

Sep. 24, 2021 Desert Rose to Gadsden Trail – (Estrella Mountain Regional Park). Rating C/D. Dana Thomas will lead. This is a 5 to 7 mile in-and-out hike with an elevation gain of 800 ft. The trail meanders through typical desert terrain with many bushes and Saguaro cactus. There is no restroom at the trailhead. Trail condition - average hiking trail. Park fee is \$7.00. Driving distance is 26 miles RT. <https://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/EstrellaMountainRegionalPark/Desert-RoseGadsden>
Directions to Estrella Mountain Regional Park – Desert Rose Trailhead
Turn left out the main gate onto Pebble Creek Pkw/Estrella Pkw (on other side of I-10).
Turn left onto Vineyard Ave. just across the Gila River.
Follow Vineyard as it curves to the right, becoming 143rd Ave
Turn left on Indian Springs Road
At the fence that begins the parking for PIR turn right
Follow signs to trails
Pay park fee of \$7.00 per vehicle at the self-pay station
Angle right immediately after the self-pay station into the open parking area. Drive across at a 45-degree angle – there is a trail sign indicating the trailhead. No restrooms are at the trailhead.

Oct. 1, 2021 Mesquite Canyon/Willow Spring trails (White Tank Mountains). Rating

C+. Dana Thomas will lead. It is a 6.3 to 8.0 mile in and out hike with an elevation gain of 1100- 1500 ft. The basic trail goes to the base of Willow Springs/falls with an option to go around to the top of the waterfall. The trail starts on the Mesquite trail in area #7 just off of Ramada Way. Mile one is very steep and rocky, around 1.8 miles the trail then turns north and drops into Mesquite Canyon and then over a ridge into Willow Canyon. The trail follows the wash up to Willow Springs where the remnants of a cabin, stock tank and corral once stood at the steep walled end of the canyon. The spring usually has some water, though it might be only a trickle. Trail condition - average hiking trail with a couple of steep climbs. Restrooms and water fountain are at the trailhead. Park entrance fee is \$7.00 per car. Driving distance is approx 30 miles RT. [SCG=6.6/1700/3.8]. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/WhiteTankMountainRegionalPark/MesquiteWillow-Springs>
Directions to White Tank Mountains Regional Park
Take 303 North (right).
Exit at Northern (next to zoo) and turn left (West).
Turn right on Cotton.
Turn left on Olive and follow it to the park gate.
Park fee is \$7.00/car for all trailheads (except from the library which is \$2.00 per hiker).
Restrooms are at the trailhead for each of the hikes (inside the library for the hikes from the library).

Mesquite Canyon/Waddell trailhead is at Picnic area #7. Turn left on Waterfall Canyon Rd and then left at the road just past the Waterfall Trail trailhead to find Picnic area #7.
Oct. 8, 2021 Toothaker/Gadsden/Butterfield Loop (Estrella Mountains). Rating C. Dana Thomas will lead. Approximately 7.9 miles, out and back, with an elevation gain of 1000

ft. We will follow the trail to a large wash, and parallel the wash for 2 miles or so. The trail is relatively flat, with long views of the Estrella Mountains and valley to the East & West. There are foothills to the left and larger mountains to the right as you travel east on the Gadsden Trail. Rest rooms are located at trailheads. Park fee is \$7.00 per car.

Driving distance is 20 miles RT. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/>

EstrellaMountainRegionalPark/Coldwater- GadsdenButterfield

Directions to Estrella Mountain Regional Park - Toothaker/Rainbow TH

Turn left out the main gate onto Pebble Creek/Estrella Pkw (south) South of I-10, turn left onto Vineyard Ave. just across the Gila River. Turn right into Estrella Mtn Park and pay park fee of \$7.00 per vehicle. Drive around the park to the left.

Trailheads and rest rooms are on the far (West) side of rodeo arena.

Oct. 15, 2021 SOB/Skyline Crest/Lost Creek Loop (White Tank Mountains). Rating C+.

Dana Thomas will lead. This is a 7–8-mile figure eight loop hike with an elevation gain of 1500 ft. The hike goes from the Lost Creek Trailhead in Verrado, goes on the SOB trail to Lost Creek trail. It then goes along the Skyline Crest trail before looping back on Quartz Mine into Verrado. Lots of great views of Buckeye and points east. Trail condition - an average hiking trail, but steep and edgy along the Skyline Crest trail. No facilities at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is 18 miles RT.

Directions to Trailhead at Verrado West

Go West on Indian School Road.

Turn left on Acacia Way (just past the high school).

