

**Adobe Jack/Teacup/Sugarloaf Summit/Grand Central Loop (Sedona). Rating C.** This is an upside down lollipop loop hike of 7.4-8.0 miles with an elevation gain of about 800 ft. This hike starts just off Hwy. 89A. While there are views of many houses, there are also some of the most scenic views in Sedona. You see many of the named rock formations for which Sedona is famous. The early part of the trail is very wooded, while the hike up to Sugarloaf summit is open with expansive views. Grand Central has an incredible 360 degree view at its high point. Trail condition - a typical Sedona trail with a bit of bare red rock. No restrooms. No park fee with a Senior Parks pass. Driving distance is 250 miles RT.

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Category/Adobe-JackTeacupSugerloafGrand>

**Airport Loop (Sedona). Rating B.** This is a loop hike of about 6 miles with an elevation gain of 800 ft. The Airport loop has views of more named red rock formations than any other hike. Bring your camera - it is very scenic! No restrooms. No park fee TBD - they are changing it this year. Driving distance is 240 miles RT. <https://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Category/Old-PostScorpionAirport-Loop>

**Airport Loop + Ridge/Sketch Loop (Sedona). Rating CB** This is a double loop hike of 9.9 miles with an elevation gain of 1500 ft. The Airport loop has views of more named red rock formations than any other hike. It's very scenic. The Ridge/Sketch loop goes along a steep interesting canyon and provides more great views of Cathedral Rock and rock formations to the east. No restrooms. No park fee with a Senior Parks pass. Driving distance is 240 miles RT. <https://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Category/Old-PostScorpionAirport-Loop>

**Alta East (South Mountain). Rating C+.** This is a 6.4 mile out and back hike with an elevation gain of about 1,300 ft. It's a fairly steady climb with a full circle view at the top. We start on the Bajada Trail, then cross the road to get to the Alta Trail. Hike up to a ridge then turn west and hike towards the summit. There is an unusual crested saguaro about 50 yards straight ahead at a sharp hairpin turn about half way up. After your snack break, you return same way. Trail condition - overall a good trail, but there are several steep switchback sections. Restrooms are at the Ranger Station. There are no park fees. Driving distance is 60 miles RT.

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

**Apache Peak/Father's Day Loop Trail (New River). Rating B+.** This is a 9.8 mile loop hike with elevation gain of 2,000+ ft. The hike starts at the Spear S Ranch trailhead on the Maricopa Trail and then takes the Father's Day trail up towards Apache Peak. The "B" hike includes a steep in-and-out spur hike to the top of Apache Peak (elevation 3,182 ft.). The trail to the peak is very steep on loose, rocky material and some scrambling is required at the top. The main Father's Day trail goes up to a saddle and the "B" hike continues over the back on another trail and eventually intersects the Maricopa Trail, which hikers would then use to return to the trailhead. There are great

views from the saddle and the top of Apache Peak. No restrooms at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is 90 miles RT

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Anthem-Area/Apache-Peak-Loop>

**Apache Wash-Sidewinder-Ocotillo Loop (Phoenix Sonoran Preserve - North Section). Rating C/B.** This is a 7-10 mile loop hike with an elevation gain of 800-1260 ft. The loop combines several trails - the Apache Wash, Ridgeback, Sidewinder, and Ocotillo trails. The C version cuts off one section of the loop. There are expansive views of the north side of Phoenix, Anthem, and Cave Creek. The hike goes through rolling desert terrain. Trail condition - this is an outstanding hiking trail with no rocks, stones, steeps, etc. There are restrooms at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is 80 miles RT.

<https://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/CaveCreekRegionalPark/Apache-Wash-Trailhead>

**Aspen Creek Trail (Prescott). Rating C.** This is a 7 mile in and out hike with an elevation gain of 900 ft. This hike takes you through the forest in Prescott. You get views of the valley around Prescott. The highlight is the gigantic Alligator Juniper trees along the trail. Trail condition - good hiking surface. No restrooms. No park fee. Driving distance is 210 miles RT. [SCG=7.0/1800/4.0].

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Prescott-1/Aspen-Creek-Trail>

**Bajada/National/Alta Trail Loop (South Mountain). Rating B.** 9 mi. loop with an elevation gain of about 1860 ft. It is 2.2 miles from the Bajada Trail parking lot to the National Trail, then 1.5 miles to the Alta trailhead, then 1.5 miles and 1,100 ft climb to the summit and then 2.6 miles back to the parking lot. Restrooms are at the Ranger Station. No park fee. Driving distance is 60 miles RT. [http://](http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Other-4/Alta-National-Bajada-Trails)

[pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Other-4/Alta-National-Bajada-Trails](http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Other-4/Alta-National-Bajada-Trails)

**Badger Springs South Trail (Off I-17 North). Rating B.** This is a 7.7+ mile in and out hike with an elevation gain of about 900 ft. The trail is along the Agua Fria River heading south. There is lots of clambering over boulders. Since this hike involves lots of rocks and water it is recommended to bring along a hiking stick or two. This is a beautiful hike through a nice river canyon. Trail condition - the hike along the river is sandy with lots of large boulders to climb over. As of 5-25-17, the road to the trailhead & restrooms was passable by passenger car. There is no park entrance fee. Restrooms are at the trailhead. Driving distance is 134 miles RT. [http://](http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Other-3/Badger-Springs-Wash-Trail)

[pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Other-3/Badger-Springs-Wash-Trail](http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Other-3/Badger-Springs-Wash-Trail)

**Badger Springs North Loop (Off I-17 North). Rating C.** This is a 7 mile loop hike with an elevation gain of about 600 ft. The trail is along the Agua Fria River heading north. There will be some clambering over boulders. Since this hike involves a stream, bring along a hiking stick. This is a beautiful hike through a nice river canyon. Trail condition - the hike along the river is sandy with many large boulders to climb over. As of 5-25-17, the road to the trailhead & restrooms was passable by passenger car. There is no park entrance fee. Restrooms are at the trailhead. Driving distance is 134 miles RT.

**Bald Eagle/Agua Fria Trails (I-17 at Exit #236) Rating D/C.** These are loop hikes of about 4-6 miles with an elevation gain of 500-800 ft. The hike starts out on the named trails on the east side of the river. If the river is low we cross the river and hike back along it. We may encounter some of the free range cattle that wander around along the riverbed. There are lots of views of the riverbed, Lake Pleasant, and the mountain ranges to the west of the lake. Trail condition - Bald Eagle is rough, Agua Fria is average and the river bed and banks are sandy. No restrooms at the trailhead. Park fee is \$6.00. Driving distance is 100 miles RT.

**Ballantine/Pine Creek Loop Trails (Mazatzal Wilderness). Rating B/C.** This is a 6-7 mile in and out hike with an elevation change of 800 to 1300 feet that goes to Boulder Flat (approx. 3 miles from the parking lot). The North (left) direction on the Pine Creek trail is fairly flat around a ridge, while the South (right) direction is fairly steep going over the ridge. Halfway around in either direction is the beginning of the Ballantine trail. The Ballantine trail is primarily a trail through an area of large rocks and boulders, including a ridgeline of red rocks. With a little imagination, you can see numerous images in the formations, including a giant chair made of several rocks. There is no park entrance fee and no facilities at the trailhead. Driving distance is approx. 170 miles RT.

Directions: From Pebble Creek take I-10 east to Route 202. Continue east of Route 202 to Gilbert Ave (exit 14). Turn left on Gilbert Ave and proceed to AZ 87 toward Payson. The trailhead is right off AZ 87 just past mile marker 210.

**Barnhardt Trail (Mazatzal Wilderness). Rating B/C.** This is a 6.4-12.2 mile in and out hike with an elevation change of up to 1,900 ft. The trailhead elevation is 4,200 ft, the elevation gain and descent is 2,100 ft. The trail out is mostly up to the Mazatzal Divide. There are some nice views of the valley around you as you climb to the top. With luck and timing, you may come across some waterfalls as you make the climb (around the 3 mile point). Trail is very rocky in many spots and goes along an open edge of the hillside several times. There is no park entrance fee and no facilities at the trailhead. Driving distance is 208 miles RT.

Directions: From Pebble Creek take I-10 east to Route 202. Continue east of Route 202 to Gilbert Ave (exit 14). Turn left on Gilbert Ave and proceed to AZ 87 toward Payson. The turnoff (FR 419) is 4 miles beyond the junction with AZ 188 (rest stop). Turn left at FR 419 and follow it for 5 miles to the end. The parking area is fairly large. Barnhardt trailhead is located at the west end of the parking area.

**Baseline/Rainbow/Dysart/Toothaker Loop (Estrella Mtn Regional Park). Rating C.** This is a 7.7 mile loop hike with an elevation gain of 900 ft. The trail wanders through the front portion of EMRP with distant views to the north. It then goes south into more typical desert areas. Trail condition - a very good hiking trail. There's a Porta-John at trailhead. Park fee is \$6.00 per car. Driving distance is 20 miles RT.  
<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/EstrellaMountainRegionalPark/Baseline-Rainbow-Dysart>

**Battleship Mountain Summit via Second Water Trail (Superstition Mtns).**

**Rating A.** This is a 12.5 mile in and out hike with an elevation gain over 2000 ft. It goes into the Boulder Canyon area and involves some boulder hopping and bushwhacking up the back spine of Battleship. There is some edgy exposure and thus the A level rating. There are lots of excellent views of the Superstitions. Restrooms are at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is 126 miles RT.

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/SuperstitionWilderness/Battleship-Mountain-Summit>

**Bear Mountain + Doe Mountain (Sedona). Rating B.** This is a dual in-and-out hike covering 2 trails from the same trailhead. Bear Mtn is a 5 mile hike with an elevation gain of 1700 ft. Doe Mtn. is 3 miles and 700 ft. Bear Mtn.. offers outstanding views of the red rocks of Sedona, while Doe Mtn gives closer views of the town. No restrooms at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is 270 miles. RT

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Category/Bear-Mountain-Doe-Mountain>

**Beardsley Trail from Maricopa Trailhead (Lake Pleasant). Rating B.** This is a 9.1 mile in and out hike with an elevation gain of 1100 ft. The hike starts below the Lake Pleasant dam and crosses the usually dry Agua Fria river in a wooded area. It then goes across a road and travels parallel to the Morgan City Wash. The second half of the hike goes through a Saguaro forest. About a mile from the end is a very odd crested Saguaro on the left. There is a good chance to see wild burros on this trail. The turn around point is the campground in the park with some views of the lake. No restrooms at the trailhead. No park fee from this trailhead. Driving distance is 64 miles.

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Other-12/Beardsley-Trail>

**Beardsley/Frog Tank/Roadrunner Trails (Lake Pleasant Regional Park). Rating**

**C.** This is 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. Restrooms with water are at the trailhead as well as along Roadrunner trail. Trail condition - good hiking trail. Park fee is \$6.00. Driving distance is 80 miles.

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Other-12/Beardsley-Trail>

**Beardsley/Morgan City Wash Lollipop Loop (Lake Pleasant Regional Park).**

**Rating C.** This is 7.6 mile lollipop hike with an elevation gain of 840 ft. The hike starts out crossing a road and then travels through a Saguaro forest. Along the trail are some very interesting Saguaros. Morgan City Wash is an unusual overgrown riparian area that has over 100 species of birds. There are several creek crossings over a year round creek. There is a good chance to see wild burros on the Beardsley trail. Trail condition-Beardsley is a good hiking trail while the wash is through a wooded area. Restrooms with water are at the trailhead. Trail condition - good hiking trail. Park fee is \$6.00. Driving distance is 80 miles.

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Other-12/Beardsley-Trail>

**Beardsley Trail (Lake Pleasant Regional Park). Rating D.** This is 4 mile in and out hike with an elevation gain of 300 ft. The hike starts out crossing a road and then travels through a Saguaro forest. About a mile in is a very odd crested Saguaro on the right. Near the turn around point is a very tall Saguaro (30') with no arms. The hike ends at a dry waterfall area with some interesting rock formations. There is a good chance to see wild burros on this trail. Restrooms with water are at the trailhead. Park fee is \$6.00. Driving distance is 80 miles.

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Other-12/Beardsley-Trail>

**Bell Pass, McDowell Sonoran Preserve (Scottsdale). Rating B.** This is an 8.4 mile out and back hike with an elevation change of 1470 ft. The hike starts on the Gateway trail and passes through a large Saguaro forest. Just past the saddle you can see the fountain at Fountain Hills (on the hour for 15 minutes). The fountain will show up between you and Weavers Needle. Distant views include Four Peaks, Weavers Needle, Fountain Hills, and Scottsdale. Restrooms and water are at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is 90 miles RT.

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/McDowellSonoranPreserve/Gateway-Loop-Windgate-Pass>

**Bell Rock & Courthouse Rock Loop (Sedona). Rating C.** This is a 6-7 miles hike with an elevation gain of 600+ ft. The hike starts near Bell Rock and goes up to the vortex at Bell Rock before looping around Bell and Courthouse rocks. Very scenic with many well known rock formations in view as you go around these two rocks. Trail condition - good hiking trail with Bell Rock itself being steep bare rock. Restrooms are at the trailhead. Free with a Golden Age Pass. Driving distance is approx 240 miles RT.

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Category/Bell-Rock-Courthouse-Rock-Loop>

**Bell Rock & Courthouse Rock Loop (Sedona). Rating D.** This is a 4.2 mile hike with an elevation gain of about 500 ft. The hike starts near Bell Rock and goes up to the vortex at Bell Rock before looping around Bell and Courthouse Rocks. Very scenic with many well known rock formations in view as you go around these two rocks. Trail condition - good hiking trail with Bell Rock itself being steep bare rock. Restrooms are at the trailhead. A Red Rock Parking Pass (\$5.00) or a Golden Age Pass is required. Driving distance is approx 240 miles RT. [SCG=4.2/500/2.0]

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Category/Bell-Rock-Courthouse-Rock-Loop>

**Bell Trail (Wet Beaver Wilderness). Rating C & B.** The C hike is a 7.5 mile hike with a 500 ft. elevation change. For a B hike it is a 9+ mile hike with an elevation change of 1600 ft. This is a scenic hike along Beaver Creek and there is always water in the creek. Restrooms are at the trailhead. Trail condition - the overall trail is excellent; the scamper up Bell rock includes an occasional hand on a rock. There is no park fee. Driving distance is 220 miles RT. [SCG=7.0/1600/3.8].

For the C hike: Hike 2.5 miles on an old jeep trail to the real trailhead. Take the Bell Trail and stay on it. You will see other trail junctures for the White Mesa Trail and later the Apache Maid Trail. Stay on the Bell trail. Later you come to the Bell & Weir Trailheads. Take the Bell to the left. It goes up a short rise and you travel along the

mountainside below a cliff area. After a while the trail comes back to the stream at Bell Crossing. Stay on the left side and continue past Bell Crossing to a pool called Tongue of The Beaver. This is our break and turn around point and may provide some photo ops.

For the B hike: At Bell Crossing, cross the stream to continue the hike. After crossing the stream you will start ascending towards the rim (1600 ft in 1.5 miles) and an interesting plateau.

**Ben Avery Trail (Eagletail Mountains). Rating C.** This is a 7.4 mile hike with an elevation gain of 600 ft. There are views of Courthouse Rock for most of the hike. From the trailhead, it is 3.6 miles along an old jeep trail and in a wash to over 100 Indian petroglyphs. The trail itself is fairly easy hiking. You can then continue through a high walled canyon for another 1.5 miles. Along this canyon is a series of volcanic lava flows, many of which have melted quartz rock imbedded in them. In driving to the trailhead, the last .4 miles of road requires a high clearance vehicle. Or you can park along the road and walk the additional .4 miles to the trailhead, making this an 8.0 mile hike. Trail condition - good hiking trail. There are no facilities at the trailhead and no park fee. Driving distance is 130 miles RT.

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/EagletailMountainsWildernessAr/Ben-Avery-Trail-Courthouse>

**Ben Avery & Arch Loop (Eagletail Mountains). Rating B.** This is 9-10+ mile hike with an elevation gain of 1000 ft. There are views of Courthouse Rock for most of the hike. From the trailhead, it is 3.6 miles along an old jeep trail and in a wash to over 100 Indian petroglyphs. The trail to the petroglyphs is fairly easy hiking. To get to the arch you follow an old road, then go through a wash before bushwhacking up a steep hill of loose rock and stones to reach the arch. In driving to the trailhead, the last .4 miles of road requires a high clearance vehicle. Or you can park along the road and walk the additional .4 miles to the trailhead. Trail condition - good hiking trail to the petroglyphs then a semi-bushwhack to the arch and back. There are no facilities at the trailhead and no park fee. Driving distance is 130 miles RT.

**Big Horn Mountain Loop (Big Horn Mountain Wilderness). Rating B.** This is a clockwise loop hike around Big Horn Peak of 9.3 miles with an elevation gain of 1600 ft. There is no formal trail, but for two-thirds of the hike the vegetation is scarce enough not to have to actually bushwhack. The climb up and back down is a steep, boulder filled bushwhack. There are lots of interesting rock formations along the way. There are no restrooms and no park fee. Driving distance is approx. 90 miles RT.<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/BigHornMountainWilderness/Bighorn-Loop>

**Big Horn Mountain Wash (Big Horn Mountain Wilderness). Rating C.** This is an 7-8 mile in and out hike with an elevation gain of about 800 feet. While there are no formal trails in the area, the brush is scattered so hiking is easy until you start going up the mountainside. You head towards a finger of rock and then turn left up a wash when you see Sugarloaf Mountain on the left. Shortly after turning left up the wash, look back to your right to see the Moon Arch, a nice round arch on a ridge. You can get to the arch by going up the ridge at the beginning of the wash, though you can't see the arch

from this position. On the return, you simply head towards Big Horn Mountain. There are lots of interesting rock formations along the wash including a 10 foot dry waterfall made of red rock. You can either climb up it or go around. From the ridgeline, you have great views of the surrounding region. No rest rooms and no park fee. Driving distance is 93 miles RT.

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/BigHornMountainWilderness/Arch-Wash-Ridge>

**Big Horn Summit Trail (Big Horn Mountains). Rating B+/A-.** This is an 8 mile hike with an elevation gain of 2300 ft. The first part of the hike is easy desert hiking but as we start making our way up to the shoulder, route finding becomes critical. Above the shoulder it requires carefully navigating our way through a fairly dense area of Cholla. As we ascend farther up you have to work your way up a very steep loose section to reach the base of the peak. The climb at this point becomes a class 3 scramble (this is the A portion of the hike) for about 25-30 feet to the top. Working your way back down the steep loose section is tricky in that you must be careful not to start sliding. It is also not easy finding the same route down as it all looks alike. There are no restrooms and no park fee. Driving distance is approx. 90 miles.

