

Alta Summer Recreation Program & Trail Map

ALTA SUMMER RECREATION PROGRAM

The Town of Alta, located at the head of Little Cottonwood Canyon, is a popular summer recreation destination. Each summer thousands of visitors come to hike, bike, and soak up the stunning mountainous scenery. However, the abundant wildflowers, wetland species, and wildlife that flourish in this sub-alpine setting are part of a sensitive ecosystem that is easily damaged. Alta Ski Area operates the summer recreation program and provides information about this unique area to help protect the environment and enhance the recreation experience. Please help us conserve this natural setting.



PROTECTED WATERSHED

All of Little Cottonwood Canyon, from ridge-top to ridge-top, is a protected watershed. The water that flows out of this canyon supplies the Town of Alta and the Salt Lake Valley with drinking water. To keep the water clean, the following regulations are enforced by the Town of Alta and Salt Lake City Department of Public Utilities:

- Swimming/wading is prohibited
- Dogs and horses are prohibited
- Backcountry campsites must be 200 feet from water and a half mile from any road

Never drink water from streams or lakes, it may contain *Giardia*, a microorganism that causes intestinal illness.

MOTORISTS and PARKING

Albion Basin has extremely limited parking. A daily vehicle amenities fee for the basin will be required when the summer road is open. When parking is full you will be asked to park in the base areas. Please note the following speed limits:

- 25 mph—Highway 210, the paved road that runs through the center of Alta
- 15 mph—the Forest Service gravel “summer” road that continues up into Albion basin



To ensure the safety of all others using the road and to prevent erosion and damage to vegetation please observe the following:

- Be courteous to bikers, hikers, joggers, and wildlife
- Drive only on designated roads and park only in designated parking areas

HIKING

Alta has approximately 10 miles of trails and ski area service roads for hiking. Refer to the map for trailhead parking locations and trail descriptions. Note that the use of motorized vehicles on trails is prohibited. As you hike please consider the following:

- Stay on designated trails and roads - cutting switchbacks leads to erosion and loss of wildflowers
- Leave no trace - carry out everything you bring in
- Refrain from picking wildflowers or damaging plant life
- For your safety, avoid disturbing wildlife

MOUNTAIN BIKING

The trails in Alta are often steep, rocky, and shared with hikers. Some alternatives for mountain bikers are the service roads that wind through the ski area. As you bike, please consider the following:

- Biking is prohibited on the Cecret Lake trail
- Stay on designated trails and roads
- Ride safely and courteously
- Bicyclists must yield to all other trail users
- Avoid biking on wet or muddy trails

SERVICES

The following services are provided during the summer season, start date is dependent upon snow conditions:

- Food and beverage service is available at the Albion Grill at Albion base daily

- Sunnyside lift operates weekends and holidays, lift ride tickets can be purchased at the Albion Grill.
- Information and naturalist hosts help visitors identify trails and other amenities daily. *A collaborative effort between the Salt Lake Ranger District, Friends of Alta, Cottonwood Canyons Foundation, and Alta Ski Area.*

ALBION BASIN CAMPGROUND

Albion Basin Campground has 26 individual campsites and two group campsites that are available by reservation, or a first come, first served basis. Each campsite has a fire grill, parking, and picnic table. Vault restrooms, garbage service, and drinking water are also available. There are no hook-ups or trailer dump stations. Reservations and information can be obtained by contacting the National Recreation Reservation Service at (877) 444-6777 or recreation.gov.

PUBLIC and PRIVATE LAND

Most of the land in Alta is public land and part of the Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest. However, many parcels of private land exist within the National Forest. Please respect the rights of private landowners in the area and stay on designated roads and trails.

WE ARE ALL STEWARDS

Conserving the beauty and ecosystems in this canyon is up to all of us. Working together we can protect this area for ourselves and for future visitors.

