

THINGS TO DO FROM CHRISTOPHER CREEK

East of Payson to the Mogollon Rim on Highway 260

(mileage is the approximate distance from the intersection of Hwy 87 & 260)

Mogollon Rim Visitors Center – Hwy 260 & top of Rim

Payson Ranger Station – 1 mile on right. Information on camping, hiking, fishing and hunting in the Rim Country below the Mogollon Rim. Short exercise trail adjacent to the station.

Ponderosa Campground – 15 miles on the right. Developed campground. Dump station (fee charged). Nature Trail which is open to non-campers. Group campground on left side of Hwy 87 requires reservations.

Dude Fire Area – 15.2 miles & left on Control Road 64. Follow the Control Road to junction with Forest Road 29 (about 4.2 miles). Keep to the left when you come to the Tonto Village turnoff. Turn right on Forest Road 29. **Forest Road 29 is a narrow dirt road and is not suited for low clearance vehicles past point 10.** Self-guided Auto Tour brochures are available at the Payson Ranger Station.

Kohl's Ranch – 17 miles on right. Cabins, rooms, campground & restaurant. Horse rental & jeep rides for guests & non-guests.

Horton Creek Picnic Area – 17 miles & turn left. Picnic area is on left just past the creek crossing.

Upper Tonto Creek Campground – 17 miles & turn left. The campground is approx. 1 mile on the right. Developed campground. Access to hiking trails & both Horton and Tonto Creek fishing and water fun.

Canyon Creek Fish Hatchery – Young road to 33 road, follow signs.

Tonto Fish Hatchery – 17 miles & turn left. approx. 4 miles to the hatchery.

Rancho Tonto Fishing Pond – Follow Tonto Fish Hatchery directions. “Hook em & cook em”, fish for trout and cook what you catch.

Box Canyon Trailhead – 20.4 miles on right Mile Marker 271. The hiking trail goes to the edge of Box Canyon.

Christopher Creek Campground – 21 miles on the right. Full service campground. Fishing & wading in Christopher Creek which runs through middle of campground.

Colcord Road – 22.5 miles & turn right. Scenic drive to rental cabins & great for viewing wildlife such as deer and elk at sun up or sunset.

Chamberlain Trail – off Colcord Rd, take back road to Young through Haigler Creek.

260 Trailhead – 27 miles on left. East end of 51 mile long Highline National Recreational Trail with trails ascending to the Mogollon Rim. The historic trail was established to like early homesteads & ranches in the late 1800's.

Railroad Tunnel to Nowhere – Take Forest Road 300 & stop at the head of the East Verde River. A monument to the Battle of Big Dry Wash marks the spot, along with a sign pointing to General Springs. Follow switchback trail down into the canyon, and the tunnel is hidden up to your left in a side canyon. This is a difficult hike.

Tonto Natural Bridge – Hwy 87 North of Payson, follow signs.

Seven Lakes – Woods Canyon, Willow Springs, Knoll, Black Canyon, Blue Ridge Reservoir, Cheylon Canyon, Bear Canyon