**Black Canyon Trail - Antelope Hill to Antelope Creek Segment (I-17 Exit 259). Rating B.** This is a 10.6 mile in and out hike with an elevation gain of 900 ft. It is mostly rolling hills with lots of prickly pear cactus. There is one valley of various trees, which provides shade for most of the day. Trail condition - a good biking trail. No park fee. No rest rooms (Sunset Point Rest Area is a few miles before the exit with easy return). Driving distance is 130 miles RT.

**Black Canyon Trail - Big Bug Trailhead North (off Hwy 69) Rating B.** Restroom is at the trailhead. This is an in-and-out hike of 12 miles with an elevation gain of 1600 ft. It goes under Hwy 69 and crosses rolling hills of brushy desert and ends at a running creek. Javalina and sheep have been spotted on this trail. Trail condition - good hiking trail. No Park Fee. A restroom is at the trailhead. Driving distance is 150 miles RT.

**Black Canyon Trail - Black Canyon City North (Black Canyon City Trailhead - Exit 244). Rating C.** This is a 7 mile hike with an elevation gain of about 1050 ft. The trail goes around, up/down and through several little canyons parallel to Black Canyon City. There is an abundance of cacti including hundreds of pincushion cacti, plus more small saguaro cacti (under 5 ft) than large (over 5 ft). The canyons have many interesting rock formations and there are expansive views of Black Canyon City. At the 2 mile point, the trail crosses Black Canyon Creek, which is usually dry. At the crossing is a rock formation they call the China Wall. This could be a great spring hike when the cacti are in bloom. Trail condition - a good biking trail. No restrooms at the trailhead. No Park Fee. Driving distance is 110 miles RT.

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/BlackCanyonNationalRecreationT/BlackCanyonCity>

**Black Canyon Trail – Boy Scout Loop (Emory Henderson Trailhead - New River). Rating C+/B.** This is an 8-11.2 mile lollipop loop hike, with an elevation change of 400 ft and elevation gain of 800 ft. The B version does a loop at the end of a 4 mile in and

out hike. There is lots of vegetation with numerous types of cactus. Wildflowers would be abundant after good winter rains. Trail condition - a good biking trail. There are restrooms at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is 74 miles RT.

**Black Canyon Trail – Emory Henderson Trailhead North (New River). Rating D.**

This is a 4 mile in-and-out hike, with an elevation gain of 200 ft. The trail goes in and out of several canyons. There is lots of vegetation with numerous types of cactus. Wildflowers would be abundant after good winter rains. Trail condition - a good biking trail. There are restrooms at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is 74 miles RT. <https://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/BlackCanyonNationalRecreationT/New-River-Segment>

**Black Canyon Trail - Bumblebee to Government Springs (I-17 Exit 248). Rating B.**

This is a 13.4 mile hike with an elevation gain of 1000 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. 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 120 miles RT. <https://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/BlackCanyonNationalRecreationT/Government-Springs/B-HikeLynnW2015-2016/>

**Black Canyon Trail - Bumblebee Trailhead North (I-17 Exit 248). Rating C.**

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.

**Black Canyon Trail – Doe Springs Segment/Table Top Mesa Trailhead (I-17 Exit 236) Rating C+/B.**

This is a 10-12 mile in and out hike with an elevation gain of 1000 ft. It covers the segment just north of the Boy Scout Loop s of the Black Canyon Trail. It goes through typical rolling desert terrain with distant views of Black Canyon City and the hills around it. There are two nice saguaro forests along the trail - the one at the 5 mile point is excellent and has shade for a break. Trail condition - the trail itself is a national bike trail - very good surface and no steep ups or downs. No rest rooms at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is 90 miles RT. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/BlackCanyonNationalRecreationT/Doe-Spring>

**Black Canyon Trail - Glorianna Trailhead North (I-17 Exit 248). Rating C/B.**

This is a 7-10 mile hike with an elevation gain of 600-900 ft. This segment of the Black Canyon Trail heads north along the east edge of Black Canyon and travels below the Sunset Point rest area, though you don't really see much of the rest area. It has typical desert vegetation with views up and down Black Canyon. There are several interesting little canyons with different points of interest in each - dry waterfall in one, a large Saguaro in one, etc. 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.

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/BlackCanyonNationalRecreationT/Glorianna-TH-North>

**Black Canyon Trail - Glorianna Trailhead North (I-17 Exit 248). Rating D.** This is a 4-5 mile hike with an elevation gain of 200-300 ft. This segment of the Black Canyon Trail heads north along the east edge of Black Canyon and travels below the Sunset Point rest area, though you don't really see much of the rest area. It has typical desert vegetation with views up and down Black Canyon. There are several interesting little canyons with different points of interest in each - a dry waterfall in one, a large Saguaro in one, etc. The 2 smallest Saguaro (4 inches high) that we know of are on this trail. 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.

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/BlackCanyonNationalRecreationT/Glorianna-TH-North>

**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.

**Black Canyon Trail - Government Springs to Antelope Hill (I-17 Exit 248).**

**Rating B.** This is a 10.8 mile hike with an elevation gain of 1200 feet. This hike goes up to the top of the ridgeline near Crown King. The first couple of miles wander through the desert with little elevation change. It then follows the contours of several interesting canyons as it rises up to the top of the plateau. Lots of expansive views of a valley surprisingly devoid of development even though it's only a couple of miles from I-17. 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 130 miles RT.

**Black Canyon Trail - Government Springs North (I-17 Exit 248). Rating C.** This is a 7 mile hike with an elevation gain of 840 ft. The first couple of miles wander through the desert with little elevation change. It then follows the contours of several interesting canyons as it rises up to near the top of the plateau. Lots of expansive views of a valley surprisingly devoid of development even though it's only a couple of miles from I-17. The turnaround point is a gate around 3.5 miles from the trailhead. 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 130 miles RT. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/BlackCanyonNationalRecreationT/Government-Springs>

**Black Canyon Trail - Government Springs South (I-17 Exit 248). Rating C.** This is a 7.5 mile hike with an elevation gain of 600 ft. It starts near a spring and goes south. There are lots of expansive views with typical desert vegetation. 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.

**Black Canyon Trail - K-Mine Segment/Black Canyon City Trailhead (I-17 Exit 242). Rating C/B.** This is a 5 to 10 mile in and out hike with an elevation gain of

900 ft. The C level hike goes 2.5 miles along a ridge that follows the Agua Fria River before descending down to the river using a series of sharp switchbacks. This stretch of the hike provides nice views of the river canyon as well as Black Canyon City. The B level continues across the river and follows an old jeep trail over several hills before picking up the continuation of the Black Canyon Trail. There is a restroom at the trailhead. Trail condition - a good biking trail with one steep section just before crossing the river. No park fee. Driving distance is 110 miles RT - the last .25 miles are on a gravel road. The Rock Springs Café (great pies and burgers) is .8 miles from the trailhead and you will pass it to get back on I-17. [SCG=5.4/800/2.7].

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/BlackCanyonNationalRecreationT/K-mine-Segment-Exit-242>

### **Black Canyon Trail – Little Pan Loop/Table Mesa Trailhead( I-17 Exit 236)**

**Rating B.** This is a 9.6 mile lollipop loop hike with an elevation gain of about 1260 ft. It covers three segments of the Black Canyon Trail – the Table Top Mesa, Little Pan, and Williams Mesa segments. The hike crosses the Agua Fria river twice, so be prepared for water depending on the season you hike it. It goes through typical rolling desert terrain with distant views of Lake Pleasant. Trail condition - a good biking trail. No rest rooms at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is 90 miles RT. [SCG=9.4/1400/4.0].

### **Black Canyon Trail – Little Pan Segment/Table Mesa Trailhead (I-17 Exit 236)**

**Rating C.** This is a 7.5 mile in and out hike with an elevation gain of about 900 ft. It covers two segments of the Black Canyon Trail – the Table Top Mesa and Little Pan segments. The hike goes to the Agua Fria river and returns. It goes through typical rolling desert terrain with distant views of Lake Pleasant. Trail condition - a good biking trail. No rest rooms at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is 90 miles RT.

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/BlackCanyonNationalRecreationT/Little-Pan-Segment>

### **Black Canyon Trail – Table Mesa Trailhead to River (I-17 Exit 236) Rating D.**

This is a 4 mile in and out hike with an elevation gain of about 300 ft. The hike goes to the Agua Fria river and returns. It goes through typical rolling desert terrain with distant views of Lake Pleasant. There is a small stand of wild palm trees along the trail. Trail condition - a good biking trail. No rest rooms at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is 90 miles RT.

<https://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/BlackCanyonNationalRecreationT/Table-Mesa-Loop>

### **Black Canyon Trail – Skyline Segment (Rock Springs Trailhead - I-17 Exit 242)**

**Rating B.** This is an 11.6 mile out and back hike with an elevation gain of about 1200 feet. Starting out on the Horseshoe segment you cross the Agua Fria River at about the 1.5 mile point. The trail then becomes the Skyline segment. As you climb up the hillside, you will have several views of the river and Black Canyon City from above. The turn around point is the junction with the Cheapshot segment. There was some water in the river in June, but was easily crossed. During the wet seasons, it will be more difficult to cross while staying dry. There are several sections of quartz rock along the trail. There is a restroom at the trailhead. Trail condition - a good biking trail. There is no park fee. Driving distance is 100 miles RT - the last .25 miles are on a gravel road. The Rock Springs Café (great pies) is .8 miles from the trailhead and you will pass it to

get back on I-17. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/BlackCanyonNationalRecreationT/BCT-Skyline-Segment>

**Black Canyon Trail – Skyline Segment (Rock Springs Trailhead - I-17 Exit 242)**

**Rating C.** This is a 6-8 mile out and back hike with an elevation gain of about 1000 feet. Starting out on the Horseshoe segment you cross the Agua Fria river at about the 1.5 mile point. The trail then becomes the Skyline segment. As you climb up the hillside, you will have several views of the river and Black Canyon City from above. For a 6 mile hike stop and turn around when you see the river view after passing behind a hill. For a 7 mile hike go .5 miles further for a view of Black Canyon City. The 8 mile version goes up to a quartz field. There is usually some water in the river, but is crossable. During the wet seasons, it will be more difficult to cross while staying dry. There are several sections of quartz rock along the trail. There is a restroom at the trailhead. Trail condition - a good biking trail. There is no park fee. Driving distance is 100 miles RT. The Rock Springs Café (great pies) is .8 miles from the trailhead and you will pass it to get back on I-17.

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/BlackCanyonNationalRecreationT/BCT-Skyline-Segment>

**Black Canyon Trail – Skyline Segment (Rock Springs Trailhead - I-17 Exit 242)**

**Rating D.** This is a 3.7 mile out and back hike with an elevation gain of about 430 feet. You hike to the Agua Fria river at about the 1.5 mile point. This section has great views of the river valley as you descend down to the river. You can walk along the river in both directions. The main climb is on the way back as you ascend from the river to the top of the ridge. There is a restroom at the trailhead. Trail condition - a good biking trail with one steep section just before getting to the river. There is no park fee. Driving distance is 100 miles RT - the last .25 miles are on a gravel road. The Rock Springs Café (great pies) is .8 miles from the trailhead and you will pass it to get back on I-17.

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/BlackCanyonNationalRecreationT/BCT-Skyline-Segment>

**Black Canyon Trail - Table Mesa Loop (Table Top Mesa Trailhead I-17 Exit 236)**

**Rating C+.** This is an 8 mile lollipop loop hike with an elevation gain of about 700 ft. It covers two segments of the Black Canyon Trail – the Table Top Mesa and Little Pan segments. The hike goes to the Agua Fria river and makes a loop along a mesa above the river. Trail condition - a good biking trail with a little edginess in the loop section. There are great views of the river from above. It goes through typical rolling desert terrain with distant views of Lake Pleasant. No rest rooms at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is 90 miles RT.

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/BlackCanyonNationalRecreationT/Table-Mesa-Loop>

**BLM Trails LP1 & LP2 (Hwy 74, MM 14). Rating C.** This is an 8 mile loop hike on BLM land with an elevation gain of about 600 ft. The LP2 trail follows a wash for 2 miles and then becomes a regular trail. On the return, turn left at the intersection with LP1 and follow LP1 back to LP2 and the cars. LP1 has one main hill of 260 ft to go up over and back down. The trails wander through typical desert terrain with assorted cacti and

scrub brush. Trail surface - part is an average trail with 1-2 miles in a coarse sandy wash. No restrooms at the trailhead. No park Fee. Driving distance is 80 miles RT - on paved roads, with a dirt parking area.

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/LakePleasantArea/LP2-LP1-Lollipop>

**BLM Trails LP1 & LP2 (Lake Pleasant - Hwy 74 MM 14). Rating D.** This is a 4 mile loop hike on BLM land with an elevation gain of about 400 ft. The LP2 trail follows a wash for 2.2+ miles. At the second intersection with LP1 turn right and follow LP1 back to LP2 and the cars. LP1 has one main hill of 260 ft to go up over and back down. The trails wander through typical desert terrain with assorted cactus and scrub brush. No restrooms at the trailhead. No park Fee. Driving distance is 80 miles RT. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/LakePleasantArea/LP2-LP1-Lollipop>

**BLM Trails LP1 & LP2 & Lollipop Loop (Lake Pleasant - Hwy 74 MM 14). Rating C+.** This is a 8+ mile loop hike on BLM land with an elevation gain of about 1300 ft. You take LP2 to LP1 and turn right. The trail then goes right and makes a loop back to LP2. There are views of Lake Pleasant on several high points along the trail. Trail Condition - most of the trail is in good shape, but there is about 2 miles that travels in a sandy/stoney wash. The trails wander through typical desert terrain with assorted cactus and scrub brush. No restrooms at the trailhead. No park Fee. Driving distance is 80 miles RT. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/LakePleasantArea/LP2-LP1-Lollipop>

**BLM Trails LP2 & LP3 & LP1 (Lake Pleasant - Hwy 74 MM 14). Rating C.** This is a 6.8 mile clockwise loop hike on BLM land with an elevation gain of about 1100 ft. The LP2 trail follows a wash west for .5 miles. At the intersection with LP3, turn right. At the bottom of a wash around the 3 mile point we turn right and go through the wash for about .5 miles to the intersection with LP2. We turn right and return to the trailhead. LP3 has a series of rollercoaster hills with an option to go over or around one steep hill. The trails wander through typical desert terrain with assorted cactus and scrub brush. There are views of Lake Pleasant fro the top of some of the hills. No restrooms at the trailhead. No park Fee. Driving distance is 80 miles RT. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/LakePleasantArea/LP3-LP2-Loop>

**Blue Point to Rhyodacite Canyon (Goldfield Mountains). Rating C+.** This is an 8 mile out and back hike with an elevation gain of about 1600 ft. Most of it is on an old Jeep road, with some of it on trail, through a wash, and the last half mile bushwhacking to the end of the canyon. Lots of mountain ridges, desert vegetation and one crested Saguaro. There are views of part of Saguaro Lake and the river along the hike. No restrooms. No fee. Driving distance is 110 miles RT.

**Blue Tank Falls + DC Trails (Wickenburg). Rating C.** This is a 7.5 mile loop hike with an elevation gain of 1000 ft. This first part of the hike goes into a sandy wash and up the Blue Tank Falls, a very interesting area of rock formations. The second part goes up over a ridge with expansive views in all directions. There are lots of varieties of cacti in this area. A side trail goes by a large Ocotillo forest. Trail condition - most of the trail is an average hiking trail, but the Blue Wash area has a short waterfall and is sandy.

There are no restrooms (but a McDonalds is on the way to the trailhead). There is no park fee. Driving distance is 110 miles RT.

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Wickenburg/DCBlue-Tank-Falls>

**Blue Wash/Camp Creek Falls Trail (Cave Creek) Rating C/B.** This is a 6-8 mile in and out hike with an elevation gain of 900-1000 ft. It goes down a series of dry waterfalls to an intersection with Camp Creek. Going up Camp Creek about a third of a mile is a wet waterfall of about 15 feet. Beyond that the creek stays above ground and meanders through a lush riparian area to a campground. Going downstream from the intersection is a sandy wash. The return goes up the ridge running parallel to Blue Wash, providing views of the whole area. No restrooms at the trailhead. There is no park fee. Driving distance is 122 miles RT.

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

**Bluffs Springs/Dutchman Trails (Superstition Mountains). Rating B.** This is an 8.5 mile loop trip. Hike out to Bluff Springs and then past Miners Needle on the way back. The Bluff Springs shares the trailhead parking lot with the Peralta Trail. We will take Bluff Springs 2.1 miles to a junction with the Terrapin Trail then continue to the right on Bluff Springs Trail for 1 more mile to the Bluff Springs. At this point we will turn right onto the Dutchman Trail. Following the Dutchman Trail for 1.2 miles to Miners Summit. In another 1.6 miles we will encounter a junction with the Coffee Flat Trail. Once again, we will take the right turn and continue on the Dutchman Trail for another 2.6 miles and the cars. Restrooms are located at the trailhead. There is no park fee. Driving distance is approx 140 miles RT.

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/SuperstitionWilderness/Bluff-Springs-Peralta-Trails>

**Bluff Springs/Terrapin/Crosscut/Peralta loop (Superstition Mountains). Rating B.** This is an 8.4 mile loop hike with an elevation change of 1400 ft. and elevation gain of 1900 ft. Start out on Bluff Springs, turn left on Terrapin, and turn left again at the Crosscut trail, which crosses in front of Weavers Needle. Turn left on Peralta and head back to the parking lot. The crosscut trail is very steep and goes over many boulders, but there are many cairns on the trail to guide you through the boulders. Restrooms are located at the trailhead. There is no park fee. Driving distance is approx. 140 miles RT.

**Bluffs Springs/Terrapin/Dutchman/Peralta loop (Superstition Mountains). Rating B.** This is a 12.8 mile loop hike with an elevation gain of 3010 ft. Hike out to Bluff Springs and around Weavers Needle on the way back. The Bluff Springs shares the trailhead parking lot with the Peralta Trail. We will take Bluff Springs 2.1 miles to a junction with the Terrapin Trail. Then turn to the left on the Terrapin Trail for 2.8 miles up and down some hills to the Dutchman Trail. Here we will turn left onto the Dutchman Trail for 1 more mile to the Peralta Trail. Again, we will turn left onto the Peralta Trail and go past Weavers Needle and over Freemont Saddle and down to the cars. Restrooms are located at the trailhead. There is no park fee. Driving distance is approx 140 miles RT.

