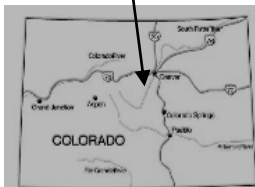


# SQUARE TOP LAKES



## DAY HIKE

**FYI:** The map on the reverse side is for general orientation, not for navigation.  
**P.S.** Get and give trail updates at [www.facebook.com/oriccolorado](http://www.facebook.com/oriccolorado)

**Location:** Arapaho Nat'l Forest  
 Near Guanella Pass  
 Off Guanella Pass Road

**Contact Info:** South Platte Ranger District  
 303-275-5610  
[www.fs.fed.us/r2](http://www.fs.fed.us/r2)

**Length:** 1.85 miles one-way (estimate using the Nat'l Geo Mapping Software)

**Time:** The average person hikes approximately 2 miles an hour. Adjust your time +/- based on terrain and weather conditions and your skill and fitness level and whether you are hiking or trail running.

**Season:** June through mid October

**Elevation Gain/Loss:** See trail profile on reverse side

**Difficulty:** Moderate

**Trail Users:** Hikers, coyotes, pikas and marmots

**Dogs:** On leash

**Permits:** None Required

**Getting There From Denver:** Take US Highway 285 west to Grant. Turn right onto Park County Road 62 (a.k.a. the Guanella Pass Road, Forest Road 118 & 381) and take it to the summit of Guanella Pass. The parking area is at the end of a short drive on the westside of the road.

**Maps:** National Geographic Trails Illustrated Map #104E and or Mount Evans USGS 7.5 topographic map. **HINT:** Stay found with the aid of a topographic map, compass, GPS receiver and the skill to use them.

**Safety Concerns and Supplemental Info:** ■ The trail isn't technical, but there are few steep sections along the way—be prepared ■ Afternoon thunderstorms and lightning ■ Be prepared for mosquitoes from May through August ■ Parking is plentiful and there are pit toilets at the trailhead ■ The Guanella Pass Road was resurfaced in 2007 ■ Consider wearing bright colors during the hunting season

**Trail Description:** The South Park Trail #600 travels west from Guanella Pass to the lakes and beyond. The lower Square Top Lake rests at an altitude of 12,046 feet. **TIP:** Contact the South Platte Ranger District for trail updates.

**Highlights:** ■ Beautiful tundra wildflowers in season ■ Fragrant willows ■ Proximity to a small waterfall ■ Two alpine, glacier fed lakes ■ Good views of Mt. Evans, Mt. Bierstadt and the Sawtooth ridge connecting them ■ You may see the pair of coyotes I saw when I last hiked the trail

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