For more information contact:

- Alta Ski Area (801) 359-1078, alta.com
- Town of Alta (801) 742-3522, townofalta.com
- Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest/Public Lands Information Center (801) 733-2660, fs.usda.gov/uwcnf

To comment on the summer program please contact: comments-intermtn-wasatch-cache-saltlake@fs.fed.us



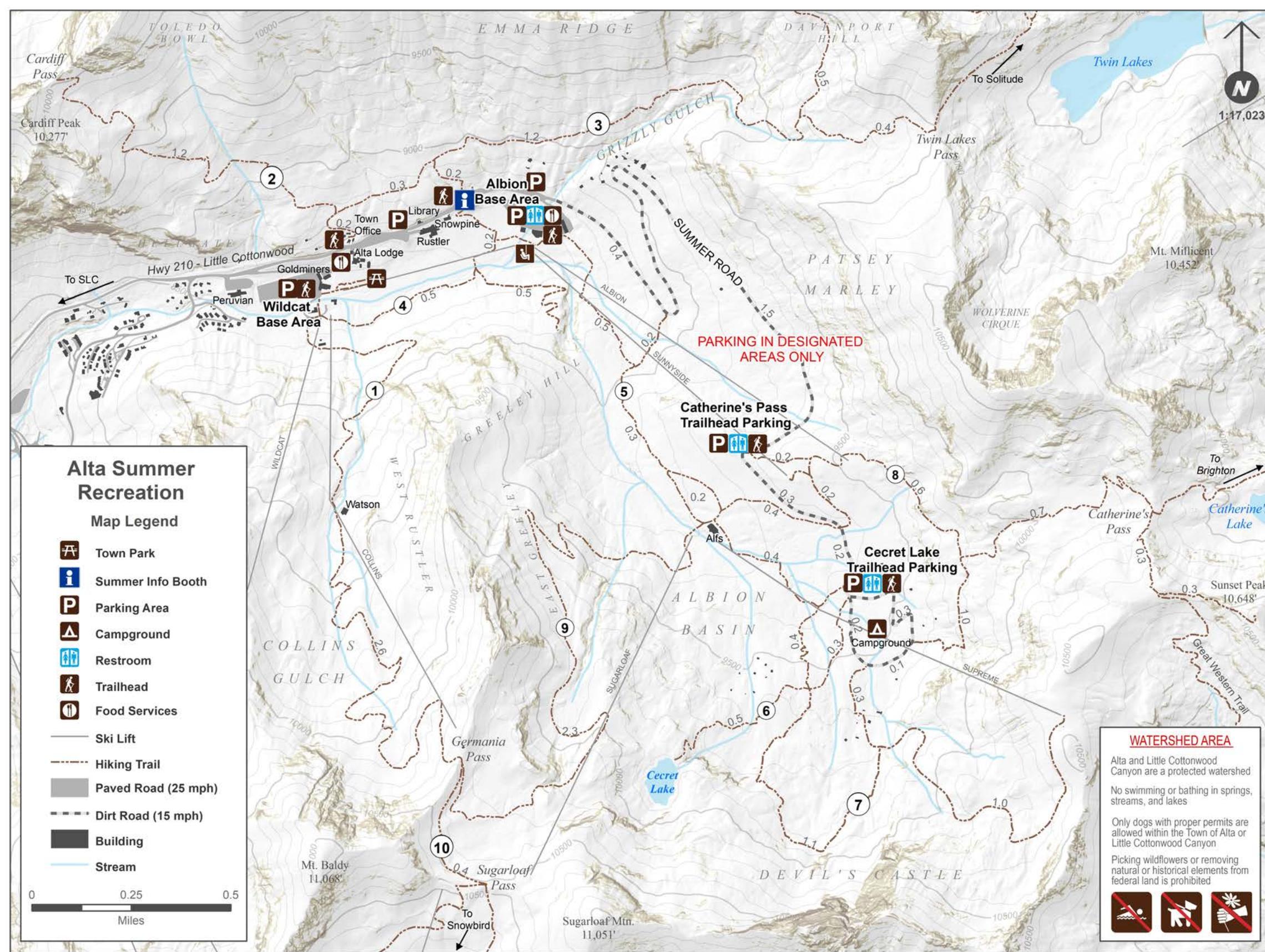
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THANKS FOR VISITING!