**Bootlegger/Coyote Canyon Trails (McDowell Sonoran Preserve, Scottsdale). Rating C.** This is a 7.6 mile in-and-out hike with an elevation gain of 630 ft. It passes through a large forest of Saguaro. There are 2 crested Saguaro cacti along the trail -

one has a very rare double crest. There are excellent views of the surrounding mountains as well as numerous granite rock formations. This is one of the most scenic trails within an hour of Pebble Creek. No restrooms at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is 110 miles RT.

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/McDowellSonoranPreserve/Granite-Mt-North>

**Bootlegger/Coyote Canyon/Granite Mountain Loop (McDowell Sonoran Preserve, Scottsdale). Rating B-/C+.** This is a 9 mile lollipop loop hike with an elevation gain of 800 ft. It passes through a large forest of Saguaro. There are 2 crested Saguaro cacti along the trail - one has a very rare double crest. The hike then goes around Granite Mountain to Balanced Rock, a large pointed boulder that sits on its point. It finishes by going through a small area of yuccas and large Saguaros. There are 3 rock formations that look like camels along the final section of the trail. There are excellent views of the surrounding mountains as well as numerous granite rock formations. This is one of the most scenic trails within an hour of Pebble Creek. No restrooms at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is 110 miles RT.

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/McDowellSonoranPreserve/Granite-Mt-North>

**Bootlegger/Granite Mountain/Turpentine Loop (McDowell Sonoran Preserve, Scottsdale).** Rating D. This is a 4.5 mile loop hike with an elevation gain of approximately 500 ft. It passes through a large boulder field of interesting shapes. It finishes by going through a small area of turpentine bushes. There are 3 rock formations that look like camels along the final section of the trail. There are excellent views of the surrounding mountains as well as numerous granite rock formations. This is one of the most scenic trails within an hour of Pebble Creek. No restrooms at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is 110 miles RT.

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/McDowellSonoranPreserve/Granite-Mt-North>

**Bootleggers trail (Wickenburg). Rating C.** This is a lollipop loop of 5+ miles with an elevation change of 525 feet. This hike starts at Sophie's Flat and goes through typical desert terrain and then along a canyon before crossing the Blue Tank Wash and returning. There are some interesting canyon areas and a dry waterfall. There are also many views of the Wickenburg area as well as the other mountains in Wickenburg. Restroom at the trailhead. No Park fee. Driving distance is 98 miles RT.

**Boulder Canyon (Superstition Mountains). Ratings C.** This is a 5.4 mile out and back hike with an elevation change of 700ft and elevation gain of 1500 ft (7.3 miles & 2000 ft to the bottom and back). Follow Boulder Canyon Trail #103 to La Barge creek. Weavers Needle is visible a few times further into the trail. The beautiful views of Four Peaks, Canyon Lake, Battleship Mountain and Weavers Needle are rewarding. At La Barge Creek, Battleship Mountain looms ahead. We will turn around here, at the 3mi. mark, take a break, and return to the trailhead. Best described as a peaceful hike with great views. Porta-Johns are at the trailhead. Trail condition - most of the hike is on a uneven rocky trail with the early part being very rough and rocky. There is no park fee. Driving distance is approx. 138 mi.

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/SuperstitionWilderness/Boulder-Canyon-Trail>

### **Boulder Canyon/Lower La Barge Canyon Loop (Superstition Mountains).**

**Ratings B.** This is a 8.3 mile loop hike with an elevation change of 1100ft and elevation gain of 1100 ft( 7.3 miles & 2000 ft to the bottom and back). Follow Boulder Canyon Trail #103 to La Barge creek. You then return via La Barge Creek. Weavers Needle is visible a few times further into the trail. The beautiful views of Four Peaks, Canyon Lake, Battleship Mountain and Weavers Needle are rewarding. At La Barge Creek, Battleship Mountain looms ahead. Trail Condition - the first half is an uphill hike on a rocky trail; the second half through the creek is full of 6-14" boulders. Porta-Johns are at the trailhead. There is no park fee. Driving distance is approx. 138 mi.<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/SuperstitionWilderness/Boulder-Canyon-LaBarge-Canyon>

**Boulder Canyon to First Water (Superstition Mountains). Ratings B.** This is an 8.0 mile one way end to end hike with an elevation change of 800ft, but an elevation gain of 2200 ft. The opposite direction of First Water to Canyon Lake Marina has the same elevation change (800 ft), but an elevation gain of only 1600 ft. This is because Canyon Lake is 600 feet lower than First Water trailhead. Two cars are needed for this one: Leave one car at First Water or a car at both ends and exchange keys as you pass the other group. Follow Boulder Canyon Trail #103 across La Barge creek to the intersection with Second Water trail. Then follow Second Water to First Water and the First Water trailhead. Weavers Needle is visible a few times along the trail. The beautiful views of Four Peaks, Canyon Lake, Battleship Mountain and Weavers Needle are rewarding. Trail condition - most of the hike is on a rocky trail with a few sections of normal desert trail. Bathrooms are at the trailhead. There is no park fee at either end. Driving distance is approx 140 mi.

**Boulders BLM Trails A+LP8+LP7. (Hwy 74, MM 11.5). Rating D.** This is a 4 mi in-and-out hike on BLM land with an elevation change of 400 ft. Overall the hike goes through typical desert terrain. The highlight of the hike is the wreckage of an early 1950s Buick - the chrome is still shiny, though the rest of the car has heavy rust. Restrooms are at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is 90 miles RT.  
<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/LakePleasantArea/Boulders-BLM-LPA-LP8-LP7>

**Boulders BLM Trails A+LP8+LP7. (Hwy 74, MM 11.5). Rating C.** This is a 6 mi in-and-out hike on BLM land with an elevation change of 900 ft. Overall the hike goes through typical desert terrain. The highlight of the hike is the wreckage of an early 1950s Buick - the chrome is still shiny, though the rest of the car has heavy rust. Restrooms are at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is 90 miles RT.  
<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/LakePleasantArea/Boulders-BLM-LPA-LP8-LP7>

**Boynton Canyon and Vista Trails (Sedona). Rating C.** This is a 6.6 mile in and out hike with an elevation gain of 1100 ft. The hike goes past a Sedona resort before going into the canyon. Lots of great red rock views. Trail condition - Overall a good hiking trail with a steep section at the far end. There are restrooms at the trailhead. Park fee is \$6.00 (free with Golden Age pass). Driving distance is 260 miles RT.  
<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Category/Boynton-Canyon-Trail>

**Boyce Thompson Arboretum Trails (Superior). Rating D.** This is a nice walk through the BTA in the Spring-time to catch the flowers in bloom. The trails total about 3 miles with little elevation change. Picketpost Mountain is in the background. The group will also tour the World's Smallest Museum and have lunch in Superior, before returning to Pebble Creek. There are restrooms at BTA. BTA has a fee of about \$10 per person. Driving distance is approx 180 miles RT.

**Brethren North – SR/JL/BL/GS/UT Loop (Estrella Foothills Park). Rating D.** This is a 4.8 mile Lollipop loop considered somewhat of a desert ramble with minimal elevation gain. Nice pleasant hike to get some of the holiday cheer off the waistline. Helps begin the post-holiday conditioning program to get back in the groove. Trail condition - good hiking trail. Restrooms are at the trailhead. No parking fee. Driving distance 13 miles.

**Brins Mesa Trail (Sedona). Rating B/C.** This is a 5.4-7.9 mi loop hike with an elevation gain of 900-1600ft. This trail is an incredibly versatile trail, offering many enjoyable options and side excursions. The trailhead elevation is around 4,450 ft. Often, people just hike the 1.5 miles one way (600 ft elevation change) from the Jordan Road trailhead to the mesa rim, admire the spectacular view and then hike back. This gives you a good cardiovascular workout combined with some beautiful scenery. At this point you may go .3 mile to the north for a view of the valley from a boulder formation. Another choice for those who want a climb is to go south and hike to the summit of the mountain immediately to your south. You can hike the trail from one end to the other, about 3.6 miles one way. Another option is to hike the Brins Mesa Trail to the Soldier Pass Trail then turn left, go to Jordan Trail, turn left and proceed to the Cibola Pass Trail, again turn left and proceed to Brins Mesa Trailhead. This is about a 5.4 mile loop. Down Solders Pass, about .8 miles from the Brins Mesa trail (just before the Wilderness boundary fence) is a side trail to the left that takes you up to the Solder Pass arches, adding about .7 miles to the hike. The long option is take the Brins Mesa Trail to a spot where you are in the wash and there is a high cliff on the north side of the wash. This is near the west end of the trail. This is a nice spot for lunch. After lunch turn around and return to the Soldier Pass/Jordan/Cibola Trails back to Jordan Road. This long option is about 7.9 miles in length. The elevation gain/descent for this long option is about 1,600 ft. Restrooms are at the trailhead. Park fee is \$6.00 (free with Golden Age pass). Driving distance is 256 miles RT.

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Category/Brins-Mesa-Soldiers-Cibola>

**Brittlebush Trail (Sonoran Desert National Monument). Rating C+.** This is a fairly flat 8.1 mile in-and-out hike with an elevation gain of 300 ft. It goes through typical desert terrain with nice views of the surrounding mountains. At the far end of the trail is a series of Mexican Jumping Bean plants (unique in Arizona). There are restrooms about a mile into the trail. No park fee. Driving distance is 116 miles RT.<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Other-2/Brittlebush-Trail>

**Bronco Trail #247 (Seven Springs Rec Area). Rating C-B.** This is a 6.2-7.6 mile hike with an elevation change of 550 ft. The 6.2 mile hike has an 1100 ft. elevation gain while the 7.6 mi hike has an ascent of 1600 ft. The trail rises up about 400 ft to the

ridge line within 1.5 miles and then travels along the ridgeline before dropping into a valley with a small pond before rising up to a saddle. The C hike takes their break at this point, while the B hike continues down the other side to meet up with Trail 248. There is no park fee despite approach signs along the road stating fees are required – this fee is for other forms of recreation, not hiking. There is a restroom at the trailhead and no park fee. Driving distance is 130 miles RT (the last 3 miles are on an unpaved dirt road).

**Brown Mountain (McDowell Sonoran Preserve). Rating C/B.** There are 2 versions of the C hike. The Brown Saddle portion is a loop hike of about 6 miles with an elevation gain of 600 ft. The Cathedral Rock portion is a 6-7 mile in and out hike with an elevation gain of about 500 ft. The B version combines these two into a 9.2 mile loop hike with an elevation gain of 990 ft. There are great views of the surrounding mountains (Weaver's Needle, Four Peaks, Tom's Thumb, etc.) as well as great rock formations along the trail. There are many different cacti species here and late spring could be very colorful after good winter rains. There is a nice restroom at the trailhead and no park fee. Driving distance is 100 miles RT. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/McDowellSonoranPreserve/Brown-Mountain>

**Brown's Peak (Four Peaks Wilderness). Rating A.** Browns Peak is located in the Four Peaks Wilderness of the Mazatzal Mountains and is the highest point in Maricopa county, topping out at 7,657 ft. The total length is just over 5 miles with a total elevation gain of just under 2,000 ft. The first 2-1/4 miles is a moderate hike (level B/C) to the saddle, climbing just under 1,100 ft. From there, however, the last half mile is a very steep climb up a chute with very loose rock for an additional 900 ft. of gain (level B+/A). There is an exposed class 4 scramble near the summit as well as a couple of short class 3 climbs near the top of the chute. Once reaching the top you will be rewarded with beautiful views of Roosevelt Lake and much of the Tonto National Forest. No restrooms at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is 166 miles RT on a very challenging 20-mile primitive road requiring a high clearance vehicle. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/FourPeaksWilderness/Browns-Peak-Summit>

**Burro Creek Canyon (Hwy 93). Rating B.** This is a 7+ mile in and out hike along Burro Creek Canyon with an elevation gain of 350 ft. This hike has great views of the canyon and creek, which has water for most of the year. The hike passes under the Hwy. 93 bridge that crosses the canyon. The trail surface is very rough - mostly round river rocks. There are nice restrooms with water at the trailhead and no park fee. Driving distance is 100 miles RT. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Hwy93/Burro-Creek-Canyon>

**Burro Flats Loop (Hells Canyon Wilderness). Rating B.** This is a 12 mile lollipop loop hike with an elevation change of 500 ft. The hike starts out on Cedar Basin Road, turns off on the Horse Creek trail, connects to the Burro Flats trail and finally returns via Cedar Basin Road. The hike passes through Lucifer's Gate, a large pass in the mountains of Hells Canyon Wilderness. There is a small arch at the top of the South side of the "gate". There are multiple Saguaro forests as well as an Ocotillo forest as

well as many rock formations. No restrooms and no park fee. Driving distance is 96 miles.

**Bursera/Valley Trail Loop (South Mountain). Rating C.** This is a 6.6 mile loop hike with an elevation gain of about 1200 ft (this includes the short hike to the ruins). Starting from the south side of South Mountain, we hike up a ridge to the west with great views of the Estrella Mountains and areas to the south. We then drop into a valley of typical desert vegetation. We then return up over a saddle and down through a second valley. You can take an optional .25 mile trail to the ruins before going back to the trailhead. No facilities. No park fee. Driving distance is 90 miles RT.  
<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Other-4/Busera-National-Pyramid>

**Busera-National-Pyramid (South Mountain). Rating B.** This is a 10 mile loop hike with an elevation gain of 900 feet. The trail starts off through typical desert landscape (which would be colorful after good winter rains) before going up to the ridgeline of South Mountain 620. The ridgeline provides great views to the south including the Estrella Mountains, Gila Indian Reservation, and Ahwatukee. The trail drops down to the valley and goes back up through the Gila Valley to the National Trail before returning to the trailhead. No restrooms and no park fee. Driving distance is 52 miles RT.  
<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Other-4/Busera-National-Pyramid>

**Calderwood Peak and East Wing Loops (Peoria). Rating C+.** This hike is 2 short lollipop hikes totaling 7 miles with an elevation gain of 1200 ft. The first part goes up to the top of Calderwood Peak with views of the Agua Fria River. The second part goes by a wash and housing development. It then goes up to the top of a short mountain (450 ft) within 1.3 miles using several switchbacks. There are 360 degree views from the peak. Trail condition - both trails are average hiking trails with short steep sections. Restrooms are at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is 60 miles RT. <https://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/CityofPeoria/Calderwood-Eastwing>

**Carney Springs to Peralta loop (Superstitions). Rating B.** This is a 7.5 mile loop hike with an elevation gain of 2000 feet. Carney Springs trail is a very steep, loose pebble/dirt trail that goes up to a saddle providing great views to the south of the Superstitions. The trail going across to the Freemont Saddle (and the Peralta trail) offers excellent views of Weavers Needle and the Superstition Mountains. There is some boulder hopping going down to Freemont Saddle. Once down the Peralta trail at the trailhead, you simply hike down the road about a mile to the Carney Springs trailhead. No restrooms at Carney Springs (Peralta has some) and no park fee. Driving distance is 140 miles RT. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/SuperstitionWilderness/Carney-SpringsPerata-Loop>

**Caterpillar Cross Country Trail (White Tank Mountains). Rating B.** This is about a 6.0 mile hike with an elevation change of over 1000 ft. There are no official trails on this hike. We will pass an ammo bunker on the way up to the top of a hill. The goal is to arrive at the top of a hill which overlooks the demo road that Caterpillar built in the White Tanks. The trail down has a section that is made up of a steep rocky road. Care

will be needed in this area to avoid an injury. Restrooms are at the trailhead. Park fee: \$6.00 per vehicle. Driving distance is approx 30 miles RT.

**Caterpillar Hill Trail (Verrado). Rating C-B.** This out and back hike has 3 options – something for every level of hiker: 1) a nice 4 mile hike (D level) with little elevation change (100 ft) that goes to the bottom of Caterpillar Hill. 2) a nice 7.5 mile hike (C+) up the first part of Caterpillar Hill (elevation gain is 900 ft), or 3) a challenging 9 mile hike (solid B) all the way to the top of Caterpillar Hill (elevation gain is about 1800 ft). The first 2 miles are fairly flat, rising only 100 ft. Then the hike goes up the 9% grade Caterpillar Hill (700ft) over the next 1 3/4 miles. Finally, it goes up the chute you can see from I-10 to the top (800 ft in 3/4 mile). The white trail you see from Pebble Creek is a second 11% grade caterpillar trail. This hike crosses the top part of that trail. Trail condition - the flat part (first 2 miles) is a good trail, while Caterpillar Hill itself is very steep with no switchbacks. No facilities at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is 18 miles RT. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/WhiteTankMountains-Verrado/Caterpillar-Hill>

**Caterpillar Hill View (Verrado). Rating D.** This is a nice 4 mile in-and-out hike with an elevation gain of about 200 ft that goes to the bottom of Caterpillar Hill. This gives you great views of the white trail you see from I-10, though not the part you see from Pebble Creek. No facilities at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is 18 miles RT. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/WhiteTankMountains-Verrado/Caterpillar-Hill>

**Caterpillar Hill Loop (Verrado). Rating C+/B.** This is an 8 to 10.5 mile lollipop loop hike with an elevation gain of 800-1600 feet. For the C+ version, the first 2 miles are fairly flat, rising only 100 ft. Then the hike goes up the 9% grade Caterpillar Hill (700ft) over the next 1 3/4 miles. You then come back down the 11% grade road you see from Pebble Creek. Finally, you skirt the hill between the two trails and return on the 2 mile flat portion of the trail. For the B version, you would go to the top of the hill before coming down the 11% grade road. No facilities at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is 18 miles RT.

**Cathedral Rock Trail (Sedona). Rating C.** This is a 6 mile in and out hike with an elevation gain of about 600 ft. Starting from the Little Horse trailhead you pass under Hwy 179. This is an easy hike until you get up near the saddle of Cathedral Rock where it gets very steep. This hike is very scenic with great views of red rock country. Restrooms are at the trailhead. A Red Rock Parking Pass (\$5.00) or a Golden Age Pass is required. Driving distance is approx. 250 miles RT.