Turn right on Lost Creek Drive

Parking for the trailhead is at the end of Lost Creek Drive.

You walk between the green and a tee on the Raven at Verrado golf course to get to the trailhead.

Oct. 22, 2021 Quartz Mine/Tortuga Trails (Skyline Regional Park). Rating C. Ann

Rohlman will lead. This is an in-and-out hike of 6.4 miles with an elevation gain of 1260 ft. This hike goes to the eastern most point in the park and then returns. There are lots of views of the west valley. Trail condition – average hiking trail. Restrooms are at the trailhead. There is no park fee. Driving distance is 30 miles RT.

<https://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Skyline-Park>

Directions to Skyline Regional Park Trailhead

Go West on I-10.

Turn north (right) on Watson Road.

Drive to end of road and trailhead parking. Facilities are at the trailhead.

Oct. 29, 2021 Cairn Canyon Loop - SR/PA/RR/GR/UT/PC/JL Loop (Estrella Mountains). Rating C. Dana Thomas will lead. This is a 6.4 mile loop hike with an elevation gain of 600 ft. The hike starts at the parking lot of the Estrella Foothills High School and goes through several washes and up over a couple of saddles. The hike is in typical desert terrain. Trail condition - average hiking trail. No park fee. Restrooms are at the trailhead. Driving distance is 27 miles RT. <https://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Estrella-Foothills>

Directions to Estrella Foothills Park - High School Trailhead

Turn left out the main gate onto Pebble Creek Pkwy (south), which becomes Estrella Pkwy on the other side of I-10. Continue into and through the Estrella Mountain development. Turn left into the parking lot just before the Estrella Foothills High School building. Park at the far end of the parking Lot. Restrooms are on the left by the ballpark. No park fee.

Nov. 5, 2021 Latigo/WB/V/W/Hackamore Loop (McDowell Sonoran Preserve). Rating C.

Ann Rohlman will lead. This is an 8-mile loop hike with an elevation gain of 800 ft. There are great views of the surrounding area, as well as many large Saguaros and great rock formations along the trail. There is a nice restroom at the trailhead and no park fee. Trail condition - great hiking trail. Driving distance is 100 miles RT. <https://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/McDowellSonoranPreserve/Laigo-Loop>
Directions to McDowell Sonoran Preserve - Brown's Ranch Trailhead

Take Loop 303 North and drive to I-17.

Turn left (North) on I-17.

Stay right and immediately take exit 222 going right onto Dove Valley Road. Follow Dove Valley Road about 10 mi. (name changes to Sonoran Desert Drive). Take Cave Creek Road North (left).

Turn right at first light on Dynamite Blvd (later changes to Rio Verde). Turn left on Alma School Road.

The road dead ends at the trailhead.

There are restrooms at the trailhead.

Nov. 12, 2021 Queen Anne's Revenge Loop SR/PA/QAR/GR/SU/JL/SR Loop (Estrella Mountains). Rating C. Dana Thomas will lead. This is a 7-mile lollipop loop hike with an elevation gain 710 ft. The hike starts at the parking lot of the Estrella Foothills High School and goes up to a high saddle. The trail crosses a gravel area that covers up an old tunnel. The trail offers outstanding views of the entire southwest valley. The hike is in typical desert terrain. Trail condition - mostly a very good hiking trail. No park fee. Restrooms are t the trailhead. Driving distance is 27 miles RT. <https://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Estrella-Foothills/B-Exploratory-Hike-7-05-2018QueenAnnes-RevengeLynnW2017/>

Directions to Estrella Foothills Park - High School Trailhead

Turn left out the main gate onto Pebble Creek Pkwy (south), which becomes Estrella Pkwy on the other side of I-10.

Continue into and through the Estrella Mountain development.

Turn left into the parking lot just before the Estrella Foothills High School building.

Park at the far end of the parking Lot.

Restrooms are on the left by the ballpark. No park fee.

Nov. 19, 2021 Mesquite Canyon/Willow Spring trails (White Tank Mountains). Rating C+. Ann Rohlman will lead. It is a 6.3 to 8.0 mile in and out hike with an elevation gain of 1100- 1500 ft. The basic trail goes to the base of Willow Springs/falls with an option to go around to the top of the waterfall. The trail starts on the Mesquite trail in area #7 just off of Ramada Way. Mile one is very steep and rocky,

around 1.8 miles the trail then turns north and drops into Mesquite Canyon and then over a ridge into Willow Canyon. The trail follows the wash up to Willow Springs where the remnants of a cabin, stock tank and corral once stood at the steep walled end of the canyon. The spring usually has some water, though it might be only a trickle. Trail condition - average hiking trail with a couple of steep climbs. Restrooms and water fountain are at the trailhead. Park entrance fee is \$7.00 per car. Driving distance is approx 30 miles RT. [SCG=6.6/1700/3.8]. [http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/WhiteTankMountainRegionalPark/Mesquite- Willow-Springs](http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/WhiteTankMountainRegionalPark/Mesquite-Willow-Springs)

Directions to White Tank Mountains Regional Park

Take 303 North (right).

