Welcome to the Dale Ball Trails!

The Dale Ball Trail system includes 22.22 miles of hiking and mountain biking trails that connect to other well-known Santa Fe trails and extend across land owned by the City of Santa Fe, Santa Fe County, the National Forest Service and The Nature Conservancy. Connecting trails include:

Nature Conservancy	1.27 miles
Dorothy Stewart	1.45 miles
Atalaya Trail	5.16 miles

making the total trail network 30.10 miles, all starting within two miles of the Santa Fe Plaza.

The Dale Ball Trails were built through the generosity of an anonymous donor and the McCune Foundation, who together provided the majority of the funds. Several individuals also contributed money to the project.

The trail system is named after Dale Ball, a long-time Santa Fe resident, who conceived of this foothills trail system, secured the funding and followed through by directing the construction of the trails.

Hiking & Trail Safety Reminders

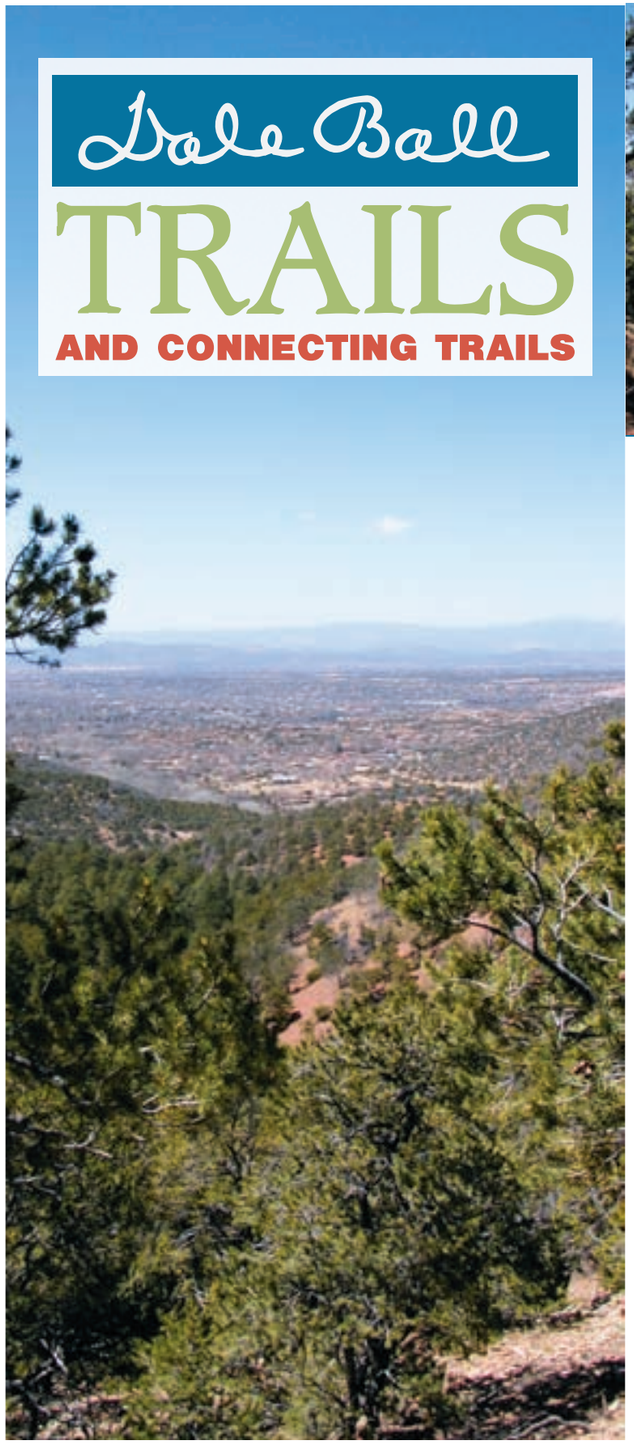
Just because the trail system is close to the city limits doesn't mean all trails are easy or even moderate. See our sample hikes and mountain bike rides for details.