**Cathedral Rock Trail (McDowell Sonoran Preserve). Rating C.** This is a 8.4 mile in and out hike with an elevation gain of about 600 ft. There are great views of the surrounding mountains (Weaver's Needle, Four Peaks, Tom's Thumb, etc.) as well as great rock formations along the trail. There are many different cacti species here and late spring could be very colorful after good winter rains. An optional side trip is to the Balanced Rock formation to the east. There is a nice restroom at the trailhead and no park fee. Trail condition - great hiking trail. Driving distance is 100 miles RT.

**Cave Creek Trail #4 (Seven Springs Rec Area). Rating C.** This is a 7 mile out and back hike, with an elevation gain of about 880 ft. At about .8 miles the trail splits: Cave Creek (#4) to the right, Skunk Tank (#246) to the left across a small creek. At 1.8 miles we encounter a gate (fence). At 1.9 miles we encounter the first creek crossing – you step across via a number of large rocks. At 2.1 miles the first of two Crested Saguaros can be seen along the hillside to our right (about 3 o'clock). You need binoculars or a good telephoto lens to fully appreciate this oddity of nature. At 3.0 miles we encounter the second creek crossing. A quarter mile further up the trail is the second crested Saguaro cactus, just off the trail. A little further along the trail is a nice waterfall and shaded area where we will turn around. You have to drive on a 10-mile dirt road with 2 possible creek crossings to reach the trailhead, but a 4WD is not needed. Restrooms are at the trailhead. There is no park fee for hiking. Driving distance is 140 miles RT. [SCG=6.5/1100/3.2]. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/SevenSpringsRecreationArea/Cave-Creek-Trail>

**Cave Creek Trail #4+Skunk Tank+Cottonwood+#4 Loop (Seven Springs Rec Area). Rating B.** This is an 11.1 mi. loop hike, with an elevation gain of about 1800 ft. At about .8 miles the trail splits: Cave Creek (#4) to the right, Skunk Creek (#246) to the left across a small creek. You have to drive 10 miles on a dirt road with 2 possible creek crossings to reach the trailhead, but a 4WD is not needed. Restrooms are at the trailhead. There is no park fee for hiking. Driving distance is 140 miles RT.

**Cave Creek Trail #4+#247+#248+#250+#246+#247+#4 Loop (Seven Springs Rec Area). Rating B.** This is a 13.6 mi. loop hike, with an elevation gain of about 2860 ft. At about .8 miles the trail splits: Cave Creek (#4) to the right, Skunk Creek (#246) to the left across a small creek. You have to drive 10 miles on a dirt road with 2 possible creek crossings to reach the trailhead, but a 4WD is not needed. Restrooms are at the trailhead. There is no park fee for hiking. Driving distance is 140 miles RT.

**Cave Creek/Cottonwood Trails (Seven Springs Rec Area). Rating B.** This is a 10 mile in and out hike. From the Cave Creek Trailhead pick up the Cave Creek Trail #4 as it travels behind the campgrounds paralleling the road. The path crosses a dirt road (ignore the unsigned junction on the left, and remain on #4) and drops down beside Cave Creek to a junction with the left branching Cottonwood Trail #247. Turn left on #247 which crosses the stream then climbs a hill to the junction with the Skunk Creek Trail #246 which branches right. Stay left on the Cottonwood Trail which climbs a grassy slope dotted with juniper, prickly pear and cholla cacti, scrub oak, cat's claw and sugar sumac. The path bends right and enters a wide gully, traveling along a hillside; first on the right, then on the left side, until you eventually reach a junction with the left branching trail #245 (which is not shown on the map, but I believe it leads to the Bronco Trailhead). The trail then begins climbing gently through an area of low rolling hills, past a fence then down the other side to follow a wash. Shortly after climbing out of the wash on the right, you'll reach a junction with the right branching Skull Mesa Trail #248 (5 miles). Turn around at this point. Restrooms are at the trailhead. No park fee for hiking. Driving distance is approx. 140 miles RT. [SCG=9.3/2200/4.9].

**Cave Trail (Superstitions). Rating B.** This is a 2 mile (one way) hike with an elevation gain of about 1500 feet. You would combine this with Peralta (for a 5 mile hike) or Barks Canyon and Bluff Springs (for an 8 mile hike). This is a short but steep hike up to the backside of Geronimo's Cave. You get to look down on the canyon where the Peralta trail is as well as the open expanse of the Superstitions Mountains. Near the top is a 100 yard long slick rock area you need to go up that pushes the definition of a hike. Restrooms are at the trailhead. There is no park fee. Driving distance is 140 miles RT.

**Chalky Spring Box Canyon Hike (Lake Pleasant Area). Rating D+/C/B.** This is 4.5-10 mile in and out hike with an elevation gain of about 300-900 ft. The hike starts out going into Morgan City Wash for about a mile. It then turns into a side canyon with an overgrown riparian area due to the wet Chalky spring. Once past the spring area the canyon narrows into a very scenic slot canyon. This is a minimum D+ hike due to the surface you hike on - the slot canyon has numerous little dry waterfalls to navigate and the spring area is always wet. C and B versions can be created by adding more of the main wash down to the Morgan City Wash riparian area loop we do on other hikes. This would make up to a 10 mile hike with about 900 ft of elevation gain. There is a good chance to see wild burros and owls on this hike. Trail condition - 1/3 is along a sandy wash, 1/3 is through a wet riparian area with lots of brush, and 1/3 is through a slot canyon with short dry waterfalls to scramble up/down. No restrooms at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is 74 miles RT.

**Cholla Trail (Camelback Mountain). Rating C+/B.** This is a 4.8 mi hike, out & back with an elevation gain of 1250 ft to the saddle and 1500 ft to the peak. The trailhead elevation is about 1,400 ft, the elevation at the saddle is 2,177 ft and the summit is 2,637 ft. The trail rises steadily and affords very good views of the surrounding valley as you climb. The trail is very well marked and easy to follow. The first portion of the trail climbs to a saddle that affords views of almost 360 degrees. From the saddle, the trail becomes significantly steeper, and is rated B due to some stretches that required hand over hand climbing. The trip to the saddle is suitable for most hikers. Some will want to wait at the saddle while the more adventuresome climb to the summit and back down. There are no rest rooms and no parking whatsoever at the trailhead. You will need to park along street. There are no park fees and no restrooms. Driving distance is 75 miles RT.

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/CamelbackMountainEchoCanyonRec/Cholla-Trail>

**Cholla Mountain From East (McDowell Sonoran Preserve, Scottsdale). Rating C+.** This is an 8.8 mile in-and-out hike with an elevation gain of 870 ft. It passes through three different "forests" - Saguaro, Jumping Cholla, and Yucca. There are excellent views of the surrounding mountains as well as numerous granite rock formations. No restrooms at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is 110 miles RT.

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/McDowellSonoranPreserve/Cholla-Trail>

**Chuckwagon + Devil's Bridge trails (Sedona). Rating C/B.** This is a 7-9.5 mile lollipop loop with a side trip to Devil's Bridge. Elevation gain is 800-1300 ft. This is a

very scenic hike in Sedona's red rock country. The side trip to Devil's Bridge is very steep, but the views from the bridge are outstanding. Trail surface - the overall trail is a good bike trail with the quarter mile to the bridge being steep with stair-like steps. Restrooms are at trailhead. There is no park fee with a Senior Parks pass. Driving distance is approx. 250 miles RT.

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Category/Devils-Bridge>

**Chuckwagon/Mescal Mountain Loop (Sedona). Rating C/B.** This is an 8-9.5 loop hike with an elevation gain of 900-1200 ft. There are lots of great views of several of Sedona's named rock formations. A section of the hike goes around Mescal Mountain on a wide red rock ledge. It then goes through the Canyon of Fools, a shallow slot canyon that challenges mountain bikers (though not hikers). Restrooms are at trailhead. There is no park fee with a Senior Parks pass. Driving distance is approx 250 miles RT.

<https://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Category/ChuckwagonMescal-Mt-Loop>

**Circumference Trail # 302 (Piestewa Peak Rec Area). Rating C.** A 4.7 mi. loop with an elevation gain of 1240 ft. We will hike this moderate, multi-use trail counter clockwise with sun on one side and shade on the other. The trail varies with flat, gentle and steep climbs around Piestewa Peak. We will hike to the saddle level-not the peak. The downhill side will have heavy use with people walking, jogging or running up to Piestewa Peak. Restrooms are at trailhead. There are no park fees. Driving distance is approx. 66 miles RT. This trail is also called the Freedom Trail.

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/PhoenixMountainsPreserve/Circumference-Summit>

**Circumference + Piestewa Peak Summit Trails (Piestewa Peak Rec Area).**

**Rating B.** A 5.7 mi loop hike with an elevation gain of 1940 ft. We will hike this moderate, multi-use trail counter clockwise with sun on one side and shade on the other. The trail varies with flat, gentle and steep climbs around Piestewa Peak. We will hike to the saddle level then turn to the left and climb the additional .6 mile to the summit. The downhill side will have heavy use with people walking, jogging or running up to Piestewa Peak. A good lunch can be had by all at the Fish Market 16<sup>th</sup> St & Camelback. Carpool accordingly. Carpool I-10 E HOV, move to center lanes in vicinity of 7<sup>th</sup> Street to go north on HWY 51. Take Glendale exit east which turns to Lincoln Drive. Turn left at Piestewa Peak Drive into park and follow it to the end parking lot. Restrooms are at trailhead. There are no park fees. Driving distance is approx 66 miles RT. [SCG=5.2/2300/4.3].

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/PhoenixMountainsPreserve/Circumference-Summit>

**Coachwhip/Arrowhead Point Loop (Thunderbird Park - Glendale). Rating D.**

This is a lollipop loop of 4.7 miles with an elevation gain of 500 ft. It offers a 360 degree view of the surrounding areas. Trail H-2 provides a view of a housing development wrapped around a series of canals (water, water everywhere). Arrowhead, Lake including this development, was built on former citrus orchards and is considered one of the Valley's most affluent neighborhoods (a 2001 survey found that the area's 85308 zip code had more millionaires, 1011, than any other in the valley). Trail surface - rough bare rock on portions of trail. There are restrooms at the trailhead. There is no park fee. Driving distance is approx. 50 miles RT - on paved roads.

**Coachwhip/Cholla/Arrowhead Point Loop (Thunderbird Park - Glendale).**

**Rating C.** These are three summit trails ranging from 2.5 mi to 3.9 miles. We will combine 2 or 3 of them to create a hike of 5.9 miles. The three summits have elevations of 500, 500 & 350 feet respectively. All three offer 360 degree views of the surrounding areas and have different primary vegetation from each other. Elevation gains are 590, 500 & 400 feet respectively. Trail H-2 provides a view of a housing development wrapped around a series of canals (water, water everywhere). Arrowhead, Lake including this development, was built on former citrus orchards and is considered one of the Valley's most affluent neighborhoods (a 2001 survey found that the area's 85308 zip code had more millionaires, 1011, than any other in the valley). Trail H-3 includes views of some large custom homes. Trail H-4 provides views of another housing development and golf course. Trail condition - average hiking trail with some rough sections. There are restrooms at the trailheads. There is no park fee. Driving distance is approx 50 miles RT - on paved roads.

**Coachwhip/Ridgeline Trails (Thunderbird Park - Glendale). Rating C.** This is a hike of 5.4 miles with an elevation gain of 500 ft. The Ridgeline trail goes close to the Sikh Temple seen from Hwy 101. Trail surface - rough bare rock on portions of trail. There are restrooms at the trailhead. There is no park fee. Driving distance is approx 50 miles RT - on paved roads. <https://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/ThunderbirdConservationPark/Coachwhip-Ridgeline-Trails>

**Coffee Flats/Dutchman (Superstition Mountains). Rating B.** This is a 12.8 mile out and back hike, with an elevation gain of 1820 feet. Starting from the Peralta Trailhead, this hike provides great views of Miners Needle. The Peralta Rd 77 turnoff is located 8.5 miles past Apache Jct. on Hwy 60 east. The trailhead is about 8 miles north on this dirt road. Restrooms are available at the trailhead. There is no parking fee. Driving distance is approx. 140 miles RT. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/SuperstitionWilderness/Coffee-Flats>

**Coldwater/Gadsden Trails/Butterfield Trails (Estrella Mountains). Rating C.** A 6.6 mile hike with an elevation change of 370 ft. The Coldwater Trail is wide and relatively flat. It intersects the Gadsden Trail. We will loop back on the Butterfield Trail. Porta-John at trailhead. Park fee is \$6.00 per car. Driving distance is 20 miles RT. **[SCG=6.7/600/2.9]**. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/EstrellaMountainRegionalPark/Coldwater-GadsdenButterfield>

**Competitive Track – Long Loop (Estrella Mountain Regional Park). Rating C+ /B.** This is a 10.0 mile loop hike with an elevation gain of 1100 ft. This hike goes through typical desert terrain with lots of Saguaro cactus. The first half of the hike goes up 700 ft. very gradually, then starts a slow descent. At around 8 miles is the 4<sup>th</sup> largest Saguaro, called Grandpa (over 49 ft tall). There is a porta-john at the trailhead. Park fee is \$6.00. Driving distance is 26 miles RT.

**Competitive Track – Technical Loop + Grandpa. (Estrella Mountains). Rating C.** This is a 5.7 mile loop hike with an elevation gain of 800 ft. A short ½ mile detour

takes you to Grandpa, the 4<sup>th</sup> largest Saguaro cactus (over 49 ft tall). It was looking sickly in early 2015. The trail wanders through typical desert terrain with many bushes and Saguaro cactus. There is a porta-john at the trailhead. Trail condition - average hiking trail. Park fee is \$6.00. Driving distance is 26 miles RT.

**Competitive Track to Grandpa Saguaro. (Estrella Mountains). Rating D.** This is a 3.5 mile in-and-out hike with an elevation gain of 500 ft. Grandpa is the 4<sup>th</sup> largest Saguaro cactus (over 49 ft tall). The trail goes up over a ridge with nice views of the surrounding area. It passes through typical desert terrain with many bushes and Saguaro cacti. There is a porta-john at the trailhead. Park fee is \$6.00. Driving distance is 26 miles RT.

**Constellation & Willow Lake Dells (Prescott). Rating C+.** This is a 7 mile multi-loop hike with an elevation gain of about 1400 ft. There are lots of great views of the Granite Dells rock formations as well as Willow Lake and the mountains of Prescott. There are a couple of "fat man's pass" like cuts through the rocks as well as a bridge across a portion of the rock formations. Trail condition - much of the trail is on granite boulders (they use white paint to park the trail) and there are many short hills to go up over and down. No park fee. There is a porta-john across the road on the trail. Driving distance is 223 miles RT. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Prescott-1/Constellation>

**Cow Pies/Mitten Ridge/Merry-Go-Round (Sedona). Rating C.** A 7 mile multi loop in-and-out hike with an elevation change of 550 ft. This is one of the most scenic hikes in Sedona – lots of red rock formations, hoodoos, views of downtown Sedona, and even an arch. Bring your camera! There are terrific colors with the red and white rock, green pine trees, and blue & white sky. Two movies were filmed in this area - Louis L'Amour's 1987 The Quick & The Dead and 2011 Sedona: The Motion Picture. No restrooms. Park fee is \$5.00 (free with Golden Age pass). Driving distance is 250 miles RT. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Category/Cow-Pies-to-Mitten-Ridge>

**Cottonwood Trail to Pipeline Canyon Trail to Bridge (Lake Pleasant Regional Park). Rating D.** This is a 4+ mile hike in Lake Pleasant Regional Park with an elevation gain of 400 ft. This is a fairly easy hike. The hike goes from the northwest corner of Lake Pleasant to a floating bridge that crosses part of the lake. It's a good spring wildflower hike if we get any winter rains. And keep your eyes peeled for burros - there are many in the area. No restrooms at the trailhead, but along the trail. There is a park fee of \$6.00. Driving distance is 80 miles RT. [SCG=4.0/800/2.3]. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Other-12/Pipeline-Yavapai-Cottonwood>

**Coyote Springs Trail (Lake Pleasant Area). Rating C.** This is a 6.6 mile in and out hike with an elevation gain of 700 ft. The hike follows a wash for the first mile going to the springs, which usually has some water. There's a good chance to see some wild burros as there are many in this area. The hike continues on to the top of a ridge, providing great views in all directions. Trail condition - mostly a typical desert trail with some sandy wash. No park fee and no restrooms. Driving distance is 76 miles RT. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/LakePleasantArea/Coyote-Springs-Trail>

**Daisy Mountain ( Anthem Area)** Rating C. This is a 6 mile in-and-out hike with an elevation gain of 1000 ft. The first 2 miles go through a rolling hills area before heading steeply uphill. The turnaround point is a saddle slightly below the summit of Daisy Mountain itself. There are great views of the Anthem and Cave Creek area. No park fee. No restrooms. Driving distance is 70 miles RT. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Anthem-Area/Daisy-Mountain>

**Daisy Mountain (Anthem Area)** Rating B. This is a 7.2 mile lollipop loop hike with an elevation gain of 1570 ft. The first 2 miles go through a rolling hills area before heading steeply uphill. There are two summits on this trail - the first one has a US flag on it, while the second, slightly higher summit is Daisy Mountain itself. There are great views of the Anthem and Cave Creek area. No park fee. No restrooms. Driving distance is 70 miles RT. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Anthem-Area/Daisy-Mountain>

**Dead Horse Ranch Loop (Lower Raptor Hill/Thumper/Lime Kiln Loop) (Cottonwood).** Rating B. This is a loop hike of 8.9 miles with an elevation gain of 860 ft. There are great views of Cottonwood and Jerome. You pass many interesting rock formations and a pond. Restrooms are at the trailhead. Park fee is \$7.00/vehicle with 4 passengers (as of Jan. 2018). Driving distance is 236 RT. <https://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Cottonwood/Dead-Horse-State-Park>

**Deem Hills Circumference Trail (Phoenix).** Rating C/C+. This is a 7-8.3 mile loop hike around the Deem Hills Recreation area with an elevation gain of 800-1350 ft. There are distinct vegetation areas on the different sides of the hills. Hiking the upper route adds just over a mile and 500 ft of EG, but offers excellent views of the northwest valley. There would be good wildflowers after a wet winter. Good views of the area (north of 101 and west of I-17). Trail condition - typical desert hiking trail. Restrooms are at the trailhead. No Park Fee. Driving Distance is 60 miles RT. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/DeemHillsPark/Circumference-Trail>

**Deem Hills Inner Circumference Trail (Phoenix).** Rating D+. This is a 4.1 mile loop hike around the Deem Hills Recreation area with an elevation change of 560 ft. There are distinct vegetation areas on the different sides of the hills. There would be good wildflowers after a wet winter. Good views from the top showing the area north of 101 and west of I-17. Restrooms are at the trailhead. No Park Fee. Driving Distance is 65 miles RT. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/DeemHillsPark/Circumference-Trail>

**Dinosaur Wash/Box Canyon (Wickenburg),** Rating C. This is a 6 mile hike with an elevation gain of about 400 feet. This is actually three short in and out hikes in a 3 bladed fan shape. At least 2 miles of it is on soft sand along the Hassayampa river and in Dinosaur Wash so don't be deceived by the lack of elevation change. This is a very scenic hike, quite different than most desert hikes because of the canyons and possible water. This is an area where the river is above ground, but it's not very deep except after a rain. There are several slot canyons along Dinosaur Wash and two areas called narrows along the river. The box in Box Canyon is a short canyon, somewhat hidden behind a stand of large Salt Cedar trees. We'll approach it from both above and below

the falls area. There are no restrooms at the trailhead, but there are restrooms at a Dairy Queen/gas station you drive past 8 miles from the trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is 105 miles RT (14 miles is dirt road). <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Wickenburg/Dinosaur-WashBox-Canyon>

**Dinosaur Wash/Box Canyon Loop (Wickenburg), Rating B.** This is a 9 mile hike with an elevation gain of about 600 feet. At least 2 miles of it is on soft sand along the Hassayampa River and in Dinosaur Wash. This is a very scenic hike, quite different than most desert hikes because of the canyons and water. This is an area where the river is above ground, but it's not very deep except after a rain. There are several slot canyons along Dinosaur Wash and two areas called narrows along the river. The box in Box Canyon is short canyon somewhat hidden behind a stand of large trees. There are no restrooms at the trailhead, but there are restrooms at a Dairy Queen/gas station you drive past about 8 miles from the trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is 105 miles RT.