Exit at Northern (next to zoo) and turn left (West).

Turn right on Cotton.

Turn left on Olive and follow it to the park gate.

Park fee is \$7.00/car for all trailheads (except from the library which is \$2.00 per hiker). Restrooms are at the trailhead for each of the hikes (inside the library for the hikes from the library).

Mesquite Canyon/Waddell trailhead is at Picnic area #7. Turn left on Waterfall Canyon Rd and then left at the road just past the Waterfall Trail trailhead to find Picnic area #7.

Nov. 26, 2021 Beardsley/Frog Tank/Roadrunner Trails (Lake Pleasant Regional Park). Rating C. Dana Thomas will lead. This is 7.7 mile in and out hike with an elevation gain of 1000 ft. The hike starts out crossing a road and then travels through a Saguaro forest. Along the trail is a very tall Saguaro (30+') with no arms. Frog Tank takes you up for some views of the lake and meets Roadrunner, which travels along the edge of the lake. There is a good chance to see wild burros on this trail. Trail condition - average hiking trail. Restrooms with water are at the trailhead as well as along Roadrunner trail. Park fee is \$7.00. Driving distance is 80 miles. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Other-12/Beardsley-Trail>

Directions to Ramada 8 (Desert Tortoise), Lake Pleasant Reg. Park

Drive north on 303 to Lake Pleasant Road.

Turn left (north) on Lake Pleasant Road to Arizona 74.

Turn left (west) and continue to Castle Hot Springs Road and turn right (North). Go 2.1 miles and turn right onto Lake Pleasant Access Road.

Pay \$7.00 park fee then turn right on South Park Road.

Turn left on Desert Tortoise Road.

Trailhead is on the right.

Restrooms are at this trailhead.

Dec. 3, 2021 Fat Man's Pass from the West (South Mountain). Rating D+/C. Ann Rohlman will lead. A 4.5 to 6.8 mile out and back hike with an elevation gain of about 600-1080 ft. It follows the National Trail starting at the Buena Vista lookout, looping at Hidden Valley through boulders and rock tunnels, and returning on National Trail. Interesting, fun hike, with a few large boulders to climb over and slide down. An optional extra half-mile hike with an elevation change of 130 ft can be added by taking a side trail to the right at marker #18. This trail goes to the top of the ridge giving hikers a

360-degree view of the surrounding area. A second optional addition is a .8 mile out and back hike (150 ft elevation change) going west from the parking lot to the China Wall, a natural rock formation that looks like a manmade wall from a distance. A third option is to go to an overlook to the left of the parking area, adding another .8 miles and 50 ft EG. Trail condition - mostly an uneven surface of rock so you need to keep your eyes on the trail. Several “drop your poles and slide on your butt” areas. Restrooms are at the park office. No park fee. Driving distance is 70 miles RT. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Other-4/Fat-Mans-Pass-West>

Directions to South Mountain Park (North) Main Entrance

Take I-10 east

Take Exit 138. SR-202 Loop south

Take either the Baseline Rd or Dobbins Rd exit and turn left onto them.

Turn right onto Central Avenue into South Mountain Park

Go through the South Mountain Park guard shack (no fees)

Go through another guard shack to the Park Office area. Restrooms available here.

Proceed up the Summit Road about 6.5 miles following the signs to Buena Vista Parking area. Trailhead is at the Buena Vista Parking area.

Dec. 10, 2021 Mesquite Canyon/Willow Spring trails (White Tank Mountains). Rating

C+. This is a 6.3 to 8.0 mile in and out hike with an elevation gain of 1100-1500 feet.

The basic trail goes to the base of Willow Springs/falls with an option to go around to the top of the waterfall. The trail starts on the Mesquite trail from area #7 just off Ramada Way. Mile one is very steep and rocky, around 1.8 miles the trail then turns north and drops into Mesquite Canyon and then over a ridge into Willow Canyon. The trail follows the wash up to Willow Springs where the remnants of a cabin, stock tank and corral once stood at the steep walled end of the canyon. The spring usually has some water, though it might be only a trickle. Trail condition - average hiking trail with a couple of steep climbs. Restrooms and water fountain are at the trailhead. Park entrance fee is \$7.00 per car. Driving distance is approximately 30 miles RT. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/>

Directions to White Tank Mountains Regional Park

Take 303 North (right).

