

# SCENIC GONDOLA RIDES + EXPLORE MAMMOTH EXPERIENCE

You're on your way to take in the most stunning 360° views of the Eastern Sierra and beyond. This is a guide to walk you through your journey on the Panorama Gondola as it departs the Adventure Center and travels all the way to the summit. Before returning, be sure and check out all of our Explore Mammoth stations on the mountain for a fun-filled learning experience. **Let's go!** 

# HEADING UP – WHAT AM I LOOKING AT ON-MOUNTAIN?

## **GONDOLA SPAN 1**:

- Main Lodge you pass over our flagship lodge at the start of the ride
- Unbound Halfpipe large ditch to the east just past Main Lodge
- Broadway ski run to the west that can stay open into July
- Techno Rock Mountain Bike Trail Features look for a large wooden landing in the woods (east) and a rock jump onto a dirt landing (directly under you)
- Stump Alley large ski run directly below you that heads to one of our most ridden chairlifts, Stump Alley Express (CH 2)
- Chain Smoke Rock Garden mountain bike trail directly below the gondola as you approach McCoy Station

# **GONDOLA SPAN 2:**

- **Snowmaking Pond** as you leave McCoy Station, the body of water below you is used to make snow in the winter
- **The Upper Gap** spanning .25 of a mile from the top of Facelift Express (CH 3) to the top terminal, this section of the gondola span is over 300 feet off the ground
- The Pressure Frame large structure right before heading into the top gondola terminal
- Climax expert ski run directly below as you ascend towards the top of the mountain

#### GONDOLA FACTS BUILT IN 1998 (ORIGINAL BUILT IN 1967)

Start Elevation: Midway / McCoy Station Elevation: End / Summit Elevation: Maximum Speed: Span 1 Distance / Ride Time: Span 2 Distance / Ride Time: 8,909 ft 9,630 ft 11,053 ft 13 mph (6 meters/second) .73 miles / 721 ft / 3:08 .83 miles / 1,423 ft / 3:48



# EXPLORE MAMMOTH

Explore the geologic, natural and cultural history of Mammoth on this self-guided adventure and find out why this is one of the most studied regions in the world.

## **LEARNING STATIONS:**

#### **1 SUMMIT STATION**

This is the central hub of the Explore Mammoth experience, at the very top of the mountain and features interactive exhibits and panoramic views of the Sierra and beyond. *Please note that not all exhibits may be available at this time.* 

#### **2** GEOGRAPHY STATION

Enjoy a commanding view of the region and learn about the early pioneers who mined its treasures at the Lakes Basin Overlook.

#### **3 HISTORY STATION**

Depart the gondola at McCoy Station to journey back to the 1950s and discover how Dave McCoy's vision and innovations transformed Mammoth Mountain and the ski industry.

#### **4 WEATHER STATION**

Discover the critical role Mammoth's snowpack plays in the California water supply, and learn about ongoing scientific research and the sophisticated instruments stationed on the mountain.

#### **5 GEOLOGY STATION**

Discover the prodigious volcanic history of Mammoth Mountain and its surrounding area.

#### 6 ECOLOGY HIKE

Learn about the resilient flora and fauna that call Mammoth home while hiking along this moderate 1 mile Discovery Nature Trail loop.

Station locations are noted on the hiking map on reverse side. You can do them in any order you like but we recommend starting at the summit and working your way back down.



### A MAMMOTH MOUNTAIN TRAIL 5 MILES ONE-WAY / STRENUOUS

From the wide multi-use trail behind and to the left of the Eleven53 Interpretive Center, the Mammoth Mountain trail winds down the back of the mountain, with views of the San Joaquin river valley below and surrounding peaks before heading back to the Main Lodge via Red's Lake.

## B TWIN LAKES TRAIL 3 MILES ONE-WAY / STRENUOUS

Descend Mammoth Mountain's summit to the scenic Lakes Basin. Be sure to look for the Dragon's Back/Twin Lakes sign where the hiking trail breaks from the Skid Marks bike trail. Then take the free shuttle from Tamarack Lodge (at Twin Lakes) to The Village.

#### MAIN LODGE TRAIL 2 Miles one-way / moderate

С

Enjoy wide-open views on a moderate descent from McCoy Station, the midmountain gondola stop, to the Main Lodge.

# D ST ANTON TRAIL 3 MILES ONE-WAY / MODERATE

High-alpine terrain gives way to a thick pine forest as you snake your way from midmountain at McCoy Station down to the Adventure Center.

#### HIKING TRAILS FROM EASIEST TO HARDEST: $E \twoheadrightarrow C \twoheadrightarrow D \twoheadrightarrow A \twoheadrightarrow B$

Trails A-D start at the top of the trail and work their way down the mountain. You can also do these in reverse to really earn that post-hike meal.

#### E DISCOVERY NATURE TRAIL 1 MILE ROUND-TRIP / MODERATE

Start this loop next to the Mammoth Ski & Snowboard Team headquarters, the brown and red building across the road from the Adventure Center. Identify local critters, birds and trees, and discover how they've adapted to this high altitude environment.

#### F MINARET VISTA TRAIL 3 MILES ROUND-TRIP / MODERATE

The trail starts behind the Mammoth Mountain Inn, gradually gaining altitude through a lovely mixed conifer forest and then flattening out to an open, pumice-covered ridge. At the vista, hikers are rewarded with a sweeping view of the Minarets, Ritter Range and the river valley below.