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Wickenburg/Dinosaur-WashBox-Canyon>

**Discovery Trail (Vistancia). Rating D/C.** This is a 4-7+ mile in-and-out hike with an elevation gain of 200-400 ft. 95% of this trail is paved cement. It starts out next to the entry waterfall area and basically goes along a wash that passes through the Vistancia community. Along the way is a "to scale" model of the Solar System with each planet proportionally further away from the "Sun" as the real planets are. The total Solar System is about a half mile long from the Sun to Pluto. There are no restrooms at the trailhead, though there is a shopping center and a grocery store next to the parking area. No park fee. Driving distance is 46 miles RT. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/CityofPeoria/Discovery-Trail-Vistancia>

**Dixie Mine + Prospector's trails (Fountain Hills). Rating C.** 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 entrance fee). 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>

**Dixie Mine + Sonoran Trails (Fountain Hills). Rating C/B.** This is a 7-10 mile in and out (C level) or lollipop loop (B level) hike with an elevation gain of 1000-2000 ft. The C version goes up to an area with great views of the Fountain Hills Fountain. The B version goes up near the top of the nearby mountains for excellent views of the entire surrounding area. There is a Crested Saguaro at the trailhead. The trail loops around the high side of a high-end housing development. Restrooms and cold water are at the trailhead. Park fee is \$2.00 per person. Driving distance is 110 miles RT. <https://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Fountain-Hills/Dixie-Mine-Sonoran-Trails-Pete/>

**Dixie Mine + Thompson Peak trails (Fountain Hills). Rating B.** This is a 9.8 mile out and back hike with an elevation change of 1800 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 entrance fee). At 2.5 miles you see the remnants of the Dixie mine. Turn left on the jeep road – this is the Thompson Peak trail. From here, it goes up and up and up. Some sections are actually cemented road – very steep but easy to hike on. You can see the Fountain Hills fountain from a few spots along the trail 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.

**Doe Mountain (Sedona). Rating C-.** This is a 3.6 mile hike with an elevation change of 500 feet. The first .7 miles of the trail go up 500 feet via a series of switchbacks to the top of Dow Mountain. On the top, which is very flat, there is a 2.2 mile trail around the edge, with numerous trails crisscrossing the top. There are lots of good views of the surrounding area from the top. This trail can be combined with another short trail (such as Fay Canyon) to make a nice C hike. No restrooms at the trailhead. Park fee is \$5.00 (free with Golden Age Pass). Driving distance is 270 miles RT.

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Category/Bear-Mountain-Doe-Mountain>

**Dogie Trail (Sedona). Rating B.** This is an in and out hike of 11 miles with an elevation gain of 2150 ft. There are several nice red rock formations along the trail. Sycamore Creek is usually dry in this part of Sycamore Canyon, but we found several pools of water. The road to the trailhead is about a 10 mile rough dirt road. No restrooms at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is 250 miles RT.

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Cottonwood/Dogie-Trail>

**Dragonfly + Metate Loop, Spur Cross Rec Area (Cave Creek). Rating C.** This is a 7 mile loop hike with an elevation gain of 800 ft. We head out on the Spur Cross trail to the Metate trail. On the Metate trail there is a forest of very large saguaros. You will cross Cave Creek and travel past the ruins of some houses and an active watering pond. We then go through typical desert terrain for a while. We drop back down into Cave Creek itself. The whole area along the creek is a riparian area, which contains permanent pools of water and lots of vegetation. The trail makes a loop around the Jewel of the Creek Preserve, which contains many different bird species and up to 20 different dragonfly species. We finish with a short rise back up to the road we drove in on and a short walk back to the cars. Trail condition - average hiking trail with a couple of creek crossings. Porta-johns are just past the parking area in the park, and there is a park fee is \$3.00 per person. The Dragonfly trail is free, but the other trails in the park are not. Driving distance is 110 miles RT. [SCG=5.5/600/2.5]. [http://](http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/SpurCrossRanchConservationArea/Metate-Dragonfly-Trails)

[pchikingclub.smugmug.com/SpurCrossRanchConservationArea/Metate-Dragonfly-Trails](http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/SpurCrossRanchConservationArea/Metate-Dragonfly-Trails)

**Dragonfly Trail + Metate Trails, Spur Cross Rec Area (Cave Creek). Rating D.** This is about a 4.8 mile lollipop loop with an elevation gain of 470 ft. The hike starts out going back up the road for a quarter mile, then turns right on a slant. At the bottom of

the hill, turn right. You will cross the creek and travel through a Saguaro forest with very tall Saguaro cactus. The whole area along the creek is a riparian area, which contains permanent pools of water and lots of vegetation. The trail makes a loop around the Jewel of the Creek Preserve, which contains many different bird species and up to 20 different dragonfly species. We then go in the other direction on the Spur Cross trail to the Metate trail. About  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a mile on the trail is a forest of very large saguaros. This is our turn-around point. Porta-johns are just past the parking area in the park, but there is a park fee is \$3.00 per person. The Dragonfly trail is free, but the other trails in the park are not. Driving distance is 110 miles RT. [SCG=5.5/600/2.5]. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/SpurCrossRanchConservationArea/Metate-Dragonfly-Trails>

**Dreamy Draw Loop (Phoenix Mountain Preserve).Rating D.** This is a loop hike of 4 mi. with an elevation gain of about 400 ft. We start out on #220 and then make a clockwise loop around several hills, providing views of many of the Valley's mountains. We will return via trail #100. Restrooms & water are at the Dreamy Draw trailhead. There is no park fee. Driving distance is 55 miles RT. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/PhoenixMountainsPreserve/Dreamy-Draw>

**Dreamy Draw 1-A Loop (Phoenix Mountain Preserve).Rating C+.** This is a loop hike of 6.9 mi. with an elevation change of 1380 ft. We start out heading south and go up over a ridge and down into a valley. The Trail has 3 main hills to climb and offers several viewpoints of the Phoenix area. There are also several quartz outcroppings and many interesting rock formations. Trail condition - an average hiking trail. Restrooms & water are at the Dreamy Draw trailhead. There is no park fee. Driving distance is 55 miles RT.

**Dreamy Draw 6 Peaks (Phoenix Mountain Preserve).Rating C+.** This is a loop hike of 6-7 mi. with an elevation change of 1100 ft. We start out on #220 and then go on an unnumbered trail up a series of little peaks along the North side of the park, providing views of many of the Valley's mountains. Once we come down the far side we proceed to the Cholla Lane trailhead where we will take our break (there are restrooms & water at this trailhead). We will then return via trail #100, switching to trail 1A for the final 2 miles. Restrooms & water are at the Dreamy Draw trailhead. There is no park fee. Driving distance is 55 miles RT. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/PhoenixMountainsPreserve/Dreamy-Draw>

**Dreamy Draw #100 West across Hwy 51 (North Mountain Preserve). Rating C.** This is a 6.2 mile hike with an elevation change of 900 ft. This hike has different views of downtown Phoenix as well as North Mountain, Shaw Butte and Lookout Mountain. The hike goes under Highway 51 shortly after leaving the trailhead. Restrooms at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is 55 miles RT.

**Dutchman to Miner's Needle (Superstition Mountains). Rating C.** This 7 mile out-and-back hike starts at the Peralta Trailhead off Route 60 east of Phoenix and goes through an interesting Saguaro forest along the Miner's Needle trail on the way to the base of Miners Needle, which has a hole (arch) in it. Elevation gain is approximately

1000 ft. Restrooms are at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is 140 miles RT.  
<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/SuperstitionWilderness/Miners-Needle>

**Dutchman/Black Mesa Trails (Superstition Mountains). Rating C.** This is an 8.4 mile out and back hike, with an elevation change of about 400 feet. Starting from the First Water trailhead, this hike crosses a creek several times and provides great views of rocky cliffs. During the later part of the trail going out, there are interesting views of weaver's needle in front of you, as well scenic views of the surrounding valleys. Restrooms are at the trailhead. There is no park fee. Driving distance is 124 miles RT.

**Dutchman to Willow Springs Trail (Superstition Mountains). Rating B.** This is a 12 mile out and back hike, with an elevation change of about 1700 feet. Starting from the First Water trailhead, then heading out the Dutchman trail, this hike crosses a creek several times and provides great views of rocky cliffs. At about 2.75 miles it turns right at Parker Pass on a less used trail. Around 4 miles, you enter Boulder Canyon. A half mile up the rocky canyon is a house sized boulder to work your way around. Just under another mile and a half is Willow Springs (note the pussy willows in the area) and a stone coral. During the later part of the trail going out, there are several interesting views of the unique Superstition rock formations. Restrooms are at the trailhead. There is no park fee. Driving distance is 124 miles RT.

**Dutchman/Whiskey Springs (Superstition Mountains). Rating B.** This is an 11.3 mile out and back hike, with an elevation gain of 1780 feet. Starting from the Peralta Trailhead, this hike climbs immediately from the trailhead from an elevation of 2300 ft. to 3250 ft. and provides great views of Miners Needle. The Whiskey Springs Trail going out, there are interesting views of Weaver's Needle to the left of you, as well scenic views of the surrounding valleys. We turn around when we meet the Red Tanks Trail. The Peralta Rd 77 turnoff is located 8.5 miles past Apache Jct. on Hwy 60 east. The trailhead is about 8 miles north on this dirt road. Restrooms are available at the trailhead. There is no parking fee. Driving distance is approx. 140 miles RT.  
<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/SuperstitionWilderness/Whiskey-Springs>

**Eagletail Mountains Arches Loop (Eagletail Mountains). Rating C+.** This is a 7.2 mile loop hike with an elevation gain of 1100 ft. The highlight of this hike is the 6+ arches you can see along the way. But there are also many great rock formations to see. Trail Condition - only the last mile or so of the hike is on a trail - it is mostly open desert crossing many washes; the main wash you ascend is boulder hopping or loose rocky soil. No restrooms at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is 130 miles RT.  
<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/EagletailMountainsWildernessAr/Eagletail-Mountains-Arches>

**East Peak Loop (Phoenix Sonoran Preserve). Rating C & B.** This is a 6 (C level) or 8.4 (B) mile lollipop loop hike with an elevation change of 800 ft and elevation gain of 1200 ft. This trail system is made up of well-maintained trails. The hike goes through typical desert terrain before ascending a hill for excellent views to the south. After good

spring rains this would be a great wildflower viewing hike. No restrooms at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is 68 miles RT.

**East Wing trail to New River Dam (Peoria). Rating C.** This is a 5.6 mile hike with an elevation change of 450 feet, but elevation gain of 1070 ft. The part goes by a wash and housing development. It then goes up to the top of a short mountain (450 ft) within 1.3 miles using several switchbacks. There are 360 degree views from the peak. The trail then descends down the backside to a jeep road. The jeep road runs into the service road for the dam. The hike ends at a fence at the end of a new development. There are great views of Sunrise and West Wing mountains. Restrooms are at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is 60 miles RT.

**Echo Canyon (Camelback Mountain). Front slope. Rating B.** This is a 2.5 mile hike, out and back. Elevation gain of 1,300 ft. Average grade of 23 degrees. Average hike, round trip, is 2 hours. A Valley favorite, especially for the speed hikers (they do it in under one hour). We will access off of McDonald. McDonald runs east of 44<sup>th</sup> Street as it turns into Tatum Blvd. Limited parking at trailhead. Use extreme carpooling and park as close to trailhead as legally possible. Generally, on surface streets. From the trailhead large railroad ties make the steps leading up to the first saddle. Be on the alert for sprinters coming down. Beautiful views to the east unfold from the saddle. Prime viewing is early morning. From first saddle, the trail turns a sharp right south. You will hike along a massive undercut wall. This shaded area provides a habitat for plant life. Another series of railroad ties takes you to the most difficult section. Two consecutive steep slopes must be overcome. Pipe handrails and chains are in place for assistance. After the handrails comes a steep gully. It's a short scramble up. Next comes a quiet valley with a moderate incline. There is loose gravel in this area. Next comes the ascent. The trail scrambles in several directions fields of boulders but your inclination will be towards the top of Camelback. When you reach the summit, take a look around. If you do the Cholla Trail and Echo Canyon Trail together with a return to the starting parking space the distance is 5.5 miles with an elevation gain and descent of just over 2,100 ft. There is no park fee. Driving distance is approx 75 miles RT. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/CamelbackMountainEchoCanyonRec/Camelback-BillP-02-12-15>

**Elephant Mountain trail, Spur Cross Rec Area (Cave Creek). Rating C+.** This is a 7 mile hike with an elevation gain of 1600ft. The hike starts out on the Spur Cross and Tortuga trails. Most of the early trail is very rocky. Besides the view of Elephant Mtn, there is a rock formation that looks like a Buffalo. There are many Saguaro cactus along the trail. Park fee is \$3.) per person. Porta-john at the trailhead. Driving Distance is 110 miles RT. [SCG=7.2/1600/4.0]. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/SpurCrossRanchConservationArea/Elephant-Mountain-Trail>

**Escondido Arch Trail (Wickenburg). Rating C.** This is a 7 mile hike with an elevation gain of 600 ft. The hike follows an old jeep road for 2.5 miles before going into a sandy wash for about half a mile. The arch is up a slight hill and is just big enough to climb through. There are expansive views of the surrounding area, including views of

the backside of Vulture Peak in one direction and Wickenburg Peak in the other. No park fee. No restrooms at the trailhead. Driving distance is 110 miles RT.

**Estrella Foothills Park SR/PA/RR/GR/BJ/UT/GR/JL/SR Loop (Estrella Mountains). Rating C+.** This is a 7.9 mile lollipop loop hike with an elevation gain of 1030 ft. The hike starts at the parking lot of the Estrella Foothills High School and goes up to a high saddle. It then goes up and across the highest ridgeline in the area and makes a small loop around the top. This part of the trail offers outstanding views of the entire southwest valley. The hike is in typical desert terrain. Trail condition - mostly an excellent hiking trail with one section of edginess across the ridgeline. No park fee. Restrooms are t the trailhead. Driving distance is 27 miles RT. <https://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Estrella-Foothills>

**Estrella Foothills Park SR/PA/RR/GR/SU/BJ/JL/SR Loop (Estrella Mountains). Rating C.** This is a 6.1 mile lollipop loop hike with an elevation gain of 810 ft. The hike starts at the parking lot of the Estrella Foothills High School and goes up to a high saddle. It then goes up and across the highest ridgeline in the area. This part of the trail offers outstanding views of the entire southwest valley. The hike is in typical desert terrain. Trail condition - mostly an excellent hiking trail with one section of edginess across the ridgeline. No park fee. Restrooms are t the trailhead. Driving distance is 27 miles RT. <https://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Estrella-Foothills>

**Estrella Foothills Park Brethern South Loop - SR/PA/JR/RR/PA/SR Loop (Estrella Mountains). Rating D.** This is a 5.1 mile lollipop loop hike with an elevation gain of 240 ft. The hike starts at the parking lot of the Estrella Foothills High School and goes through several washes. The hike is in typical desert terrain. Trail condition - excellent hiking trail. No park fee. Restrooms are t the trailhead. Driving distance is 27 miles RT. <https://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Estrella-Foothills>

**Estrella Foothills Park Northwest Loop - SR/PA/RR/GR/UT/PC/JL Loop (Estrella Mountains). Rating C.** This is a 8 mile loop hike with an elevation gain of 1000 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 - excellent hiking trail. No park fee. Restrooms are t the trailhead. Driving distance is 27 miles RT. <https://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Estrella-Foothills>

**Fantasy Island North Singletrack (FINS) South loop (Estrella Mountain Ranch). Rating D.** This is about a 3.7 mile loop hike with an elevation gain of about 400 ft on several trails in the eastern part of the FINS bike trails system. The trails meander through several desert hills with many rock formations. There is an interesting area - a boneyard of dozens of cow bones. Trail condition - this is a very good biking trail. No park fee. No restrooms at the trailhead. Driving distance is 27 miles RT. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/EstrellaMountainRanch/Fantasy-Island-North>

**Fantasy Island North Singletrack (FINS) North loop (Estrella Mountain Ranch).** Rating D. This is about a 4 mile loop hike with an elevation gain of about 400 ft on several trails in the Western part of the FINS bike trails system. The trails meander through several desert hills with many rock formations. There is an interesting area - an enchanted forest of stuffed animals. Trail condition - this is a very good biking trail. No park fee. No restrooms at the trailhead. Driving distance is 27 miles RT.<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/EstrellaMountainRanch/Fantasy-Island-North>

**Fantasy Island North Singletrack (FINS) loop (Estrella Mountain Ranch).** Rating C+. This is an 7.5 mile double loop hike with an elevation gain of 1250 ft on several trails of the FINS bike trails system. The trails meander through several desert hills with many rock formations. There are also a couple of interesting areas - an enchanted forest of stuffed animals and a boneyard of dozens of cow bones. Trail condition - overall, this is a very good biking trail. No park fee. No restrooms at the trailhead. Driving distance is 30 miles RT.<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/EstrellaMountainRanch/Fantasy-Island-North>

**Fat Man's Pass from the West (South Mountain).Rating D+/C. A** 4.5 to 6.2 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 1 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 man made wall from a distance. Trail condition - mostly an uneven surface of rock so you need to keep your eyes on the trail. Restrooms are at the park office. No park fee. Driving distance is 60 miles RT. [SCG=5.0/750/2.6]. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Other-4/Fat-Mans-Pass-West>

**Fat Mans Pass from the East (South Mountain). Rating C.** This is a 7.1 mi. round trip hike with an elevation gain of about 960 ft. A nice hike to Fat Man's Pass starting in Ahwatukee at the 48<sup>th</sup> Street entrance to South Mountain Park. The trail starts out of the parking lot flat, then climbs to Hidden Valley where it loops back thru large rocks and tunnels. There are great views of the Valley from the ridge on which we will be hiking. This popular trail is considered to be fun by many past hikers. Restrooms are at the trailhead. There are no park fees. Driving distance is approx 66 mi RT.<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Other-4/Fat-Mans-Pass-East>

**Fat Man's Pass via Javalina Canyon (South Mountain).Rating C.** A 7.3 mile hike along the Javelina Canyon Trail, left onto the Mormon Loop Trail, right on the National Trail, then left on the Hidden Valley Trail. Go over and thru boulders and rock tunnels and Fat Man's Pass. You return on National Trail to Mormon Loop Trail. Near the end of the Mormon Loop Trail turn left onto the Javelina Trail. An interesting, fun hike, with only a 250 ft elevation change with a few large boulders to climb over and slide down. We will carpool down I-10 E to Baseline Rd, exit to the right on Baseline Rd, straight

ahead to 46<sup>th</sup> St. Turn left onto 46<sup>th</sup> St and follow it into South Mountain Park. There is no restroom at this trailhead. There is no park fee. Driving distance is 60 miles RT.