Exit at Northern (next to zoo) and turn left (West).

Turn right on Cotton.

Turn left on Olive and follow it to the park gate.

Mesquite Canyon/Waddell trailhead is at Picnic area #7. Turn left on Waterfall Canyon Rd and then left at the road just past the Waterfall Trail trailhead to find Picnic area #7.

Dec. 17, 2021 Desert Rose to Gadsden Trail – (Estrella Mountain Regional Park). Rating C/D. Ann Rohlman will lead. This is a 5 to 7 mile in-and-out hike with an elevation gain of 800 ft. The trail meanders through typical desert terrain with many bushes and Saguaro cactus. There is no restroom at the trailhead. Trail condition -

average hiking trail. Park fee is \$7.00. Driving distance is 26 miles RT. <https://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/EstrellaMountainRegionalPark/Desert-RoseGadsden>

Directions to Estrella Mountain Regional Park – Desert Rose Trailhead

Turn left out the main gate onto Pebble Creek Pkw/Estrella Pkw (on other side of I-10).

Turn left onto Vineyard Ave. just across the Gila River.

Follow Vineyard as it curves to the right, becoming 143rd Ave Turn left on Indian Springs Road

At the fence that begins the parking for PIR turn right

Follow signs to trails. Pay park fee of \$7.00 per vehicle at the self-pay station

Angle right immediately after the self-pay station into the open parking area. Drive across at a 45-degree angle – there is a trail sign indicating the trailhead. No restrooms are at the trailhead.

Dec. 24, 2021 Mountain Wash/Turnbuckle/Granite Falls/Chuckwalla Loop (Skyline Park) Rating C.

Dana Thomas will lead. This is about a 7-mile loop hike with an elevation gain of about 1200 ft. in the Western part of Buckeye's New Skyline Regional Park with the new Granite Falls Trail and an even newer Chuckwalla trail on the west side of the park. This is one of the trail loops in Buckeye's Skyline Regional Park. Trail condition - good hiking trail. No park fee. Restrooms are at the trailhead. Driving distance is 30 miles RT. <https://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Skyline-Park>

Directions to Skyline Regional Park Trailhead

Go West on I-10.

Turn north (right) on Watson Road.

Drive to the end of road and trailhead parking. Facilities are at the trailhead.

Dec. 31, 2022 Ford Canyon to the dam (White Tank Mountains). Rating C+.

Dana Thomas will lead. The hike is 7.5 miles out & back on the same trail with an elevation gain of about 1100 ft. Rocky scenic hike along the side of the canyon to large boulders and dam in the wash.

Trail continues but is not maintained beyond our stop point. Some may want to venture further during the snack break/turnaround point. About half the hike is an average trail with the middle part being steep and rocky to the dam. There are restrooms at trailhead. Park fee is \$7.00 per vehicle. Driving distance is 30 miles RT. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/WhiteTankMountainRegionalPark/Ford-CanyonMesquite>

Directions to White Tank Mountains Regional Park

Take 303 North (right).

Exit at Northern (next to zoo) and turn left (West).

Turn right on Cotton.

Turn left on Olive and follow it to the park gate.

Park fee is \$7.00/car for all trailheads (except from the library which is \$2.00 per hiker).

Restrooms are at the trailhead for each of the hikes (inside the library for the hikes from the library).

Ford Canyon Trail trailhead parking is at Picnic area #7. Take the Waddell Trail across to the Ford Canyon Trail.

Jan. 7, 2022 Black Canyon Trail - Gloriana Trail South (I-17 Exit 248).

Rating C.

Ann Rohlman will lead. Black Canyon Trail - Glorianna Trailhead South (I-17 Exit 248). Rating C/B. This is a 7-12 mile hike with an elevation gain of 1000-1400 ft. This segment of the Black Canyon Trail heads south along the upper edge of Black Canyon, just north of Black Canyon City. It has typical desert vegetation with views up and down Black Canyon. Trail condition - a good biking trail. No park fee. No rest rooms (Sunset Point Rest Area is 4 miles further up I-17 with easy return). Driving distance is 110 miles RT. <https://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/BlackCanyonNationalRecreationT/Glorianna-TH-South>

Directions to Black Canyon Trail – Glorianna Trailhead

Turn right on PebbleCreek Pkwy to Indian School. Turn left on Indian School and go to Loop 303.

