

TOWN OF GILA BEND OFF-ROAD TRIPS

Gillespie Volcano

OVERVIEW

No matter if you just like to ride dusty trails in the desert or have a passion (or maybe a slight interest) in volcanos, this is a fun, easy 11-mile joy-ride that ends at the base of a small shield volcano that's part of a the Sentinel-Arlington Volcanic Field. The volcano is dated from the Pliocene Epoch of the Cenozoic Era (like 2 million years ago). The base of the volcano is prehistoric lava flow!

The trail heads south from Old Hwy 80 on the Agua Caliente Extension Road (you go south at the fork) and takes you on a leisurely ride down a wide dirt path that's easily visible the whole way.

If you decide to hike up to the top, the views are spectacular!

Best time to go:

November through early April.

Average Time:

Depends on how fast you go!

How to get there:

From Gila Bend, take Old Hwy 80 North across Gillespie Dam Bridge and go left at Agua Caliente Road. Follow about $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile then take the left where the road veers south to what's called Agua Caliente Extension Road. The pavement ends in about 500 feet and takes you past the Gila Compressor Station Airport on the left. Continue a little beyond the station and unload your toys!