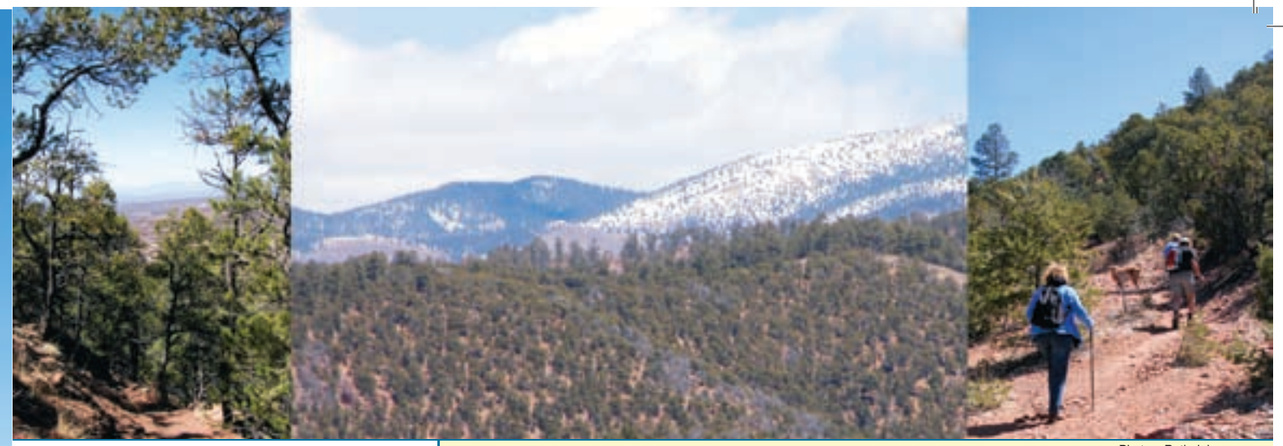
Be sure to wear comfortable shoes that are appropriate for the trail you choose. Bring rain gear, just in case. Bring plenty of water, sun screen, sunglasses, a hat, a first aid kit. A cell phone is a good idea, but signals may not be available on some parts of the trail.

If you're visiting from a lower altitude, especially one with higher humidity, be careful not to do too much, too fast. Altitude sickness and dehydration can lead to serious difficulties, so rest often, drink plenty of water and enjoy the views.

Photo courtesy Mike Judge, Sun Mountain Bike Co.
102 E. Water St, Santa Fe • www.mellowbike.com

Dale Ball TRAILS
AND CONNECTING TRAILS





Photos: Ruth Johnson

Our "Regulars" Recommend

There are many, many ways to enjoy the Dale Ball Trails, but if you're new to town or visiting, here are some ideas.

A Short Hike with Great Views

Approximately 1.8 miles

Park at the lot on Hyde Park Road. Start at junction 9, proceed to 8, then to 6, 5, 10, and 7. Return via 7 and 8. Complete the hike at junction 9.

A Long, Strenuous Hike with Great Views

Approximately 9.13 miles

Park at St. John's parking lot. Take the St John's Trail to Atalaya Trail, and on to the peak of Atalaya. Proceed north along the ridge to 41, 36 and 34 and take the spur that goes to the top of Picacho Peak. Return to 34 and then down through 31, 32, 37, 38, and 33 where you join the Dorothy Stewart Trail. Take it to the small parking lot on Cruz Blanca, cross the road and take the Cruz Blanca Trail west to the St. John's parking lot.