Turn right on Loop 303 and follow until it ends at I-17. Turn left onto I-17 North toward Flagstaff. Take exit 248 (Bumble Bee). Turn left (West), crossing I-17.

Drive about 1.1 miles and turn left into an unpaved parking area. No restrooms at the trailhead. Rock Springs Café is at Exit #242 on the way back.

Jan. 14, 2022 Verrado Deadhead Pass Loop (White Tank Mountains).

Rating C. Dana Thomas will lead. This is a 7.5-mile loop hike with about 1100 ft of elevation gain. This hike follows trails heading northwest from the trailhead. In the Spring, there is a large area of poppies towards the far end of the loop. Lots of rock formations with the chance of assorted wildflowers in the Spring. Trail condition – Good hiking trail. No facilities at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is 18 miles RT.

Directions to Trailhead at Verrado West

Go West on Indian School Road.

Turn left on Acacia Way (just past the high school).

Turn right on Lost Creek Drive

Parking for the trailhead is at the end of Lost Creek Drive.

You walk between the green and a tee on the Raven at Verrado golf course to get to the trailhead.

Jan. 21, 2022 Dixie Mine + Prospector's trails (Fountain Hills). Rating C.

Ann Rohlman will lead. This is a 7.2 mile out and back hike with an elevation change of 1100 ft. The .6 mile trail in Fountain Hills is along a paved sidewalk in an exclusive neighborhood. The Dixie Mile trail then enters the McDowell Mountain Park (where you pay your dollar). At 2.5 miles you see the remnants of the Dixie mine. Turn left on the jeep road for .3 miles. Prospector trail then goes off to the right and up the mountain to a scenic overlook. You can see the Fountain Hills fountain from here if your timing is

right (on the hour). There is a crested saguaro at the entrance to the parking lot, which is on the left just before the gated entrance to the neighborhood. Restrooms and cold water are at the

trailhead. Park fee is \$2.00 per person. Driving distance is 110 miles RT. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/PhoenixSonoranPreserve-1/Dixie-Mt-Loop>

Directions to Dixie Mine Trail, Fountain Hills, AZ

Take Hwy 101 north

Exit onto Shea Blvd east (Exit 41, turn left) and go approx.. 6 mi.

Turn north (left) onto Palisades Blvd.

Turn left on Sunridge Drive.

Turn left onto Golden Eagle Blvd and drive to the entry gate.

Trailhead parking is on the left just before the entry gate.

[there is a crested saguaro at the entrance to the parking area]

Restrooms and water are at the trailhead.

The trail starts across the street and goes left on the sidewalk past the entry gate.

Jan. 28, 2022 Goat Camp to mile 3.5 (White Tank Mountains) – NEW HIKE. Rating C+.

Dana Thomas will lead. This is a 7.0 mile round trip, out and back hike with an elevation gain of 1500 ft.

Goat Camp Trail climbs about 600 ft in 0.6 miles to the first saddle. Continue through the valley and begin another climb for 1 mile. This hike will go about a 1/2 mile pass the turn to the cell towers. Restrooms are located at the trailhead. Park fee is \$7.00 per vehicle. Driving distance is 26 miles RT. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/WhiteTankMountainRegionalPark/Goat-Camp>

Directions to White Tank Mountains Regional Park

Take 303 North (right).

Exit at Northern (next to zoo) and turn left (West).

Turn right on Cotton.

Turn left on Olive and follow it to the park gate.

Park fee is \$7.00/car for all trailheads (except from the library which is \$2.00 per hiker). Restrooms are at the trailhead for each of the hikes (inside the library for the hikes from the library).

Goat Camp/South Trail trailheads are found on Black Canyon Road, which is the first left after the gate. Park at the Goat Camp Trailhead.

Estrella Mountain Regional Park--Coldwater, Dysart, Butterfield, Gadsden, Butterfield Loop. Rating C Challenge due to Distance. Barb Kripps will lead.

This is an 8+ mile loop with an 800 feet elevation gain. It begins on the west side of the rodeo arena. The trail is a rolling hills trail and goes through typical desert terrain. Trail condition--good hiking trail. There is a restroom at the trailhead. Park entrance fee is \$7.00 per car. The driving distance is 20 miles roundtrip.

Directions to Estrella Mountain Regional Park--Toothaker/Rainbow Trailhead--Drive south on PebbleCreek/Estrella Parkway. Turn east (left) onto

Vineyard Avenue just across the Gila River. Turn right into Estrella Mountain Regional Park and pay park fee. Drive around the park to the left. Trailheads is on the far (West) side of rodeo grounds.

