

## Abiquiu Mountain Bike Trails

Trail Name	Miles	Kilometers	Trail Difficulty	Rating	MTB Project Ranking		
					System	New Mexico	National
<b>Northern Region<sup>1</sup></b>							
Martinez Canyon Trail	8.5	13.7	 Intermediate	3.0	2	377	13,892
Salazar Trail	2.7	4.4	 Intermediate / Difficult	1.0	4	624	22,042
<b>Southern Region<sup>2</sup></b>							
Lemitas Trail	5.4	8.7	 Intermediate / Difficult	1.0	1	181	6,913
Window Rock Spur	0.5	0.8	 Intermediate / Difficult	3.0	3	511	18,799

### Trail Difficulty Key

-  Easy                    5% grade; 2 inch obstacles
-  Intermediate            10% grade; 8 inch obstacles
-  Difficult                    15% grade; 15 inch obstacles, occasional harder sections
-  Extreme Difficulty      20% grade, 15+ inch obstacles, many harder sections

Trail Difficulty, Rating, and Ranking based on the MTB Project ([www.mtbproject.com](http://www.mtbproject.com))

### <sup>1</sup>Land Manager

Carson National Forest  
 208 Cruz Alta Road  
 Taos, NM 87571  
 (575) 758-6200  
[www.fs.usda.gov/carson](http://www.fs.usda.gov/carson)

### <sup>2</sup>Land Manager

Santa Fe National Forest Headquarters  
 11 Forest Lane  
 Santa Fe, NM 87508  
 (505) 438-5300  
[www.fs.usda.gov/santafe](http://www.fs.usda.gov/santafe)

## MTB Project Trail Comments

### **Lemitas Trail**

This trail crosses high desert washes and is suitable for fatbikes, and would be difficult to ride with a conventional mountain bike in the loose sand. Parking is right off the highway at the access point for Forest Road 34, there's a gate and trail marker signs. Just past the gate, turn left onto Forest Road 34A and ride south towards the Arroyo de las Lemitas. After riding about 0.5 miles, you'll reach the Lemitas Trail #405, follow it west as it gradually climbs through some amazing geologic features and cottonwood groves, with a plethora of fun terrain features. After about 1.5 miles, watch for a marker on the left bank where the trail leaves the arroyo and begins climbing onto the higher ridges and mesas. If you miss the turn, you'll know you've made a mistake if the terrain becomes gnarlier and unrideable, the arroyo continues to some class 2+ rock features where seasonal or flood event waterfalls flow. After leaving the arroyo, the trail is readily visible with moderate climbs and flowing descents. There's a few high points with amazing, vast views of the surrounding desert and Taos Range to the northeast, and the geologic feature known as Window Rock.

**Martinez Canyon Trail** This trail, part of the Continental Divide Trail (CDT), is really a road but it looks like singletrack in spots. It is good for a workout even if not technical.

### **Salazar Trail**

The trail runs up along an arroyo, crosses over, and then begins a series of steep climbs followed by a few flatter areas. It joins an old roadbed along the way, which angles steeply up the mountainside. The trail follows the canyon until it reaches Salazar tank. Coming back down is loose in spots, technical, and good riding. This trail is a good workout, quite scenic and worth checking out. According to the USFS page, Salazar Trail "was once an access road used for uranium exploration by mining companies in the late 1960's and early 1970's."

### **Window Rock Spur**

This short trail begins by the Window Rock Trick Tank (livestock water tank) along the Lemitas Trail. The first half follows an old Forest Service Road, so when you reach a vehicle turnaround point look for a trail sign on the left. From here, the trail is rough singletrack crossing a couple drainages. Then, it becomes steep and rocky as it climbs to the ridge above. The upper section is not rideable, but there are some trees to stash your bike by and hike the last few hundred feet to the area's namesake feature.