

Directions



Bear Mountain is conveniently located in the Big Bear Lake area of the San Bernardino mountains. The address is [43101 Goldmine Drive, Big Bear Lake, CA 92315](https://www.google.com/maps/place/43101+Goldmine+Drive,+Big+Bear+Lake,+CA+92315).

3 Ways to Big Bear!

Highway 330 has been the most familiar route used to access Big Bear Valley from the west but the lower portion suffered severe storm damage and will be **closed for the duration of the 2011 winter season**. There are still 3 open alternate routes to Big Bear Lake and each has its own advantages. We hope these brief descriptions help you with your decision on which route will be best. No matter which route you choose always carry chains while driving in the mountains.

1. [Highway 38 via the I-10](#) through Redlands

53.3 miles from the Orange St/CA-38 exit

This is the most used of the alternate routes and is usually the preferred route from San Diego and Orange County. While there are some sections with curves and turns they are generally only for a few miles followed by straight sections with beautiful scenery. In stormy weather chains will be required on this road first as it tops out at 8,400 feet as it enters the east end of Big Bear Valley. It will be the most congested on busy days, especially leaving Big Bear.

2. [Highway 18 via I-210](#) through San Bernardino

44 miles from the Waterman Avenue/CA-18 exit

A four lane highway moves you up Waterman Canyon very quickly. The road then turns east and passes near Lake Arrowhead and Running Springs. It is the shortest of the alternate routes from the greater L.A. and Valley areas, but has the most mountain driving. It also will be less congested than Hwy 38, especially when leaving Big Bear.

3. [Highway 18 via I-15](#) through Victorville & Lucerne Valley

47 miles from the D Street exit

This route is mostly in the desert and is least affected by weather. It is generally the last route to require chains and has the least mountain driving. The 18 desert route is the longest route from

the greater L.A./O.C./I.E./S.D. areas. In spite of its distance the route may be the best way to leave Big Bear in bad weather or to avoid congestion on the other routes.

Alternate: **[Highway 18 via the I-10/62/247 through Yucca Valley](#)**

82 miles from junction of the I-10 and EXIT 117 CA-62)

This alternate desert route from the Palm Springs area and points east of Palm Springs is least affected by weather and generally the last route to require chains. This option also requires the least amount of mountain driving. It is not affected by Hwy 330 closure.

Attention: Please be advised that CHP and CalTrans will not allow buses greater than 40' in length. See <http://www.dmv.ca.gov/pubs/vctop/d15/vc35400.htm>.

» View an [overview driving map](#) in JPG format (205K), or an overview [driving map in PDF format](#) (57K) or [map it on Google](#).

Please refer to the PDF map attachments or the links below for even more detail on the above mentioned routes

Route 1: Highway 38 via the I-10 through Redlands

» View a specific [Highway 38 via the I-10 driving map](#) with directions in PDF format (614K).

Route 2: Highway 18 via I-210 through San Bernardino

» View a specific [Highway 18 via the I-210 driving map](#) with directions in PDF format (733K).

Route 3: Highway 18 via I-15 through Victorville & Lucerne Valley

» View a specific [Highway 18 via the I-15 driving map](#) with directions in PDF format (623K).