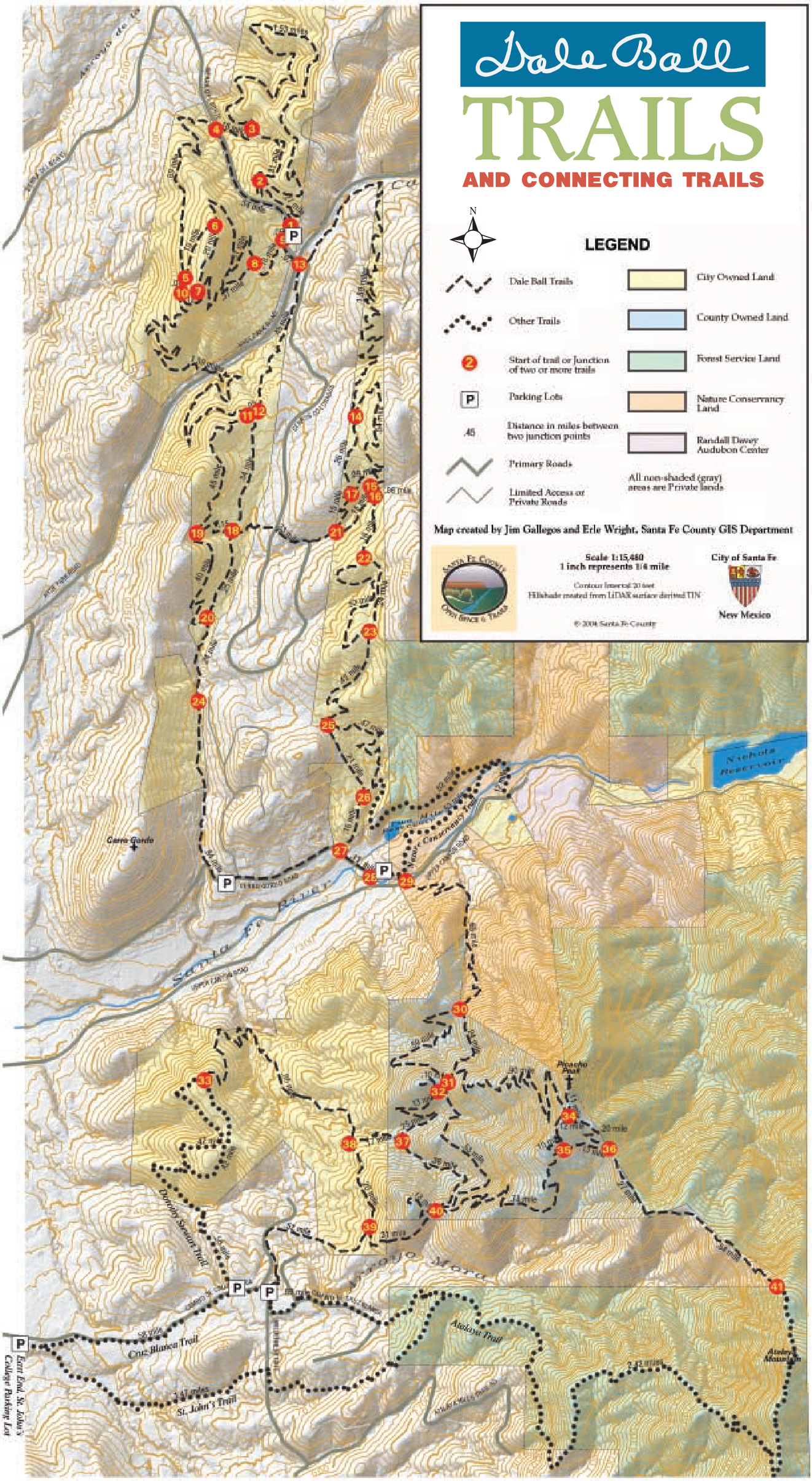
A Good Mountain Bike Ride

Approximately 9.51 miles

Park at the lot on Hyde Park Road. Start at 1, 2, outer loop to 3, 4, 5, 10, 11, 19, 20, 24, 27, 26, 25, 23, left trail to 22, 16, 15, 14, 13, 9 and back to parking lot.

Dogs are allowed on the Dale Ball Trails if they are kept on a leash.
Do not leave valuables in your vehicle.

For more information email the Santa Fe County Open Space & Trails Division at explore@santafecounty.org or call the City of Santa Fe Parks & Recreation Department at (505) 955-2103


Dale Ball
TRAILS
AND CONNECTING TRAILS
N
LEGEND
Dale Ball Trails
Other Trails
Start of trail or Junction of two or more trails
Parking Lots
.45
Distance in miles between two junction points
Primary Roads
Limited Access or Private Roads
City Owned Land
County Owned Land
Forest Service Land
Nature Conservancy Land
Randall Davey Audubon Center
All non-shaded (gray) areas are Private lands
Map created by Jim Gallegos and Erle Wright, Santa Fe County GIS Department
Scale 1:15,480
1 inch represents 1/4 mile
Contour Interval 20 feet
Hillshade created from LiDAR surface derived TIN
© 2004 Santa Fe County
City of Santa Fe
New Mexico
Nichols Reservoir
Cerro Gordo
Picacho Peak
Cruz Blanca Trail
St. John's Trail
Atalaya Trail
Atalaya Mountain
East End St. John's College Parking Lot