

Directions to The Refuge & The Sentinel

(1) GPS Coordinates:

<https://goo.gl/maps/5rL4x8qKjUM2>

37°13'09.3"N 104°45'24.4"W

37.219246, -104.756768

(2) Driving Directions:

1. Trinidad is the closest town to The Refuge. Trinidad is 200 miles south of Denver on I-25 and 250 miles north of Albuquerque, NM on I-25. Trinidad is approximately 30-35 minutes from The Refuge.

Note: Please call 719-846-9594 (work) when departing Trinidad so that we know when to expect and welcome you. Depending on your cell carrier, you'll very likely lose coverage repeatedly along the way after leaving Trinidad. Eventually you may have no signal at all.

2. Once in Trinidad, you will want to exit I-25 on to State Highway 12 West. Follow signs to get on to Highway 12, which will zig-zag you out of town to the west.

3. Continue on Highway 12 for 7.0 miles into the hills. You will pass Trinidad Lake on the left.

4. After traveling for approximately 6 miles, you will descend a long hill. There will be an intersection with signs for "Cokedale." Turn right on C.R. 57.7. Taking your odometer reading may be helpful at this point for "guesstimating"

5. Do not turn left into the village of Cokedale, rather go straight for about 7 miles. This roller-coaster of a paved road has many blind rises and tight corners. Drive cautiously as there may be wildlife or even livestock along the way. Also, be vigilant for oncoming traffic as the road is narrow in places.

6. After passing a large red Fire Station on the left, you will come to the "village" of Boncarbo. It's not signposted. And, don't expect a stop in the road, if you blink, you will miss seeing a bank of mail boxes (a so-called "Post Office") on the left. Travel straight ahead on the blacktop, past several abandoned homes, buildings, corrals, and wrecked vehicles etc.

7. Continue up into the hills for another 4.9 miles. At any critical intersections look for "The Refuge" sign posts (vertical 2x4's - with yellow writing) pointing straight ahead. When the paved road ends you will descend on a gravel road that will lead you into a valley after a broad right sweeping turn and face an immediate junction. Do not turn left at this juncture. Go straight ahead following the signpost pointing towards "The Refuge" and "The Spanish Peaks State Wildlife Area – Headquarters". You'll travel this road for another half mile. In the distance you will have your first majestic view of the Spanish Peaks.

8. Look for a metal Quonset building / "tin-can barn-house" as a landmark. "The Refuge" and "Allens"

sign is a little before the metal building at the junction of Kings X Road. Turn right at the sign and then immediately left after crossing a cattle-guard. (Landmark: A large yellow arrow signpost points you up the gentle winding hillside driveway.)

9. This driveway ends at a T-junction.

If you are headed to The Refuge: Turn left at the T. Follow the road till it dead ends beyond the split rail cedar fencing. Parking at the side entrance of The Refuge (a large brown-colored adobe building) will make the unloading of your vehicle very convenient.

If you are headed to The Sentinel: Turn right at the T. Follow the road keeping sharp right at the next intersection, till it dead ends at a log-cabin, The Sentinel. Park opposite the metal garage door. The front door is to your left along a short concrete walkway.

(3) Google Maps Link

We recommend that you download the following Google Maps directions and use them to supplement the driving directions listed above.

<https://www.google.com/maps/dir/37.176157,-104.5056056/The+Refuge,+Aguilar,+CO/@37.1824618,-104.7718854,11z/am=t/data=!3m1!4b1!4m9!4m8!1m0!1m5!1m1!1s0x87113b547a0413b3:0x451f3ef07b25c42b!2m2!1d-104.7575368!2d37.2212355!3e0>