

# Grays & Torreys Peaks – Quick Trail Guide

Colorado's Classic 14er Duo | 14,270 ft & 14,267 ft

## Trail Basics

- Route: Standard Stevens Gulch Trail (Class 1)
- Distance: ~8.5 miles round trip (double summit)
- Elevation Gain: ~3,600 ft
- Trailhead Elevation: 11,280 ft (summer trailhead)
- Summits: Grays Peak 14,270 ft, Torreys Peak 14,267 ft
- Difficulty: Class 1
- Best Season: July to September
- Find my route in Gaia GPS [Here](#)

## Getting There & Parking

- Take I-70 to the Bakerville exit (#221).
- Winter Trailhead: At Forest Road 189 dirt lot (low-clearance cars should park here).
- Summer Trailhead: 3 miles up rough road at 11,280 ft with restrooms & limited parking.
- Parking is very limited — in 2025 Clear Creek County began ticketing vehicles parked along the road.

## What to Expect

- From summer trailhead, cross large bridge into Stevens Gulch.
- Moderate hike 1.5 miles into basin, passing informational sign.
- Rocky area near 12,300 ft, then trail climbs to ridge.
- At 12,600 ft, trail traverses west side of ridge.
- Reach signed Grays–Torreys junction at 13,300 ft.
- For Torreys first: head southwest to Grays–Torreys saddle (13,700 ft), then final 0.5 mile climb.
- Return to saddle, ascend Grays via switchbacks to summit (14,270 ft).

## Route Classification

- Standard Stevens Gulch route: Class 1 (well-defined trail, non-technical).
- Kelso Ridge: Class 3 scramble requiring hands-on climbing, exposure, and route-finding — not for beginners.
- Warning: Many hiking apps label both as 'difficult,' which can be misleading.

## Recommended Gear

- Shoes or Boots with good traction
- Layered clothing + waterproof/windproof jacket
- 2–3 liters water + electrolytes
- Sunglasses, sunscreen, hat
- Map/GPS or trail app
- Trekking poles (optional but helpful)
- High-energy snacks

- Basic first aid kit + headlamp

Find a list of the Hiking 10 essentials [HERE](#)

### **Safety & Altitude Awareness**

- Watch for Acute Mountain Sickness (AMS): headache, nausea, dizziness, fatigue.
- If symptoms occur: stop climbing, rest, hydrate, descend if needed.
- Check weather forecast before starting.
- Inform someone of your plans.
- Pace yourself; take breaks often.
- Stay on the trail in fragile alpine terrain (especially near saddle).

### **Emergency Contacts & Info**

- Local Search & Rescue: 911 or Clear Creek County Sheriff / Search & Rescue.
- Cell service is limited; carry an emergency communication device (Garmin InReach, Zoleo, or SPOT).
- Always leave your hiking plan with someone before heading out.

Enjoy the climb, respect the mountain, and stay safe!