

# Golden Open Space, Sandoval County, NM

Part of Sec 16 / T12N / R6E

Just north of Cedar Crest, you'll find gorgeous views in all directions and fascinating rock formations to explore along the trails at Golden Open Space. The flat-top mesas of the area are separated by several red and yellow sandstone arroyos providing some of the more colorful views in Albuquerque's east mountains area.

Golden Open Space is managed by the City of Albuquerque Parks and Recreation Division. The property adjacent to Golden Open Space is owned by either private individuals, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) or the State Land Office. **A Recreational Access Permit is required to access the State Land.** See the map below for guidance.

Golden Open Space is a great mountain biking area. Several miles of single track trail exists throughout the area and recreationists can enjoy loops or 'out and back' adventures as they see fit. The area is also perfect for hiking and trail running. Dogs are welcome too but must be kept on a leash. The trails offer changing grades and turns without being overly technical, but trails can be quite sandy in areas. Horseback riders also enjoy the area frequently and it is becoming increasingly popular for equestrian use.

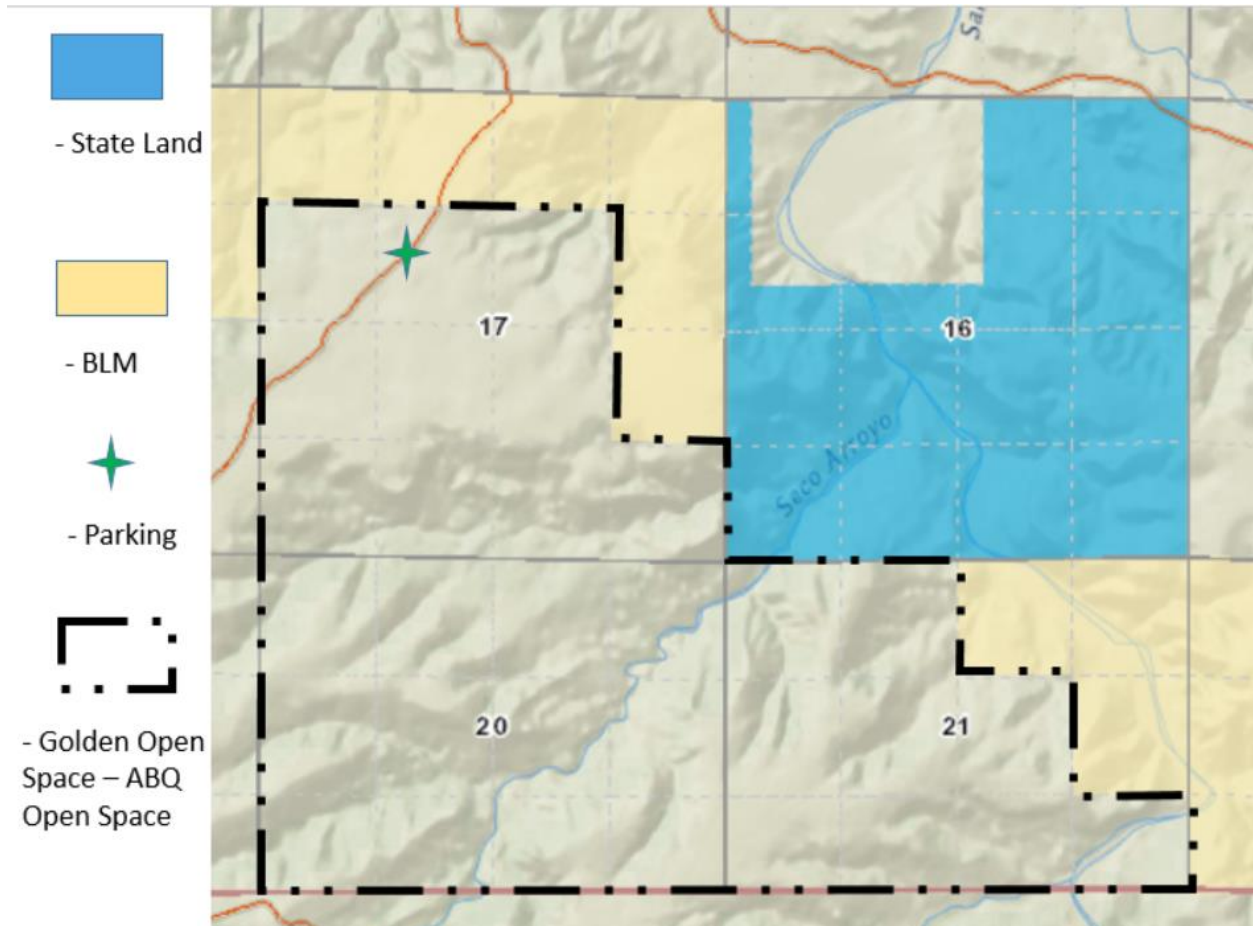
You may come across deer, antelope, rabbits, squirrels, snakes, birds, and other wildlife. Do not disturb wildlife or livestock and keep an eye out for evidence of their existence in the form of scat or even antler sheds. The area can get very hot in the summer; be sure to pack plenty of water.

## Getting There:

Golden Open Space can be a great place for friends from Albuquerque and Santa Fe to get outside and 'meet in the middle'. A passenger vehicle with average clearance should be able to get to the parking area under dry road conditions.

From Albuquerque: Take I-40 east to exit 175/Cedar Crest. Follow NM-14 for 7.7 miles. Turn onto La Madera road and follow its turns for about 7 miles to the parking area.

From Santa Fe: Head south on NM-14 about 30 miles to Puercito Rd. Turn right onto Puercito Rd and go 6.1 miles to La Madera Road. Take La Madera Rd 1.1 miles to the parking area.



### THINGS TO KNOW:

- \* Recreational users of State Trust Lands must have a recreational access permit to access these lands. You can apply for the permit here: <https://openforadventure.nmstatelands.org/>
- \* Obey all postings/respect private property.
- \* No damaging, digging for or collecting cultural artifacts.
- \* SLO operates under a multiple-use concept therefore visitors may encounter other permitted users on-site.
- \* We strongly recommend visitors to trust lands carry and utilize a GPS device to avoid trespassing on to lands not managed by the NMSLO.
- \* Visitors are not allowed to manipulate any of the site's improvements and are prohibited from interfering with the ranching operations.
- \* Please try to minimize your use footprint and pack out all trash. [Leave No Trace](#).
- \* Please be attentive to weather reports. Storms can form quickly.
- \* Pack appropriate clothing for the season.
- \* Please be aware of prohibited activities under the [Recreational Access Permit](#).

For more information, please call 505-827-5760