Feb. 11, 2022 Library to Waterfall Trail (White Tank Mtn.). Rating C. Dana Thomas will lead. This is a 7.3-mile in and out hike with an elevation gain of 550 ft. We head north from the White Tanks library with expansive views of the west valley, before turning on the Black Rock trail that connects to the Waterfall Trail. This could be a great hike after winter or monsoon rains. For those interested in seeing some of the desert wildlife in a controlled environment, there is a small nature center with several rattlesnakes, a Gila Monster, a tarantula, and some scorpions at the nature center in the library. Trail condition – an average hiking trail. Restrooms are in the library. Park Fee is \$2.00 per hiker (county park pass is good for 5 hikers). Driving distance is 24 miles RT.

Directions to White Tank Mountains Regional Park

Take 303 North (right).

Exit at Northern (next to zoo) and turn left (West).

Turn right on Cotton.

Turn left on Olive and follow it to the park gate.

Park fee is \$7.00/car for all trailheads (except from the library which is \$2.00 per hiker).

Restrooms are at the trailhead for each of the hikes (inside the library for the hikes from the library).

Library trailhead: the sidewalk on the left of the building. Turn right just before the gate and park on the left side of the library. Trail goes off the end of the sidewalk on the left of the building.

Feb. 18, 2022 Holbert Trail (South Mountain). Rating C+. Ann Rohlman will lead. This is a 5.7 mile in and out hike, with an elevation gain of 1,330 ft. The trail starts out flat, goes onto a paved road uphill for a short distance then off to the right where it continuously climbs up to Dobbins Lookout (a paved parking area with benches, optical viewers & restrooms). The Holbert Trail intersects with the National Trail near the top. We go up to the National trail and then return to the Dobbins Lookout for our break. There may be Native Americans at the lookout selling jewelry. Trail condition – mostly a steady uphill/downhill hike. Restrooms are at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is 60 miles RT.

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Other-4/Holbert-Trail>

Directions to South Mountain Park (Holbert Trail)

Take I-10 east to I-17 south (exit 143B).

Exit I-17 at 7th Ave.

Turn right on 7th Ave. and continue to Baseline. Turn left on Baseline and continue to Central Ave. Turn right onto Central Ave.

Follow Central Ave. into South Mountain Park. Turn left just past the entrance hut.

Drive to the end of the parking lot on the left. Restrooms at the trailhead.

Feb. 25, 2022 SOB/Skyline Crest/Lost Creek Loop (White Tank Mountains). Rating C+.

Dana Thomas will lead. This is a 7–8-mile figure eight loop hike with an elevation gain of 1500 ft. The hike goes from the Lost Creek Trailhead in Verrado, goes on the SOB trail to Lost Creek trail. It then goes along the Skyline Crest trail before looping back on Quartz Mine into Verrado. Lots of great views of Buckeye and points east. Trail condition - an average hiking trail, but steep and edgy along the Skyline Crest trail. No facilities at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is 18 miles RT.

Directions to Trailhead at Verrado West

Go West on Indian School Road.

Turn left on Acacia Way (just past the high school).

Turn right on Lost Creek Drive

Parking for the trailhead is at the end of Lost Creek Drive.

You walk between the green and a tee on the Raven at Verrado golf course to get to the trailhead.

Mar. 4, 2022 Library to Waterfall Trail (White Tanks). Rating C.

Ann Rohlman will lead. This is a 7.3 mile in and out hike with an elevation gain of 550 ft. We head north from the White Tanks library with expansive views of the west valley, before turning on the Black Rock trail that connects to the Waterfall Trail. This could be a great hike after winter or monsoon rains. For those interested in seeing some of the desert wildlife in a controlled environment, there is a small nature center with several rattlesnakes, a Gila Monster, a tarantula, and some scorpions at the nature center in the library. Trail condition – an average hiking trail. Restrooms are in the library. Park Fee is \$2.00 per hiker (county park pass is good for 5 hikers). Driving distance is 24 miles RT.

Directions to White Tank Mountains Regional Park

Take 303 North (right).

Exit at Northern (next to zoo) and turn left (West).

Turn right on Cotton.

Turn left on Olive and follow it to the park gate.

Park fee is \$7.00/car for all trailheads (except from the library which is \$2.00 per hiker). Restrooms are at the trailhead for each of the hikes (inside the library for the hikes from the library).

Mar. 11, 2022 Crossover trail to EMRP. Rating C. Dana Thomas will lead. This is a 6 to 8 mile in and out hike going from the high school parking lot to Park Avenue then to the Cross Over Trail that leads to the Estrella Mountain Regional Park. The trail is relatively flat and crosses typical desert terrain. Trail condition - an average local hiking trail. No park fee. Restrooms are the trailhead. Driving distance is 27 miles RT.