**Fat Man's Pass/Desert Classic (South Mountain). Rating B.** This is a 11.5 mi. round trip hike through to Fat Man's Pass starting in Ahwatukee at the 48<sup>th</sup> Street entrance to South Mountain Park. The trail starts out of the parking lot flat, climbs then levels off to Hidden Valley where it passes through large rocks and tunnels. From here the trail will continue to the left on the National Trail to the Buena Vista parking lot. Then it's down the road a short ways to an unnamed trail down to the Desert Classic Trail. Turn left on the Desert Classic Trail and take it back to the parking lot. There is an optional big climb near the end of the trail before we return to the 48<sup>th</sup> St parking lot. There are great views of the Valley from the ridge on which we will be hiking. The ascent is 890 ft. Restrooms are located at the trailhead. There is no park fee. Driving distance is approx 66 miles RT.

**Father's Day Loop Trail (New River). Rating C & B.** This is a 7 or 9.3 mile loop hike with an elevation gain of 1200-1400 ft. The hike starts out from the Spear S Ranch trailhead on the Maricopa Trail, then takes the Father's Day trail up towards Apache Peak. The Bs can go up to the top if they desire. The main trail goes up to a saddle. The Cs come back down the same side of the hill on a second trail while the Bs would continue over the back on another trail. Both trails go back to the Maricopa Trail, which hikers would then use to return to the trailhead. There are great views from the saddle and the top of Apache Peak. No restrooms at the trailhead. Trail condition - overall a good hiking trail with one steep uphill and downhill section. The trail up to the top (B portion) is very steep with loose rock. No park Fee. Driving distance is 90 miles RT.

**Fay Canyon trail (Sedona). Rating C-.** This is a 3 mile in and out hike with an elevation change of 400 ft. The hike goes past (with the option to hike up to) the Fay Canyon Arch. The arch is about 50 ft long and 15 ft high. The trail has the typical red rock beauty you expect form Sedona trails. This trail can be combined with another short trail (such as the Doe Mountain trail) to make a nice C hike. No restrooms at the trailhead. Park fee is \$5.00 (free with Golden Age Pass). Driving distance is 270 miles RT.

**1<sup>st</sup> Water/2<sup>nd</sup> Water/Black Mesa/Dutchman loop (Superstition Mountains). Rating B.** This is a 9.3 miles loop with a 530 ft. elevation gain. We will start at the First Water Trailhead, take the Second Water Trail to the Black Mesa Trail, and return on the Dutchman's trail. There are restrooms at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is 126 miles RT.

**1<sup>st</sup> Water/2<sup>nd</sup> Water/Boulder Canyon/Dutchman/1<sup>st</sup> Water Loop (Superstition Mountains). Rating B.** The distance is approximately 11 miles, and the elevation change is less than 1,000 feet total. The hike is a combination of a number of hiking routes we have already done in the Superstition Mountains. This is a lovely hike, with some great views, including Weaver's Needle. The hike starts at the First Water trail head for .3 mile to Second Water. Take the Second Water Trail to the prehistoric Indian mound, and then continue, past the springs, to the Boulder Canyon Trail (3.5 miles).

Take the Boulder Canyon Trail to the right and follow until the junction with the Dutchman Trail (6.7 miles). Turn right on the Dutchman Trail to the First Water Trail (10.6 miles) and then out to the parking lot (10.9 mile). There are restrooms at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is 126 miles RT.

**Flat Iron Trail (Superstition Mountains). Rating B+.** This is a 7 mile hike, an in and out trip with an elevation change of 2,800ft. The trail starts out with a gradual climb and into switchbacks to Siphon Draw and waterfall area. From there it is a lot of climbing over boulders and steep trail to the top of Flatiron. There is a rewarding view at the top. It is recommended that you bring a pair of gloves and long pants for this hike. Restrooms are located at the trailhead, which is in Lost Dutchman Park on the west side of the Superstitions. There is a park entrance fee of \$6.00 per car. Driving distance is approx. 120 miles RT. [SCG=6.0/3800/6.3].

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/SuperstitionWilderness/Superstition-Mtn-to-Flatiron>

**Flume Trail (Strawberry area). Rating B-C.** Three trails access Fossil Springs. We will hike one of these, the Flume Trail. Round trip is 7.4 miles or 3-4 hours. The elevation gain is 494 ft with an average grade of 12 degrees. From the trailhead follow the trail left of the trailhead signage. Fossil Creek is reached immediately. Will have to skip over a few rocks to clear creek in normal runoff. The trail zips up the other side of the creek. Stay on the trail. Next pass thru a gate. All happens in 10 minutes from parking area. Up a 360 ft. ascent to the service road that runs parallel to the historic Flume. Only possible trail question arises when you come to the pipe in the ground where trail forks. Take trail to the left. Once on service road go to the right. Just before topping out on the service road there is a sign-in register. Coming around the first corner in the road the Flume comes into view. Great views from here up and down the canyon. You will be walking alongside the Flume for a while and then cross it. Stay off of the Flume. You will be able to see inside the Flume when we cross it. We will continue hiking from here to Fossil Springs. A nice, level but long hike. The Springs pumps out 275 gallons/second at a constant temperature of 72 degrees. We will have lunch at or near the springs and then return to our vehicles. Driving distance is approx 268 miles RT.

**Ford Canyon to the dam (White Tank Mountains). Rating C+,** 7 mi 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 on 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 \$6.00 per vehicle. Driving distance is 30 miles RT. [SCG=6.7/1300/3.6].

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/WhiteTankMountainRegionalPark/Ford-Canyon-Mesquite>

**Ford Canyon View (White Tank Mountains). Rating D,** 4 mi out & back on the same trail with an elevation gain of about 500 ft. This is a scenic hike to a point with views of the white rocks in Ford Canyon. There are restrooms at trailhead. Park fee is \$6.00 per vehicle. Driving distance is 30 miles RT. [SCG=6.7/1300/3.6].

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/WhiteTankMountainRegionalPark/Ford-Canyon-Mesquite>

**Ford Canyon/Mesquite Canyon Loop (White Tank Mountains). Rating B,** 9.5 mi loop on the starting on the Ford Canyon Trail. Elevation change: 820 ft. Rocky scenic hike along the side of the canyon to large boulders and dam on the wash. Trail continues up onto a ridge. Will then pick up the Mesquite canyon Trail and return near tour starting point. There are restrooms at the trailhead. Park fee is \$6.00 per vehicle. Driving distance is 30 miles RT. [SCG=9.6/2000/4.8]. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/WhiteTankMountainRegionalPark/Ford-Canyon-Mesquite>

**Ford Canyon/Willow Springs loop (White Tank Mountains). Rating B,** 8.7 mi loop on the starting on the Ford Canyon Trail. Elevation change: 820 ft. Rocky scenic hike along the side of the canyon to large boulders and dam on the wash. Trail continues up onto a ridge and then down to the Willow Springs Trail. Follow the Willow Springs and Mesquite Canyon Trails 3.5 miles back to the tour starting point. Restrooms are at the trailhead. Park fee is \$6.00 per vehicle. Driving distance is 30 miles RT. [SCG=8.4/2200/4.6]. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/WhiteTankMountainRegionalPark/Ford-Canyon-Mesquite>

**Fossil Springs Trail (Strawberry area). Rating B.** Three trails access Fossil Springs. We will hike one of these, the Fossil Springs Trail. Round trip is 8 to 9 miles with an elevation gain of 1,500 ft. Average grade is 13%. The trail down to the springs is wide and very easy, as it once was an old road. The beginning of the trail is desert but on the descent changes to tall sycamores, oak trees, fern grottos and wild blackberry bushes. At the bottom of the canyon the trail becomes a footpath along a stream. It is about 3.6 miles to Fossil Springs. The spring pumps out 275 gallons/second at a constant temperature of 72 degrees. We will have lunch at or near the springs and then return to our vehicles. Also, it is rattle snake territory around the springs. A lot of campers use the area so just be alert. For a longer hike we can continue on the trail past the springs and towards the Irving Power Plant. The footpath will lead to a roadway used to service the flume that provides water to the power plant. This road way meanders alongside a wide valley above Fossil Creek and on to the power plant. It is about 5 miles from the springs. Be sure to take plenty of water, as the climb out is difficult. A restroom is at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is 268 miles RT. [SCG=8.0/2100/4.6]. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/CoconinoNationalForest/Fossil-Springs-Trail>

**Frog Tank/Beardsley/Morgan City Wash/Roadrunner Loop. Rating D/C.** This is 4 or 6 mile lollipop loop hike with an elevation gain of about 450 or 640 ft. The hike starts out at the north end of the Frog Tank Trail, between areas 10 & 11. It goes down hill to the Beardsley trail, turns right for .2 miles, then turns left to go along an interesting canyon. The canyon ends at the Morgan City Wash Trail signs. We then turn left and follow the trail through MCW before reconnecting with the Beardsley trail. Turning left on Beardsley we return to the Frog Tank trail and back to the trailhead. There is a very nice dry waterfall area just off the Beardsley trail with some interesting

rock formations. MSW is an interesting "jungle" area with a running creek. Trail maintenance has recently been completed to make MSW a very nice hike through the "jungle" area. The hike can be extended to a C level hike by adding the Roadrunner trail to the Nature center (not open as of 5/2016). Restrooms with water are at the trailhead. Park fee is \$6.00. Driving distance is 80 miles

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/LakePleasantArea/Morgan-City-Wash-Maricopa>

**Gadsden/Butterfield Loop Trail (Estrella Mountains). Rating C.** Approx 6.9 miles, out and back, elev. gain approx 600 ft. Take Coldwater .2 miles to Butterfield, turn left on Gadsden, then turn right back onto Butterfield at the far end. We will follow the trail to a large wash, and follow the wash for 2 miles or so. It is loose sandy soil in the wash. The trail is difficult to follow do to lack of signs and side trails. 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. Porta-Johns are located at trailheads. Park fee is \$6.00 per car. Driving distance is 20 miles RT. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/EstrellaMountainRegionalPark/Coldwater-GadsdenButterfield>

**Garfias Wash/Hell Canyon (Hells Canyon Wilderness). Rating B.**

This is an 8.5 mile in and out hike with an elevation gain of 700 ft. It mostly follows the wash and goes through Hell Canyon, a short slot canyon. There is lots of boulder hopping and sand, plus interesting views of many rock formations. We saw more wildlife on this hike than any other single hike. No restrooms. No park fee. Driving distanced is 100 miles RT with the last 15 miles on a dirt road (Castle Hot Springs Road & Cedar Basin Road).

<https://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/LakePleasantArea/Garfias-Wash-Through-Hell-Cany>

**Garden Valley Loop (Superstition Mountains). Rating B.** A 9.3 miles loop with 900 ftelevation gain. We will start at the First Water Trailhead, take the Second Water Trail to the Black Mesa Trail, and return on the Dutchman's trail. 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>

**Gila ruins Trail (South Mountain). Rating D.** This is a 4 mile in-and-out hike with an elevation gain of about 300 ft. Starting from the south side of South Mountain, we hike through a valley up to the ruins of an old resort. After our break, we then return to the trailhead. No facilities. No park fee. Driving distance is 90 miles RT.

**Girdner/Ledge-N-Airy/Drano/Last Frontier Loop (Sedona). Rating B.** This is a loop hike of about 9 miles with an elevation gain of 1100 ft. The track of the hike looks like someone traced the outline of a glove as it skirts around a drainage canyon of Dry Creek (which wasn't dry when we hiked it in 2016). There are lots of interesting views of the south portion of the Sedona area. The Ledge-N-Airy trail has a long section of "edgy" trail overlooking Dry Creek. No facilities. No park fee. Driving distance is 90 miles RT. <https://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Category/GirdnerLedgeAiry-Loop>

**Goat Camp/South Trail (White Tank Mountains). Rating C+.** This is a 7.0 mile round trip, out and back hike with an elevation gain of 1500 ft. The trailhead marker is at picnic area number one. The South Trail takes a northwesterly course for a relatively flat one mile. Turn left here at the junction with the Goat Camp Trail and follow the natural terrain of the wash for .8 miles. This section is a gradual rocky climb to a streambed. Cross the stream and begin the .6 mile climb to the first summit. This section will cover a 600 ft elevation change. Continue on into the valley and begin another climb for 1 mile. Here you can see another hill across the valley from top. This is the turnaround spot. Restrooms are located at the trailhead. Park fee is \$6.00 per vehicle. Driving distance is 26 miles RT.

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/WhiteTankMountainRegionalPark/Goat-Camp>

**Goat Camp/South Trail/Cell Towers (White Tank Mountains). Rating B.** This is a 8.5 mile round trip, out and back hike with an elevation change of 2450 ft. Trailhead elevation: 1500 ft; Highest elevation: 3950 ft. The trailhead marker is at picnic unit number one. The South Trail takes a northwesterly course for a relatively flat mile. Turn left here at the junction with the Goat Camp Trail and follow the natural terrain of the wash for .8 miles. This section is a gradual rocky climb to a streambed. Cross the stream and begin the .6 mile climb to the first summit. This section will cover a 600 ft elevation change. Continue on into the valley and begin another climb for 1 mile. Here you can see another hill across the valley from top. Turn left at this point and continue climbing for about .8 mile and 800 ft of elevation change to the cell phone towers. Turnaround at that point and enjoy the downhill hike. Restrooms are located at the trailhead. Park fee is \$6.00 per vehicle. Driving distance is 30 miles RT.

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/WhiteTankMountainRegionalPark/Goat-Camp>

**Goat Camp Trail/Mesquite Trail (White Tank Mountains). Rating B.** This is a 9.9 mile round trip. This is a quasi Loop hike with an elevation change of 1820 ft. The South Trail trailhead marker is at picnic unit number One. Be sure to leave adequate transport at picnic unit number Six for return. The trail goes north for 1 mile to a junction with the Goat Camp Trail. Go left and follow the trail on a westerly course for a gradual climb for .8 of a mile to the base of first major climb. Cross the wash and start the .6 mile climb up 590 ft over a steep and rocky path to the meadow. The next mile is not as steep and leads to the stone remains of an old corral, which was the "Goat Camp". Continue north and then east until you connect with the Mesquite Trail (6.6 mile mark). About 3.3 mi. from here to picnic unit number six where you can carpool back to the Goat Camp Trailhead. Restrooms are located at the trailhead. Park fee is \$6.00 per vehicle. Driving distance is 30 miles RT.

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/WhiteTankMountainRegionalPark/Goat-Camp>

**Goat Camp Trail (Wickenburg). Rating C+.** This is a loop hike of 6 miles with an elevation gain of 700 ft. The well groomed trail starts at Sophie's Flat and goes through typical desert before joining an old jeep road. Once it crosses the Blue Tank Wash it goes back to a typical desert trail. Restrooms are at the trailhead. No park Fee. Driving distance is 98 miles RT.

**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 \$6.00 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>

**Go John, Quartz . Flat Rock, Slate Trails Loop (Cave Creek Rec. Area). Rating C.** This is a 6 mile loop hike on a combined trail with an elevation gain of about 700 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 \$6.00 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>

**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 that look a lot like the PCHC symbol. Restrooms are located at the trailhead. There is a park entrance fee of \$6.00 per car. Driving distance is 93 miles RT.

**Goldfield Mountain Trails #2 and #3 - Peak 3004 Loop (Goldfield Mountains). Rating C+.** This is a loop hike of 6 miles with an elevation gain of 1500 feet. This hike goes up a very rocky trail through a Saguaro forest to Bulldog saddle. There are terrific views of the Goldfields and mountains to the north from the saddle. From there the trail drops down into the valley before turning left and going back up to the Pass Mountain trail. You then follow the Pas Mountain trail back down through the Saguaro forest before turning left and returning to the trailhead. No restrooms and no park fee. Driving distance is 110 miles RT.

**Goldfield Mountain Trails 4 & 3 (Goldfield Mountains). Rating C+.** This is a loop hike of 7.5 miles with an elevation gain of 950 ft.. At the beginning of the hike, you will have terrific views of the Superstitions Mountains as well as views of Apache Junction, plus an arch. As we make the loop, we will come to two more arches called the Mask

Arches. All around are the great golden rocks the Goldfields are noted for. No restrooms are at the trailhead, so stop at the park on the right on Idaho Road (drive around on the right side of the park, near the tennis courts). No park Fee. Driving distance is 114 miles RT.

