

March 5

La Barge Canyon Loop (Superstition Mountains). Rating B. This is a lollipop loop hike of about 11.5 miles with an elevation gain of over 1000 ft.

It is 11.5 miles long with a total ascent of over 1000 ft. The trail surface is a typical trail with some rocks, gravel, and sand with some streambed boulder hopping and scrambling in La Barge Canyon itself.

Follow First Water Trail for about 0.4 miles to the junction with Second Water Trail. Turn left onto Second Water Trail and follow it approximately 3.3 miles down into Boulder Canyon and the junction with Boulder Canyon Trail. Turn right on Boulder Canyon Trail and follow it for approximately 1 mile as it crosses back and forth over Boulder Creek to a cairn on the left that takes you up a faint trail to the back spine of Battleship Mountain to a saddle. Follow the trail down the other side into La Barge Box.

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(In warmer weather, this is a great spot to jump in the main pool and cool off).

This section is a great spot to take a break and just explore part of this beautiful canyon.

After the break we then head down La Barge Creek, boulder hopping on what are initially some large boulders. As you make your way down La Barge Creek, you have an incredible view of Battleship Mountain on your left. La Barge Creek connects to Boulder Canyon and from there it is approximately 0.7 miles back to the junction with Second Water Trail. Then it is 3.3 miles back to the trailhead.

Trail condition - half is on established average trail and half is a bushwhack through a rough canyon. No park fee. Restrooms are at the trailhead. Driving distance is 124 miles RT.

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/SuperstitionWilderness/La-Barge-Canyon>

March 12

Go John Trail to Maricopa Trail (Cave Creek Rec. Area). Rating B. This is a 10 mile hike with an elevation change of 500 ft. The trail is marked, and is in good condition. The trail starts out with a 400 ft climb over a ridge, before descending back down to meet the Maricopa trail. On the return from the Maricopa trail you can turn left and add a mile plus to the hike passing 3 Saguaros the look a lot like the PCHC symbol. Restrooms are located at the trailhead. There is a park entrance fee of \$7.00 per car. Driving distance is 93 miles RT.

March 19

Caterpillar Hill

This hike may change.

March 26

Picketpost Mountain Summit (Superior). Rating B. This is an 6 mile in and out hike with an elevation gain of 1000+ ft. This is an interesting hike to the top of Picketpost Mountain. There are lots of interesting views of the surrounding area. Trail condition – part is an average hiking trail and the route to the summit is a rough, poorly marked climb to the top. Restroom at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is 160 miles RT.<https://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Superior/Picketpost-Mtn-Arizona-Trail/Picketpost-Summit>