

## CAVE CREEK AREA 03-3-21

### Trail maps for various segments in the Cave Creek Area

<https://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Trail-Maps/Cave-Creek-Area/>

**Blue Wash/Camp Creek Falls Trail (Cave Creek) Rating C.** This is a 7-8 mile loop hike with an elevation gain of 900-1000 ft. It goes down a series of dry waterfalls to an intersection with Camp Creek. Just past the intersection going up the ridgeline is a section of the Maricopa Trail. We take that up to the road. On the return we stay in an interesting wash, which comes out at Camp Creek. Then we go up Camp Creek about a third of a mile to a wet waterfall of about 15 feet. Beyond that the creek stays above ground and meanders through a lush riparian area to a campground. The return goes up the ridge running parallel to **Blue Wash**, providing views of the whole area. Trail condition – part is in a sandy wash and part is an average trail with one steep section going out of the main wash. No restrooms at the trailhead. There is no park fee. Driving distance is 122 miles RT.

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/CaveCreekRegionalPark/Cave-Creek-Other>

### Directions to Cave Creek - **Blue Wash/Camp Creek Trailhead**

Take Loop 303 North to I-17.

Turn North (left) on I-17.

Turn right (east) on Carefree Hwy (Hwy 74) and drive to the end.

Turn left on Tom Darlington/Scottsdale Road (just in front of the Boulders Resort)

Turn right on Cave Creek Road and continue past the turnoff to Bartlett Reservoir.

Drive just over 2 miles past that turnoff.

Trailhead will be on the left just past the **Blue Wash** #1 sign.

No restrooms at the trailhead.

### Directions to Cave Creek - **Blue Wash/Camp Creek Trailhead - Alternate**

Take Loop 101 North.

Turn left on Loop 101 to Cave Creek Rd.

Turn left on to Cave Creek Rd.

Turn right on Carefree Hwy (Hwy 74).

Turn left on Tom Darlington/Scottsdale Road (just in front of the Boulders Resort)

Turn right on Cave Creek Road.

Continue on Cave Creek Road past the turnoff to Bartlett Reservoir.

Drive just over 2 miles from that intersection.

Trailhead will be on the left just past the **Blue Wash** #1 sign.

No restrooms at the trailhead. No park fee.

**Go John, Quartz, Slate Trails Loop (Cave Creek Rec. Area). Rating D.** This is a 4 mile loop hike on a combined trail with an elevation gain of about 400 ft. The trail is marked, and is in good condition. On the Lime Kiln trail (on the right as you hike from the trailhead) about .3 miles from the Quartz trail intersection is a strange looking saguaro named the Michelin Man saguaro. The Quartz trail has quite a bit of quartz rock along it. About .5 miles from the trailhead on the **Go John** trail (on the left as you hike away from the trailhead, near the junction of the Jasper trail) there is a group of 3 saguaros that look very much like the hiking club logo. Restrooms are located at the trailhead. There is a park entrance fee of \$7.00 per car. Driving distance is 93 miles RT. [SCG=3.5/600/2.2].

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/organize/CaveCreekRegionalPark/Cave-Creek-Regional-Park/GoJohnOvertonQuartz-and-Variat>

### Directions to Cave Creek - Overton/**Go John** Trailheads

Take Loop 303 to I-17.

Go North on I-17.

Turn right on Hwy 74 (Carefree Highway).

Turn left onto 32nd Street and continue into Cave Creek Regional Park.

There is a \$7 fee required to enter the park.

Continue along the main park road - just before the horse staging area, you will see the access road for the **Go John** Trailhead on the left (Tonalite Dr).

There is a restroom near the trailhead.

**Overton/Go John/Quartz/Flat Rock/Slate Trails Loop (Cave Creek Rec. Area). Rating C. This is a 6 .6-mile loop on combined trails. Elevation gain:700 ft.**

Start on the Overton Trail, cross Tonalite Road/parking lot and take the Go John Trail (not the Go John North) to Quartz-turn right on Quartz & then left on Flat Rock. The trail continues out of the park into the Seitts Preserve becoming the Military Trail. Reenter the park by turning right on the Slate Trail. On the Slate Trail, approx. .3 miles after you pass the Quartz trail intersection, there is a strange saguaro on the left named the Michelin Man saguaro. About .5 miles from the trailhead on the Go John trail (on the left as you hike away from the trailhead, near the junction of the Jasper trail) there is a group of 3 saguaros that look very much like our hiking club logo. Trail Condition – good hiking trail. Restrooms are located at the Go John trailhead. Driving distance is 93 miles RT.

