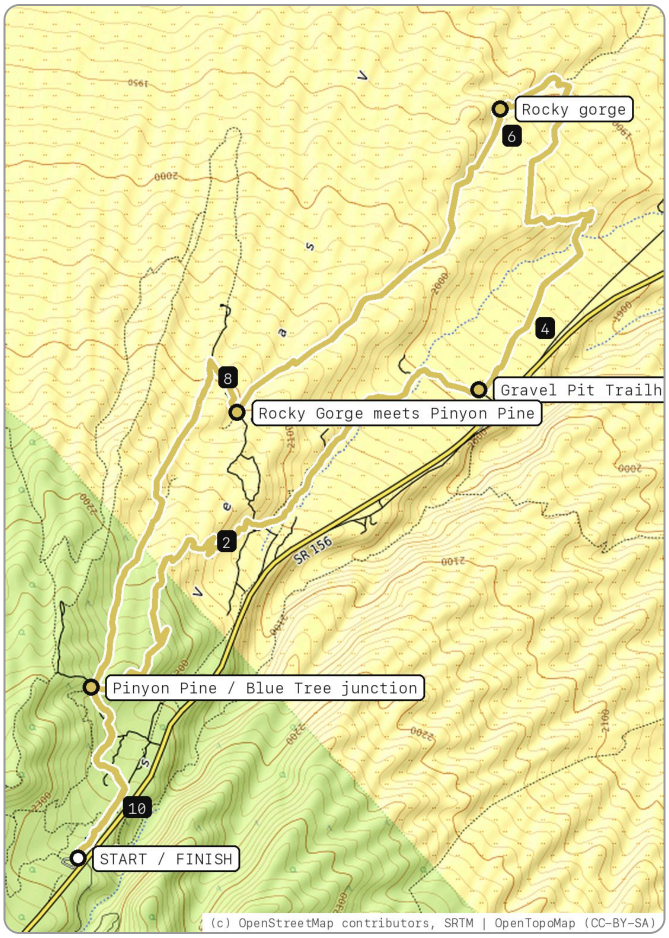
RIDE 42 · MT CHARLESTON TRAILS · ● INTERMEDIATE ·

Pine Nut

The Rocky Gorge loop from Sawmill: drop through the pinyon to the Gravel Pit trailhead, wind up a wash and a small rocky gorge, and climb home on Pinyon Pine.

Not today: Soaked: 1.01 in of rain in the last 48 hrs. Riding now ruts the trail for months. Give it a few dry days. Cold (high 39°F). Layers and full-finger gloves.

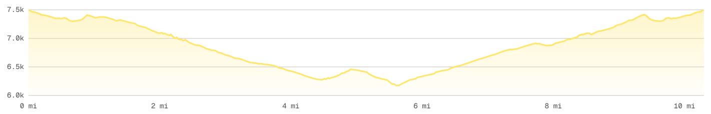
⚠ **Not yet rider-checked.** This line was routed from OpenStreetMap trail data and hasn't been ridden end to end yet. Cross-check turns against the trail signs or Trailforks.


Rocky gorge
6
4
Gravel Pit Trailh
8
Rocky Gorge meets Pinyon Pine
2
SR 156
Pinyon Pine / Blue Tree junction
10
START / FINISH

(c) OpenStreetMap contributors, SRTM | OpenTopoMap (CC-BY-SA)

10.4	MILES
1,850	FT CLIMB
7,493	FT HIGH POINT
1:40	EST. MOVING
Low	CHUNK (0%)

■ singletrack 70% ▨ dirt road 27% □ pavement 3%



Get the GPS file

Scan with a friend's phone, or tap below. Then open it in your ride app.

`https://bsqrd-designs.com/dirt/pine-nut/`

GETTING THERE

Park at Sawmill Trailhead (upper lot)

NV-156 Lee Canyon Rd, about 12.9 mi from US-95, Sawmill Picnic Area / Trailhead

- Free day use, vault toilets, no potable water. The site is open all year, but the trails hold snow in winter.
- Start and finish are the same spot. Follow the cue sheet and the arrows on the map.

CUE SHEET

0.0	Street PAVEMENT	0.1 mi
0.1	Dirt road DIRT ROAD via Pinyon Pine / Blue Tree junction	0.8 mi
0.9	Blue Tree Run SINGLETRACK	2.6 mi
3.5	Forest Trail 832 DIRT ROAD via Gravel Pit Trailhead	0.3 mi
3.8	Rocky Gorge SINGLETRACK via Rocky gorge · Rocky Gorge meets Pinyon Pine	4.0 mi
7.8	No Mads Trail DIRT ROAD	0.3 mi
8.0	Pinyon Pine SINGLETRACK	1.7 mi
9.8	Dirt road DIRT ROAD	0.7 mi
10.4	Back at Sawmill Trailhead (upper lot)	

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- The first 3.5 miles drop about 1,000 ft on Blue Tree to the Gravel Pit trailhead next to Lee Canyon Road. Rocky Gorge then dips another 300 ft into a wash before climbing ridgelines back up, and the last 2.5 miles on Pinyon Pine climb about 600 ft to Sawmill. About 1,850 ft of climbing in all.
- The roughest of the Lee Canyon loops: sandy and rocky wash bottoms, a short narrow gorge, and a few steep, eroded pitches, mixed with good ridgeline singletrack. Roughly a quarter of the miles are old dirt roads.
- Signage is poor and the tread is faint in spots, with cairns at some turns, so load the GPX. OSM calls the outbound leg 'Blue Tree Run'. On the ground it is part of the Blue Tree and Rocky Gorge loops, both open to bikes. Stay off Mud Springs, which is hiking and horses only.
- At 6,200 to 7,500 ft this sits lower and warmer than Sawmill's other loops. Rideable roughly May through October, often from April into November. Avoid the washes after summer storms. No water at Sawmill.

RIDE SMART

- **Water:** plan on about 1.5 L for this ride. There's none on the trail.
- **Signal is spotty.** Tell someone your route and your time back.
- **Emergency:** call 911 and say "Pine Nut ride, parked at Sawmill Trailhead (upper lot), Mt Charleston Trails", plus the coordinates from Locate me.
- **Wildlife:** give horses, burros and anything with horns room, and never feed them.
- **Stay on trail.** Desert crust and mountain soil take decades to heal.