Directions to Estrella Foothills Park - High School Trailhead

Turn left out the main gate onto Pebble Creek Pkwy (south), which becomes Estrella Pkwy on the other side of I-10.

Continue into and through the Estrella Mountain development.

Turn left into the parking lot just before the Estrella Foothills High School building.

Park at the far end of the parking Lot.

Restrooms are on the left by the ballpark. No park fee.

Mar. 18, 2022 Hackberry Springs Loop (Superstitions). Rating C. Ann Rohlman will lead. This is a 6.2-mile loop hike with an elevation gain of 800 ft. We will start at the First Water Trailhead and take the Second Water Trail to the Black Mesa Trail. We turn left away from Black Mesa. We will take a short side trail to the arch and return to the main trail. At the next intersection we turn right to go down below Hackberry Spring where we will take our snack break. We then continue on and work our way up to the top of the ridge, giving us great views of the mesa where Hackberry springs originates. We then continue on to the horse staging area and follow the trail back to the trailhead. There are restrooms at the trailhead. No parking fee. Driving distance to the trailhead is 126 mi RT. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/SuperstitionWilderness/Garden-Valley-Loop>

Directions to Superstitions - 1st Water Trailhead

I-10 east to Route 202 east (stay in HOV all the way). Take 202 east to Brown Rd., Exit 26. Drive east on Brown Rd. to Apache Trail (Hwy 88). Turn left onto Apache Trail (Hwy 88).

Go past Lost Dutchman State Park and turn right at sign to First Water Trailhead. Follow this dirt road approx. 2.6 miles (past the horse-trailer parking on left). Parking is free. There is a pit toilet restroom at the trailhead.
(Brown is Lost Dutchman Blvd in Pinal County on the way home)

Mar. 25, 2022 Quartz Mine/Tortuga Trails (Skyline Regional Park). Rating C. Dana Thomas will lead. This is an in-and-out hike of 6.4 miles with an elevation gain of 1260 ft. This hike goes to the eastern most point in the park and then returns. There are lots of views of the west valley. Trail condition – average hiking trail. Restrooms are at the trailhead. There is no park fee. Driving distance is 30 miles RT.

<https://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Skyline-Park>

Directions to Skyline Regional Park Trailhead

Go West on I-10.

Turn north (right) on Watson Road.

Drive to end of road and trailhead parking. Facilities are at the trailhead.

Apr. 1 Lake Pleasant ??? Ann Rohlman will lead.

Apr. 8, 2022 Coldwater/Butterfield/Gadsden Loop Trail (Estrella Mountains). Rating C. Dana Thomas will lead. Approx. 7.6 miles, with an elevation gain of 900 ft. Take Coldwater .2 miles to Butterfield, turn left on Gadsden, then turn right back onto Butterfield at the far end. The trail is relatively flat, with long views of the Estrella Mountains and valley to the East & West. There is a small arch in one of the washes next to the trail. There are foothills to the left and larger mountains to the right as you travel east on the Gadsden Trail. Trail condition – good hiking trail. A Porta-John is located at trailheads. Park fee is \$7.00 per car. Driving distance is 20 miles RT. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/EstrellaMountainRegionalPark/Coldwater-GadsdenButterfield>

Directions to Estrella Mountain Regional Park – Butterfield TH

Turn left out the main gate onto Pebble Creek/Estrella Pkw (south) South of I-10, turn left onto Vineyard Ave. just across the Gila River. Turn right into Estrella Mtn Park and pay park fee of \$7.00 per vehicle. Drive around the park to the left. Trailheads and rest rooms are on the near (East) side of rodeo arena.

Apr. 15, 2022 West Fork Trail #108, Oak Creek Canyon (Sedona). Rating C.

Ann Rohlman will lead. A 7.0 mi. round trip with an elevation gain of about 500 ft. This easy, almost level trail extends about 3 miles upstream through the narrow canyon of West Fork, a major tributary of Oak Creek. Sheer canyon walls rising hundreds of feet, luxuriant vegetation with beautiful fall colors, and the clear stream make this an idyllic spot. The stream, which you'll be crossing many times, usually only requires a little rock hopping. The trailhead is off the back of a day use parking area on the west side of US89A midway between mileposts 384 & 385 (10 mi north of Sedona). The trail crosses Oak Creek, then a dirt trail continues past the ruins of Mayhews Lodge and into West Fork Canyon. Restrooms are at the trailhead. \$10.00 per car entrance fee (half price with Golden Age Pass). Driving distance is approx 270 miles RT. <https://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Category/West-Fork-Trail>

Directions to Sedona - West Fork, Trail 108, Oak Creek Canyon

Go West (left) on Indian School Rd to Loop 303.