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/GoldfieldMountains/Trails-4-3-multiple-Arches>

**Goldfield Mountains trails 4A & 4D - Hat Top Loop (Goldfield Mountains).**

**Rating C.** The C level hike is a 7.8 mile lollipop loop hike with an elevation gain of 960 ft. It follows an old jeep trail through rolling desert to Hat Top Mountain. Along the way you will see a couple of arches as well as some interesting rock formations. On the return you will have terrific views of the Superstitions Mountains as well as views of Apache Junction, plus one more arch. Trail condition - good hiking trail. No restrooms are at the trailhead, so stop at the park on the right on Idaho Road (drive around on the right side of the park, near the tennis courts). No park Fee. Driving distance is 114 miles RT.

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/GoldfieldMountains/Trails-4A-4D>

**Goldfield Mountain Trails #5A & 5D - Gateway Canyon trail (Goldfield Mountains).**

**Rating B.** This is an in and out hike of 9 miles with an elevation gain of 1200 feet. The first part of the hike goes along the Salt river on a rounded boulder trail. At about 2 miles it turns right and goes up Gateway Canyon to a saddle at the top of the Goldfields. Terrific views of the Granite Reef dam area, Fountain Hills, and Phoenix are visible from the saddle. No restrooms and no park fee. Driving distance is 110 mile RT.

**Goldfield Mountains Trail 6D + 3A - Golden Valley Trail with arches (Goldfield Mountains).**

**Rating C+.** This is an in and out hike of 7.0 miles with an elevation gain of 1200 ft. The first 2 miles of this hike is on an old rocky jeep trail through typical desert terrain. It then becomes a regular trail up through a golden rock valley. All around you is the golden rock that is famous in this area. At the saddle you get great views of the surrounding mountain ranges, including the Superstitions. The B level becomes very steep and goes up to Peak 3134 and provides 360 views all around. On the return we go up to a couple of arches called the Mask Arches. No restrooms at the trailhead. No park Fee. Driving distance is 114 miles RT.

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/GoldfieldMountains/Trail-6D>

**Goldfield Mountains #7 - IQ Arch & Helmet Rock Loop (Goldfield Mountains).**

**Rating C.** This is a 7 mile lollipop loop hike with an elevation gain of about 1240 ft. The hike goes over a ridge with views of IQ Arch and Helmet Rock. It then goes around Helmet rock through a very colorful golden canyon. Trail condition - average hiking trail. This is a very scenic trail. There are no restrooms at the trailhead. No Park fee. Driving distance is 130 miles RT.

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/GoldfieldMountains/IQ-Arch-and-Helmet-Rock-Loop>

**Goldfield Mountains #7 - Helmet Rock Extended Loop (Goldfield Mountains).**

**Rating B.** This is a 9 mile lollipop loop hike with an elevation gain of about 1400 ft. The hike goes over a ridge with views of Helmet Rock. It then goes around Helmet rock through a very colorful golden canyon. It then goes through a very colorful rocky

canyon. This is a very scenic trail. There are no restrooms at the trailhead. No Park fee. Driving distance is 130 miles RT.

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/GoldfieldMountains/IQ-Arch-and-Helmet-Rock-Loop>

**Goldfield Mountains #8 - Horns of a Dilemma trail (Goldfield Mountains).**

**Rating C/B.** This is a 6-7 mile hike with an elevation gain of 900-1200 ft. The C version (6 mi/900 ft) goes up a narrow canyon below the horns and then up to a saddle opposite the horns before returning to the trailhead. The saddle offers great views of the horns and two lakes. The B version adds a hike up to the Horns of a Dilemma with expansive views of both Saguaro Lake and Canyon Lake as well as the area between them. No park fee. No restrooms. Driving distance is 130 miles RT. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/GoldfieldMountains/Horns-of-a-Dilemma>

**Goldfield Ovens Trail (Goldfield Mountains). Rating B.** This is an 8.8 miles loop hike with an elevation change of 640 ft. The rating is due to the 4+ miles of sanding wash you hike through on this hike. The hike starts out next to the Salt River (which is always flowing). At ½ mile, the trail goes up a wash. .3 miles into the wash is a very large & unusual Saguaro on the right as you go left around a bend. At 1.7 miles is the trail's namesake oven - a manmade oven used for firing bricks. The hill opposite the oven offers very nice views of the surrounding area. At 4 miles, on top of a ridge, there are views of Saguaro Lake, 4 Peaks, and behind you Carefree & Cave Creek. At 5.5 miles there is a lone palm tree at a micro-oasis just before going under the road through a giant culvert. You then go back to the river for a short distance (great views) before crossing the Water Users trailhead parking lot and continuing on the trail. A 7 mile C level hike can be done by doing 2 in-and-out hikes - one from this trailhead (Blue Point) to the oven and back and another from Water Users Trailhead (2.2 miles further down the road) going to the ridge and back. Restrooms are at the trailhead. Park fee is \$6.00 (Tonto pass - but free with a Senior Parks Pass). Driving distance is 110 miles RT. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/GoldfieldMountains/Oven-and-Water-Users-Trails>

**Goldfield Ovens Trail (Goldfield Mountains). Rating C.** This is a 7 mile hike with an elevation change of 900 ft. This is a double in-and-out hike. The hike starts out at the Blue Point Trailhead and goes next to the Salt River (which is always flowing). At ½ mile, the trail goes up a wash. .3 miles into the wash is a very large & unusual Saguaro on the right as you go left around a bend. At 1.7 miles is the trail's namesake oven - a manmade oven used for firing bricks. We will then return to the trailhead for our break before driving down the road about 2 miles to the second trailhead (Water Users). From this trailhead we will go up river and under the road via a giant culvert. On the far side of the culvert there is a lone palm tree at a micro-oasis. We then go up to the top of a ridge. On top there are views of Saguaro Lake, 4 Peaks, and behind you Carefree & Cave Creek. Restrooms are at the trailhead. Park fee is \$6.00 (Tonto pass - but free with a Senior Parks Pass). Driving distance is 110 miles RT. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/GoldfieldMountains/Oven-and-Water-Users-Trails>

**Goldfield Ovens Trail (Goldfield Mountains). Rating D.** This is a 3.5-4 mile in-and-out hike with an elevation change of 200 ft. The hike starts out at the Blue Point Trailhead and goes next to the Salt River (which is always flowing). At ½ mile, the trail

goes up a wash. .3 miles into the wash is a very large & unusual Saguaro on the right as you go left around a bend. At 1.7 miles is the trail's namesake oven - a manmade oven used for firing bricks. We will take our break here before returning to the trailhead. Restrooms are at the trailhead. Park fee is \$6.00 (Tonto pass - but free with a Senior Parks Pass). Driving distance is 110 miles RT. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/GoldfieldMountains/Oven-and-Water-Users-Trails>

**Goldmine + Dynamite + San Tan + Moonlight Loop (San Tan Park). Rating C.** This is a 7 mile loop hike with an elevation gain of 800 ft. The hike goes up over the Goldfield Mountains and loops back through another saddle. It goes through a large Saguaro forest before going over another saddle with expansive views of the east valley all the way to the Superstition Mountains.. There are restrooms and a visitor center at the trailhead. Park Fee is \$6.00 per car. Driving distance is 135 miles RT. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/SanTanMountainRegionalPark/San-Tan-Goldmine-Dynamite>

**Goldwater Lakes Loop (Prescott). Rating C+.** This is an 8 mile loop hike with an elevation gain of about 700 ft. The hike goes through a pine forest and then skirts the two Goldwater lakes. After a break at picnic tables at the lake, the hike continues around and through a wooded section with groups of granite boulders. Restrooms are at the trailhead. More restrooms and soda machines are at the lake where we will take our break. Park Fee is \$2.00. Driving distance is 200 miles RT.

**Gooseneck/Saguaro Nest/Pemberton Loop (McDowell Sonoran Preserve). Rating B.** This is a loop hike of 10.7 miles with an elevation gain of 900 ft. The route goes past a double crested Saguaro and a second crested Saguaro, around Granite Mountain, and over to Balanced Rock. It passes through a forest of very large and old Saguaros. And there are many Banana Yuccas and Crucifixion Thorn trees along the trail. No restrooms and no park fee. Driving distance is 108 miles RT. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/McDowellSonoranPreserve/Gooseneck-Meander>

**Gordon Wagner Trail (McDowell Regional Park). Rating C.** A 3 mile hike in a scenic area of McDowell Mountain Park. The trail is accessible off of McDowell Mountain Park Drive, which is reachable by driving through Fountain Hills. A \$6.00 park entrance fee. Driving distance is 120 miles RT.

**Governors Peak/Hells Canyon (Lake Pleasant). Rating B.** A short 5 mile round trip hike with an elevation gain of 1,700 ft. From the trailhead you immediately drop down into the huge wash. Which, in fact, is Castle Creek. It's interesting to imagine what type of thunderstorm it takes to fill this broad swath. If you have really good eyesight you can just make out the white login podium across the wide creek bed. If not just remember it's north of the fence by maybe a tenth of a mile. The trail starts on the north side of the low-lying mesquite filled canyon dumping into Castle Creek.

The Spring Valley Trail takes off up a small rise then heads fairly flat in a west-southwestern line. It's well maintained but you will only be on this trail for a short distance. Be on the lookout for the Hermit Trail slanting out to the right. It's less noticeable and the junction is not signed. As of this writing it was cairned. If you miss

the junction, the Spring Valley Trail soon dips through a wash so you shouldn't lose much time.

On the Hermit Trail you appear to be headed for the steep ridge ahead. Fear not as the trail slowly curves northeast gently rising you to the first of three saddles. Prior to the first saddle be sure to peek over your shoulder and catch a view of Lake Pleasant.

Continue over the saddle. The trail drops into a tight/deep ravine and back up quickly. In fact it keeps raising a bit more to yet another saddle. This area is simply awesome. This ravine is larger and is named Four Tanks Canyon. The Hermit Trail ends at this saddle. The Bell Trail continues on. Why the change in trails? Well the Bell Trail is an older trail that used to quickly gain this ridge. Private property changed all that good stuff and the Hermit Trail was blazed to accommodate.

A few steps down into Four Tanks Canyon and you'll soon realize this trail is definitely older and overgrown. If only it was that good! Upon reaching the bottom you're faced with a hearty ascent. Bad news being the trail is more or less gone. The good news being it's not much further to Governors Peak. Peak 2992 looms sharp to your right and its slopes are plastered with healthy Saguaros. It's a stunning view!

With basically no trail to follow you need to study the map. The old trail is cairned but I wouldn't waste much time on the scattered mix of cairns. Here's what it boils down to. You have Peak 2992 on your right. The peak ahead of you is a false peak to Governors Peak, but it can be conquered inline if you so desire. The route of choice is to gain a saddle, jag left and then ascend Governors Peak. Which is easy but you will want to watch your footing.

The views are magnificent in all directions. If this is your first trip in the area you will likely be salivating at the options in the western range of Hells Canyon Wilderness! No restrooms and no park fee. Driving distance is 97 miles RT.

**Granite Mountain Loop (McDowell Sonoran Preserve, Scottsdale). Rating C.**

This is a 7.3 mile loop hike with an elevation gain of 500 ft. It passes through three different "forests" - Saguaro, Jumping Cholla, and two types of Yucca. There are excellent views of the surrounding mountains as well as numerous granite rock formations. You get nice views from the Balanced Rock formation on the second half of the hike. Balanced Rock is a gigantic granite boulder balancing on its pointy end. This is one of the most scenic trails within an hour of Pebble Creek. No restrooms at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is 110 miles RT.

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/McDowellSonoranPreserve/Granite-Mt-North>

**Granite Mountain North (McDowell Sonoran Preserve, Scottsdale). Rating D.**

This is a 4.2 mile in-and-out hike with an elevation gain of 300 ft. There are lots of interesting Saguaro cacti, granite rock formations, and distant views of the surrounding mountains. This is one of the best trail surfaces of any hike we do - Scottsdale has done an excellent job with their McDowell Sonoran Preserve trails. No restrooms at this trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is 110 miles RT. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/McDowellSonoranPreserve/Granite-Mt-North>

**Granite Mountain Hotshots Memorial Trail (Yarnell). Rating C+/B.** This is a 6-7.2 mile in and out hike with an elevation gain of 1200-1800 ft. The trail is a memorial to the Hotshots fire fighting team from Prescott who lost their lives fighting the Yarnell fire. It goes up over the ridge where they lost their lives and includes plaques for each of the 19 fire fighters who died there. Trail condition - the trail is a good hiking surface but goes steadily up right from the parking lot. No restrooms at this time at the trailhead. There is no park fee. Driving distance is 160 miles RT.

**Granite Mountain, Trail #261 (Prescott). Rating B.** This is an 8.3 mile out and back hike with an elevation gain of 1800 ft. starting at around 5600 ft. We hike west from the trailhead gate a little more than 1.8 miles to the junction at Trail 37 and 261. The trail to the right is 261. Walk through the wooden chute and hike up 1.3 miles of moderate switchbacks and a 1200 ft ascent to Granite mountain saddle. We continue hiking another mile through the ponderosas to granite mountain overlook. Trail condition - most of it is a typical trail, but the last part is loose stone and very steep. Restrooms are at the trailhead. Park fee is \$5.00 (free on Wed). Driving distance is 216 miles RT (using Hwy 89). <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Prescott-1/Granite-Mountain>

**Grapevine Trail (Mayer). Rating C/B. [this area was burned in the Goodwin fire of June 2017 - right after we did the hike].** The C level hike is 7 miles with an elevation gain of 1100 ft. The B version is 9 miles with an elevation gain of 1600 ft. This hike goes through a forest along a perennial creek, fed by several springs. The autumn colors should be excellent. The C hike goes to the springs, while the B hike goes beyond, up to a ridge. There is no park fee. No restrooms at the trailhead. Driving distance is 174 miles RT (last 2 miles is a dirt road).

**Groom Creek Trail #307, Bradshaws (Prescott). Rating B.** This is 9 mi. loop hike with an elevation gain of about 1600 ft. From the trailhead, the trail immediately forks. Take the right fork for a counter clockwise loop. 200 yards into the hike you reach a power line. The trail is distinct at this point, and it follows the power line road to the south. Follow the power line road for ¼ mi. until you cross a dirt road. The trail then turns east (left) and leaves the power line road. The trail rises and falls and crosses several washes as it gently climbs along Spruce Ridge. After climbing 3.5 mi. you reach a saddle where Trail #377 branches to the right. Stay left and continue the gentle climb for 2 more mi. until reaching the Spruce Mountain. Lookout. There are picnic tables and an outhouse here. This is a good spot to break. Take a 200 yard side trip to the Lookout Tower. From the picnic area the trail continues to the south and switchbacks down along Groom Creek. The trail here is steeper then the section you climbed to the top. From the top it is 3.5 mi. back to the trailhead. There is no park fee. Restrooms are at the trailhead. Driving distance is 227 miles RT [SCG=9.0/2100/4.6]. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Prescott-1/Groom-Creek-Trail>

**Hackamore Trailhead Loop (Goldfield Mountains). Rating C/B.** This is a 7-9 mile lollipop loop hike with an elevation gain of 900-1300 ft. The C version goes by one arch and a second arch is seen above the snack break area. The B version goes by Cottonwood Spring (usually wet), then goes up to and past the second arch. There are

views of lots of golden mountains on this hike. No restrooms. No park fee. Driving distance is 120 miles RT. <https://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/GoldfieldMountains/Hackamore-Trailhead>

**Hackberry Springs Loop (Superstitions). Rating C.** 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>

**Hackberry Springs Loop from Needle Vista Trailhead (Superstitions). Rating C.** This is a 8 mile loop hike with an elevation gain of 900 ft. We will start at the Needle Vista Trailhead and do a lollipop loop. We work our way up to the top of a ridge, giving us great views of the mesa where Hackberry Spring originates. We'll go down to Hackberry Springs and then go to an arch where we will have our break. We then follow the trail back to the trailhead. There are lots of views of great rock formations for which the Superstitions are well known. There are no restrooms at the trailhead. No parking fee. Driving distance to the trailhead is 120 mi RT. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/SuperstitionWilderness/Hackberry-Spring-Loop>

**Hangover Trail (Sedona). Rating B.** This is an 8.5 mile lollipop loop hike with an elevation gain of 1300 ft. The trail starts from the Huckaby Trailhead. There are lots of great views as you hike around Mitten Ridge. Trail Condition - overall the trail is very good, but there are some sections where you cross or go up bare red rock. And there is a long section that could be called "ledgy". There are restrooms at the trailhead. No park fee with a Golden Age Pass. Driving distance is 254 miles RT. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Category/Hangover-Trail>

**Hassayampa Arch Trail (Morristown). Rating C/B.** This is an in and out (C level) or lollipop loop (B level) hike of 7.5-9 miles with an elevation gain of 800-1200 ft. While the overall trail surface is pretty good as it follows old roads, the short by steep section up to the arch is mostly gravel and larger stones. The hike starts out by crossing the usually dry Hassayampa River. The arch is large - we can easily walk through it and there is room for many hikers to be shaded for the snack break. There are excellent views of the surrounding area and you can see as far as the White Tanks and beyond. No restrooms. No park fee. Driving distance is 68 miles RT. <https://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Wickenburg/Hassayampa-Arch>

**Hassayampa River Preserve (Wickenburg). Rating D.** This is a series of short trails totaling 3.2 miles with one hill overlooking the preserve that has an elevation gain of about 200 ft. The preserve is one of the two areas where the Hassayampa River flows above ground. There are lots of tall palm and cottonwood trees as well as lush

undergrowth. Over 50 bird species call this home for part of the year. The best time to go is spring (March). Open F/S/S May 15 to Sept 15. Open W/T/F/S/S Sept 15 to May 15. There are restrooms in the visitor's center. Park fee is \$5.00 per person. Driving distance is 80 miles RT.