The Alta Summer Program is a collaborative management effort:





Alta Summer Recreation

Map Legend

- Town Park
- Summer Info Booth
- Parking Area
- Campground
- Restroom
- Trailhead
- Food Services
- Ski Lift
- Hiking Trail
- Paved Road (25 mph)
- Dirt Road (15 mph)
- Building
- Stream

0 0.25 0.5 Miles

WATERSHED AREA

Alta and Little Cottonwood Canyon are a protected watershed

No swimming or bathing in springs, streams, and lakes

Only dogs with proper permits are allowed within the Town of Alta or Little Cottonwood Canyon

Picking wildflowers or removing natural or historical elements from federal land is prohibited

TRAIL DESCRIPTIONS

- 1. Collins Gulch**
Distance: 2.5 miles (one-way). Elevation Gain: 2,000 ft.
 Access this service road/trail from the Wildcat Base parking lot. The road is moderate to steep and connects to the top of Germania Pass into Albion Basin or to Snowbird via the EBT.
- 2. Cardiff Pass**
Distance: 1.0 mile (one-way). Elevation Gain: 1,360 ft.
 Access from the north side of Hwy 210 near the Town of Alta office. This steep hike climbs to the ridgeline opposite the ski area.
- 3. Twin Lakes Pass**
Distance: 1.75 miles (one-way). Elevation Gain: 1,350 ft.
 Access on the north side of Hwy 210, across from the Information Booth. This moderate to steep trail goes up into Grizzly Gulch and connects to Solitude Ski Resort, Big Cottonwood Canyon.
- 4. Lower Albion Meadows Trail**
Distance: 0.5 miles (one-way). Elevation Gain: 100 ft.
 Access from the Albion Base, just east of the Snowpine Lodge, or from the Wildcat Base parking lot.
- 5. Upper Albion Meadows (access to Cecret Lake)**
Distance: 1.5 (one-way). Elevation Gain: 1,100 ft.
 Access from the Albion Base parking lot or connect from the Lower Albion Meadows trail. This moderate trail leads to the campground and Cecret Lake trailhead.
- 6. Cecret Lake Interpretive Trail**
Distance: 0.8 mile (one-way). Elevation Gain: 420 ft.
 Access from the Albion Meadows Trail, Cecret Lake Parking, or top of Sunnyside lift (1.0 mile one-way). This very popular, moderate trail features interpretive signs along the route. **Swimming/Wading in Water and Bikes are prohibited.**
- 7. Devil's Castle Loop**
Distance: 1.8 miles round-trip. Elevation Gain: 460ft.
 Access from Albion Meadows Trail or from Cecret Lake parking into the Campground.
- 8. Catherine's Pass and Lake**
Distance: 1.0 miles one-way). Elevation Gain: 800 ft.
 Access from parking near the top of Sunnyside lift. This moderate trail through open meadows and wetlands leads to Catherine's pass and lake, then drops into Big Cottonwood Canyon to Brighton.
- 9. East Greeley/Backside**
Distance: 2.5 miles (one-way). Elevation Gain: 1,300 ft.
 Begin at the Cecret Lake parking area or connect from the Albion Meadows Trail. This moderate to steep ski area service road switchbacks into upper Albion Basin and connects to Collins Gulch or Snowbird via the EBT.
- 10. East Baldy Traverse (EBT)**
Distance: 0.4 miles (one-way) Elevation Gain: 100 ft.
 Access this service road/trail from Collins Gulch or East Greeley. This moderate road connects Alta to Mineral Basin, which is the backside of Snowbird Ski Resort. Hikers have the option of two trails that lead into Snowbird's trail system.