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/organize/CaveCreekRegionalPark/Cave-Creek-Regional-Park/GoJohnOvertonQuartz-and-Variat>

**Directions to Cave Creek - Overton/Go John Trailheads**

Take Loop 303 to I-17.

Go North on I-17. Turn right on Hwy 74 (Carefree Highway).

Turn left onto 32nd Street (sign on right, no light but a left turn lane) and continue into Cave Creek Regional Park.

There is a \$7 fee/car or Maricopa County Pass.

Continue along the main park road -park at the Nature Center and begin at the left end of the parking lot.

There is a restroom further along when you reach the Go John trail.

**Go John Trail to Maricopa Trail (Cave Creek Rec. Area). Rating C-B.** This is a 6–10-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. <https://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/CaveCreekRegionalPark/Cave-Creek-Regional-Park/GoJohnOvertonQuartz-and-Variat>

**Directions to Cave Creek - Overton/Go John Trailheads**

Take Loop 303 to I-17.

Go North on I-17.

Turn right on Hwy 74 (Carefree Highway).

Turn left onto 32nd Street and continue into Cave Creek Regional Park.

There is a \$7 fee required to enter the park.

Continue along the main park road - just before the horse staging area, you will see the access road for the Go John Trailhead on the left (Tonalite Dr).

There is a restroom near the trailhead.

**Overton, Go John, Quartz Trails (Cave Creek Rec. Area). Rating C+.** This is an 8-mile hike on a combined trail loop with an elevation gain of about 1100 ft. We usually travel the trail in a clockwise direction but could dispatch a group counterclockwise, which provides steeper climbs. On the Lime Kiln trail about .3 miles from the Quartz trail intersection is a segmented Saguaro named the Michelin Man. About .5 miles from the trailhead (near the junction of the Jasper trail) there is a group of 3 saguaros that look very much like the hiking club logo. Trail condition – average hiking trail. Restrooms are located at the trailhead. There is a park entrance fee of \$7.00 per car. Driving distance is 93 miles RT.

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/CaveCreekRegionalPark/Cave-Creek-Regional-Park/GoJohnOvertonQuartz-and-Variat>

### **Directions to Cave Creek - Overton/Go John Trailheads**

Take Loop 303 to I-17.

Go North on I-17.

Turn right on Hwy 74 (Carefree Highway).

Turn left onto 32nd Street and continue into Cave Creek Regional Park.

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There is a restroom near the trailhead.

**P.A. Seitts Preserve Fingers Hike (Cave Creek). Rating D/C.** This is a 4.5 -7.5-mile multi-finger in & out hike with an elevation change of 400-880 ft. There are several short trails branching out from the trailhead. The hikers will simply select some of them to hike. This is a preserve to protect the assorted vegetation along this portion of Cave Creek. The C version crosses the creek bed. There is a wide variety of desert vegetation including many large Saguaros. This is a good area for Spring wildflowers. Trail condition - good hiking trail. No restrooms and no park fee. Driving distance is approx 110 miles RT.

<https://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/CaveCreekRegionalPark/Cave-Creek-Other/B-Exploratory-HikeSeitts-Preserve-Cave-Creek-ParkLynnW2017/>

### **Directions to Cave Creek - P.A. Seitts Preserve Trailhead**

Take Loop 303 north and follow until it ends I-17.

Turn north (left) on I-17.

Exit 223A to the right (east) on Hwy 74 (Carefree Highway)

Turn left (North) on Cave Creek Road.

Go .6 miles and turn left (West) on New River Road (look for Canyon Creek sign on right)

Go .3 miles and turn right on 54<sup>th</sup> St (Rancho Manana Blvd)

Go .4 miles to the parking area on the right near the intersection with 52 St

No restrooms at this trailhead.

### **New Directions to Cave Creek – P. A. Seitts Preserve Trailhead**

Loop 303 North

Left onto I-17 North

Exit 223 to the right onto Carefree Hwy

Left on N Cave Creek Rd

Left on E New River Rd

Right on N 54th St (Canyon Creek)

Continue on N 54<sup>th</sup> St, past Prickly Pear, staying left

Parking on the right near N 52nd St

No restrooms at trailhead