Turn North (right) on Loop 303 to I-17 North.

Turn North (left) on I-17 to exit 298 (Rte 179).

Take Rte. 179 west (left) 15 miles to jct. 89A.

Take Rte. 89A north (right) 10.6 miles to West Fork trailhead.

Watch for a small sign for West Fork trail just before a sharp curve to the right. Turn left into parking area.

The parking fee is \$10.00 per car.

Rest rooms are at the trailhead.

There are McDonald's at I-17 exits 262 and 287.

Apr. 22, 2022 Sonoran Loop - Competitive Track (White Tank Mountains).

Rating C. Dana Thomas will lead. This is a 7-mile loop hike with an elevation gain of 700 ft. This is the old orientation hike. This is a one-way competitive bike trail with plenty of ups and downs through washes plus one climb near the midpoint of the hike. On top of the hill is a good

place to stop for a snack. Along the second half of the hike is a Crested

Saguaro. There's a porta-john at the trailhead. There is a \$7.00 park entrance

fee. Driving distance is approx 30 miles RT. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/WhiteTankMountainRegionalPark/SonoranLoop>

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/WhiteTankMountainRegionalPark/CompetitiveLoop>

Directions to White Tank Mountains Regional Park

Take 303 North (right).

Exit at Northern (next to zoo) and turn left (West). Turn right on Cotton.

Turn left on Olive and follow it to the park gate.

Park fee is \$7.00/car for all trailheads (except from the library which is \$2.00 per hiker).

Restrooms are at the trailhead for each of the hikes (inside the library for the hikes from the library).

Sonoran Loop Trail is at the end of the main road, slightly right off the end of the paved road. The restroom on this hike is a porta-john.

Apr. 29, 2022 Desert Rose to Gadsden Trail – (Estrella Mountain Regional Park). Rating C/D. Dana Thomas will lead. This is a 5 to 7 mile in-and-out hike with an elevation gain of 800 ft. The trail meanders through typical desert terrain with many bushes and Saguaro cactus. There is no restroom at the trailhead. Trail condition - average hiking trail. Park fee is \$7.00. Driving distance is 26 miles RT. <https://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/EstrellaMountainRegionalPark/Desert-RoseGadsden>
[Directions to Estrella Mountain Regional Park – Desert Rose Trailhead](#)

Turn left out the main gate onto Pebble Creek Pkw/Estrella Pkw (on other side of I-10).

Turn left onto Vineyard Ave. just across the Gila River.

Follow Vineyard as it curves to the right, becoming 143rd Ave

Turn left on Indian Springs Road

At the fence that begins the parking for PIR turn right

Follow signs to trails.

Pay park fee of \$7.00 per vehicle at the self-pay station

Angle right immediately after the self-pay station into the open parking area. Drive across at a 45-degree angle – there is a trail sign indicating the trailhead. No restrooms are at the trailhead.

May 6, 2022 Black Canyon Trail - Bumblebee Trailhead North (I-17 Exit 248). Rating C.

Ann Rohlman will lead. This is a 7.5-mile hike with an elevation gain of 800 ft. It wanders through typical desert terrain with views of an abandoned house/mine, a working cattle ranch, and distant views of Sunset Point Rest Area. Turn around point is a rock outcropping that overlooks a wide valley. No park fee. Trail condition - a good biking trail. No rest rooms (Sunset Point Rest Area is 4 miles further up I-17 with easy return). Driving distance is 120 miles RT. <https://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/>

[BlackCanyonNationalRecreationT/Government-Springs](#)

[Directions to Black Canyon Trail – Bumblebee Trailhead](#)

Turn right on PebbleCreek Pkwy to Indian School. Turn left on Indian School and go to Loop 303.

Turn right on Loop 303 and follow until it ends at I-17. Turn left onto I-17 North toward Flagstaff.

Take exit 248 (Bumble Bee).

Turn left (West), crossing I-17.

Drive about 5 miles (the last 3 are on a well maintained dirt road) Turn left into an unpaved parking area

(this is just before the yellow “Welcome to Bumblebee” sign on the right).

Immediately turn right and go about .2 miles to the end.

Trail is about 50 yards on the other side of the little canyon and runs parallel to the road - cross wherever you can and you will run into the trail. Go to the right on the trail.

No restrooms at the trailhead.

Rock Springs Café is at Exit #242 on the way back.