



San Jacinto Visit - 1996

San Jacinto Peak, 10,834 feet (3,302 m), is the highest peak of the San Jacinto Mountains, and of Riverside County, California. It lies within Mount San Jacinto State Park. Naturalist John Muir wrote of San Jacinto Peak, "The view from San Jacinto is the most sublime spectacle to be found anywhere on this earth!"

San Jacinto Peak is one of the most topographically prominent peaks in the United States. It is ranked sixth among peaks in the 48 contiguous states. According to John W. Robinson and Bruce D. Risher, authors of *The San Jacintos*, "No Southern California hiker worth his salt would miss climbing 'San Jack' at least once."

To the east, the peak towers over the city of Palm Springs; to the west, it borders the mountain community of Idyllwild. The peak is also frequently called Mount San Jacinto. The steep escarpment of its north face, above Snow Creek, climbs over 10,000 feet (3,000 m) in 7 miles. This is one of the largest gains in elevation over such a small horizontal distance in the contiguous United States.

From the peak, San Geronio Mountain can be seen across the San Geronio Pass. Also easily visible below is the Coachella Valley and the Salton Sea. In addition, much of the Inland Empire, including Ontario to the west, can be viewed on a clear day. The peak can also be visible from Blythe from the Arizona border on clearer days 130 miles east.

Mount San Jacinto is one of the "Three Saints," a name occasionally used to describe the high points of the three tallest mountain ranges in Southern California: San Jacinto Peak, Mount San Geronio (high point of the San Bernardino Mountains), and Mount San Antonio (high point of the San Gabriel Mountains).





