**Hawes Loop Trail, Granite Reef Rec Area (Usery Mountain Park). Rating C+.**

This is an 8 mile loop hike with an elevation gain of 1400 ft. Most of the hike provides views of Red Mountain, the Granite Reef Dam and the park. The hike starts out about 100 ft North of the exit to the Granite Reef Rec Area. Cross the street to the trailhead for the Granite trail (be careful crossing the street). Over the first 3 miles, the trail slowly rises about 400 ft through typical desert brush. Around the 4 mile point you will pass several large mansions. There are many large Saguaros in the center of the park, which forms a large bowl. The trail generally wanders around the edge of the bowl, but there are a few trails that cut across the park if you wish to do a shorter hike. The Mine trail is a ridge trail that is named after a mine near the highest point on the trail. Just past and above the mine is a spot that provides a 360 degree view of the surrounding area, giving you great views of the park, Four Peaks, Red Mountain, water from the dam, and a green valley. This trail has the potential for numerous Spring wildflowers if winter rains are sufficient. Trail itinerary is: start on Granite, right on Mine, right on Ridge, left on Hawes, left on Saddle Back, right on Saguaro, which becomes Mine, and right on Granite back to the cars. Trail condition - overall it's a typical desert hiking trail. There are restrooms in the Granite reef Rec Area. Park fee is \$6.00 (free with a Golden Age pass). Driving distance is 100 miles RT. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/UseryMountainRegionalPark/Hawes-Loop-Trail>

**Hawes Loop Trail long option, Granite Reef Rec Area (Usery Mountain Park).**

**Rating B.** This is an 9.3 mile, 600 ft elevation, 1400 ft elevation gain hike with a variety of interesting views. Most of the hike provides views of Red Mountain, the Granite Reef Dam and the park. The hike starts out about 100 ft North of parking lot for the Hawes Trail trailhead. Cross the street to the trailhead for the Hawes Trail (be careful crossing the street). Over the first 3 miles, the trail slowly rises about 400 ft through typical desert brush. Around the 5.4 mile point you will pass several large mansions. There are many large Saguaro in the center of the park, which forms a large bowl. The trail generally wanders around the edge of the bowl. This trail has the potential for numerous Spring wildflowers if winter rains are sufficient. Trail itinerary is: start on Hawes, left on Saguaro, left of Ridge, right on Granite to Granite Reef Rec Area. There are restrooms in the Granite reef Rec Area. After restroom break, return to Granite, left on Saguaro, left on Saddle, right on Hawes, right on Saguaro, left on Ridge, right on Hawes. No parking fee. Driving distance is 100 miles RT. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/UseryMountainRegionalPark/Hawes-Loop-Trail>

**Hawknest/Divide/Branding Iron/Coyote Canyon/Soapberry/Dove/Barb/136<sup>th</sup> Express (McDowell Sonoran Preserve) Rating B.**

This is an 11.7 mile hike with an elevation gain of 700 ft. The highlights of this hike include a double Crested Saguaro, Michelin Man II Saguaro, many rock formations, and distant views of Four Peaks, the Superstitions and other mountains. Trail condition - a very good hiking trail. No

restrooms at the trailhead. No parking fee. Driving distance is 130 miles RT. <https://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/McDowellSonoranPreserve/Northwest-Loop-Trails>

**Hawknest/Divide/High Desert/Renegade/Soapberry/Desperado/Coyote Canyon/Dove/Barb/136<sup>th</sup> Express (McDowell Sonoran Preserve) Rating C.** This is an 8 mile hike with an elevation gain of 500 ft. The highlights of this hike include a double Crested Saguaro, Michelin Man II Saguaro, many rock formations, and distant views of Four Peaks, the Superstitions and other mountains. Trail condition - a very good hiking trail. No restrooms at the trailhead. No parking fee. Driving distance is 130 miles RT. <https://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/McDowellSonoranPreserve/Northwest-Loop-Trails>

**Heart of the Rocks Trail (Chiricahua Mountains). Rating C.** Trail offers spectacular views of balanced rocks, spires and pinnacles unlike our typical hikes. These are partially wooded trails high in the park. The elevation change is approx. 500 ft. Take adequate water and bring warm clothing as we had snow and cold temperatures in May some years. Park fee: \$4.00 per vehicle, free with Golden Age Pass. Suggest a stop at the nearby Faraway Ranch, a pioneer homestead and later working cattle and guest ranch. Suggest an overnight stay at either the Best Western Plaza Inn, 1100 W. Rex Allan Dr., Wilcox, AZ (520) 384-3556 or for even more fun with a group: the Sun glow Guest Ranch, HCR 1 Box 385, Turkey Creek Rd., Pearce, AZ 85625. (520) 824-3334. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/PCHCOvernightHikes/Chiricahua-Trip-324-3262015/Chiricahua-C-Hike-Little/>

**Hedgehog/San Tan/Malpais/Moonlight Trails (San Tan Park). Rating C+.** This is a loop hike of 9 miles with an elevation gain of 800 ft. The trail starts by going left on the San Tan trail, cuts across on the Hedgehog trail, left on San Tan, right on Malpais, left on San Tan and right on Moonlight. It goes through a large Saguaro forest with many interestingly shaped Saguaros. There are great close-up views of the surrounding mountains. There are restrooms and a visitor center at the trailhead. Park Fee is \$6.00 per car. Driving distance is 135 miles RT. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/SanTanMountainRegionalPark/Hedgehog-San-Tan-Malpais>

**Hieroglyphic/Ridgeline/Superstition Peak (Superstition Mountains-Southwest). Rating B+.** This is a tough 8.5 mile in-and-out hike to the highest point in the Superstitions, with approximately 3,400 ft. elevation gain. The hike starts at scenic Hieroglyphic Canyon near Gold Canyon in Apache Junction and climbs up to the Ridgeline trail (some bushwhacking and scrambling) on the spine of the Superstition Mountains. Superstition Peak is a short distance along the Ridgeline and has survey markers dating to 1899, including one marking the peak as the highest point of the Superstitions. The trail above Hieroglyphic Canyon is sketchy in places but is marked with cairns; it is very steep with loose shale in many areas and requires some serious scrambling in a couple of places near the top. However, the views from the peak are stunning and well worth the effort and elevation gain (how often do you get to look down on Weaver's Needle?). No restrooms at the trailhead. No park Fee. Driving distance is 130 miles RT.

**Hieroglyphic Trail to Superstition Ridgeline & Superstition Peak (Superstition Mountains). Rating A.** The hike to the ridgeline and on to the peak is close to 8 miles long with an elevation gain of approximately 3,000' (total actual elevation is right at 4,000'). Reaching the peak will put you at 5,057' and the highest point in the Superstitions.

The first 1.5 miles is a well used trail that rises about 600' and ends at a section of pools where hundreds of petroglyphs have been etched into the rocks over 800 years ago by the Hohokam Indians (modern miners and settlers came upon these drawings and mistook them for Hieroglyphs so the canyon's name came from a simple misunderstanding).

Hieroglyphic Trail ends at the pools. From here you now go to the far end of the petroglyph area where you will see a very large boulder on the south side (right) of the creek that has created a very large, almost small cave like, overhang. From here you want to follow a very faint trail towards the cliff wall. As you begin on this section it is very easy to begin climbing too soon. Look carefully for intermittent cairns as you pick your way up Hieroglyphic Canyon. You will be generally slightly above and on the right side of the canyon as you make your way up towards the Superstition saddle.

The faint trail will eventually dump you directly into the canyon drainage where you make your way up and to the other side of the canyon. At this point you continue up and northeast picking your way carefully through very loose shale. The markers are far and few between at this point so look carefully to see faint use sections in the shale. You will finally pick up a more well established trail as you near the saddle. Make your way up from here until you come to the saddle. You will see the Superstition Ridgeline Trail that runs right by this spot.

This is a good spot for a rest and snack break. You get some great views of the Four Peak off to the northeast and Weaver's needle almost in front of you.

It is now about .7 miles to the cutoff for the peak. Head southeast on the Ridgeline Trail following cairns along the way (the trail is somewhat faint when you first begin from the saddle so look carefully and head up the small peak in front of you). You will come to two more saddles along the way, with the second one coming after a short, steep, loose climb. From this point you go about 30 yards and you reach a section where you have to climb using hands and feet to get on top of this section. From here it's just a matter of following the trail to the right of a large section of Hoodoos. About .2 miles past these you will come upon a very large cairn on your right, which is the cutoff to the peak. It's now about .2 miles to the top. Just walk straight up the smooth rock area and you will come upon cairns that take you through and around more Hoodoos. As you get through the Hoodoos you look up and slightly to your right and you will see the peak in front of you. Make your way up the rock for a final short Class 3 scramble where you reach the top. The views up there are incredible in all directions and if you look down towards the east and slightly south you will see the parking lot where you started.

Depending on everyone's capability this hike could take anywhere from 6 hours to about 7-1/2 hours to complete. No restrooms at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is 130 miles RT.

**Hiline, Made in the Shade, and Slim Shady Trails (Sedona). Rating C/B.** This is a 6-9 mile hike with an elevation gain of 600-1000 ft. This is a very scenic hike with views of many named red rock formations. Trail Condition - Most of the trails in this area are good trails; the Hiline trail is listed on the map as ledgy and steep (for bikers). There are restrooms at the trailhead. A Red Rock Parking Pass (\$5.00) or a Golden Age Pass is required. Driving distance is approx 240 miles RT.

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Category/Hiline-Trail>

**Hog Canyon Trail (Superstition Mtns). Rating B.** This is a 7.3 mile hike with over 1,000 ft of elevation change. Hog Canyon is one of the central drainages on the south side of Superstition Mountain. Just a "stones throw" north of Gold Canyon and its golf courses, it is situated between Monument Canyon on the left and the ever/over popular Hieroglyphic Canyon on the right. Interestingly, despite its proximity to the populated areas of the valley, hardly anything has ever been mentioned about this large and easily viewed canyon.

The two miles across the desert until you get in to the canyon was kind of boring, but once you are there it is worth it! I would say that it is an easier canyon than Monument Canyon to get around in. Once you get to the waterfalls and petroglyphs there is a little climbing to get to the top, which I highly recommend. The better petroglyphs are up above the lower pools. The pools were full and there was a little water drizzling down. Definitely climb as far to the left of the first pool as you can get, but it's not that hard. Don't expect to see anyone from parking area to the falls.

No facilities at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is about 120 miles RT.

**Hogs Trails + Chicken Point + Submarine rock (Sedona). Rating C/B.** This is a 7-8.4 mile loop hike with an elevation gain of 1100-1600 ft. The hike provides excellent views of several named rock formations. It also goes to Chicken Point and Submarine Rock. It epitomizes what hiking in the Sedona area really means. Trail condition - it is a typical Sedona trail with some hiking on bare red rock, including some edge. No facilities at the trailhead. No park fee with Senior Parks Pass. Driving distance is about 230 miles RT.<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Category/Hogs-Trail-Chicken-Pt>

**Holbert Trail (South Mountain). Rating C+.** 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 to Dobbins Lookout (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 Indians at the lookout selling jewelry. This is a long steady climb where you will breathe hard and feel leg & thigh muscles tighten

and is typical of some of our hikes. Restrooms are at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is 60 miles RT.

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

**Holbert/National/Kiwanis/Los Lomitas/Box Canyon Trails (South Mountain).**

**Rating B.** Distance 9.0 miles round trip loop, with an elevation gain of 2000 ft. We carpool on I-10E to I-17S, Exit at 7<sup>th</sup> Ave, straight ahead to Central Ave. Turn Rt onto Central which goes into So. Mountain Park. There are no park fees. There is a restroom near the Holbert trailhead. This starts with a climb up Holbert Trail past Dobbins Lookout and on to the junction with the National Trail. Turn right and proceed up the road and then follow the trail to the north of the microwave towers to the junction with the Kiwanis Trail. Take the Kiwanis down to the valley, then turn right onto the Los Lomitas trail to the junction with the Box Canyon Trail. Again turn right and follow the trail back to the parking lot. Restrooms at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is 60 miles RT. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Other-4/Holbert-Trail>

**Horton Creek (Payson). Rating B.** This is an 8 mile hike with a 1,060 ft. elevation change. The hike starts right outside of Payson. We will hike down to Horton Spring. The first 3 miles is pretty straight forward with the last ½ mile being a set of switchbacks away from the creek. The elevation change is gradual and is hardly noticed. Restrooms at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is 220 miles RT. [SCG=8.0/1200/3.7].

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Payson/Horton-Creek-Trail>

**Huckaby (Sedona). Rating C.** A 6 mile hike with an elevation gain of 700 ft. This trail has lovely views starting at Schenbly Hill and going parallel to a stream. You get to see the bridge on 89 from the streambed. A great Sedona hike with views of Cathedral Rock and downtown Sedona. There are restrooms at the trailhead. No park fee with a Golden Age Pass. Driving distance is 254 miles RT. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Category/Huckaby>

**Humphries Summit Trail (Flagstaff). Rating A.** Round trip just over 10 miles with an elevation change of 3300 ft (elevation gain of 3500 ft). This is a tough climb up to the highest point in Arizona. Start near the Sun Bowl ski lodge and proceed to climb in the pines to a saddle just beyond the growth of the trees. Turn to the left and continue climbing past four false summits to the actual summit at just over 12,600 ft. There are Porta-johns at the trailhead. There is no park fee. Driving distance is approx 320 miles RT. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Other-6/Mt-Humphreys>

**Indian Mesa (I-17 at Exit #236) Rating C+.** This is an out and back hike of 7 miles with an elevation gain of 1200 ft. The hike starts out by crossing the Agua Fria River. If the river is low you can hike along it to the base of Indian Mesa. If not, once across you go up out of the riverbed and hike parallel to it. If the lake is full, you will add a mile to the hike to get around a finger of the lake. You can see the Indian Mesa from the parking lot – just look down the road at a flat-topped white stone mesa. You will probably encounter some of the free range cattle that wander around along the riverbed. There are lots of views of the riverbed, Lake Pleasant, and the mountain ranges to the

west of the lake. The final 10 feet or so up to the top is very steep, but there are great views even from the saddle 50 feet below the top. No restrooms at the trailhead. Park fee is \$6.00. Driving distance is 100 miles RT. [SCG=6.6/1000/3.1]. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/LakePleasantArea/Indian-Mesa>

**Joshua Tree Central (Highway 93). Rating D & C & B.** This hike is across the Tres Alamos Wilderness, an area of open desert full of Joshua Trees. The hike can go from 4 miles to 12 miles with elevation gain of 200 ft to 900 ft. There are more and larger Joshua Trees here than in Joshua Tree National Park. This is a true Joshua tree forest. And there are several of Saguaro cacti in the area - very unusual to see both species together as they live in different deserts - Saguaros in the Sonoran desert and Joshua Trees in the Mojave Desert. Trail condition - this is mostly an open desert bushwhack hike with a few boulders to step around. No park fee. No restrooms. Driving distance is 150 miles.

**Joshua Tree North (Highway 93). Rating C+.** This is a 7.5 mile in and out hike with an elevation gain of about 800 ft. It utilizes old jeep roads, regular trails, sandy wash, and a little bushwhacking to go into a canyon with some wild apple trees. This area is part of the Tres Alamos Wilderness. There are good examples of Saguaros and Joshua trees living side by side in the desert. The rock outcroppings are very scenic as are the Joshua Trees. Trail condition - mostly on old roads with a couple of sections following animal trails. No restrooms at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is 160 miles. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Hwy93/Joshua-Tree-North>

**Joshua Tree North Monolith (Highway 93). Rating C.** This is a 6.8 mile in and out hike with an elevation gain of about 850 ft. It utilizes old jeep roads, regular trails, sandy wash, and an optional short climb to the top of a beautiful monolith. This area is part of the Tres Alamos Wilderness. There are good examples of Saguaros and Joshua trees living side by side in the desert. The rock outcroppings are very scenic as are the Joshua Trees. Trail condition - mostly on old roads with a couple of sections following animal trails. No restrooms at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is 160 miles. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Hwy93/Joshua-Tree-North>

**Joshua Tree South (Highway 93). Rating D & C & B.** This hike is across the Tres Alamos Wilderness, an area of open desert full of Joshua Trees. The hike can go from 4 miles to 12 miles with elevation gain of 200 ft to 900 ft. There are more and larger Joshua Trees here than in Joshua Tree National Park. This is a true Joshua tree forest. And there are a couple of Saguaro cacti in the area - very unusual to see both species together as they live in different deserts - Saguaros in the Sonoran desert and Joshua Trees in the Mojave desert. Trail condition - this is mostly an open desert bushwhack hike with some boulder hopping in the beginning and at the end. No park fee. No restrooms. Driving distance is 140 miles. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Hwy93/Joshua-Tree-South>

**Jim Thompson/Wilson Canyon trails (Sedona). Rating C.** This is a 7 miles hike with an elevation gain of about 800 ft. This is a very scenic hike that goes by Steamboat Rock and along Wilson Canyon, a small but lush canyon with views of

Midgely bridge. Restrooms are at the trailhead. No park fee with Golden Age pass. Driving distance is 256 miles RT. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Category/Jim-Thompson-Trail>

**Katchina Trail (Flagstaff). Rating C.** Hike the Kachina Trail and a two mile section of the Weatherford Trail. This is a 7 mi. (-1,000 ft.) hike starting at the Snow Bowl and terminating at Schultz Tank where we will leave a vehicle(s). This trail goes through interspersed mountain forests and meadows. This hike starts at 9,500 ft. elevation. No park fees. Bring warm clothing. Average October temperature on these trails is a high of 58 and low of 53 degrees. There's a Porta-john at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is approx 320 miles RT.

**Kendrick Trail (Flagstaff). Rating B.** This is an 8.2 mile (2,700 ft.) hike through a pine forest that climbs to a ranger lookout station. There is a log cabin about .3 miles from the lookout. There are some great views of the Flagstaff area and if you are lucky the Grand Canyon. This hike starts at 7,600 ft. elevation. Restrooms are at the trailhead. There is no park fee. Driving distance is approx 320 miles RT.

**Kiwanis/National/Gila West/Ruins/National/Ranger/Los Lomitas Trails Loop (South Mountain). Rating B+.** This is a 10.6 mi loop with an elevation change of 1000 ft. This is a way to incorporate the trail system to the south of the National Trail. It is 1.45 miles gradual climb up the Kiwanis Trail parking lot to the National Trail, then up past the ramada to the near the top of the hill in just over .5 miles to the Gila West Trail. Follow the Gila West trail around the first hill top, then down a steep hill to a junction with a service road. This section should be about 2.1 miles. Turn right down the service road and enter a wash for about 1 mile. To your right there will be a path out of the wash point to the ruins. Follow this path to the southwest corner of the ruins and start the climb back up to the National Trail. This is a 1.2 mile climb and will get your heart rate pumping. At the junction with the National Trail turn right and follow it for 2 to the Ranger Trail. Turn left onto the Ranger Trail and go down the hill and across Summit Road to the Los Lomitas Trail in almost 1.5 miles. Turn right on the Los Lomitas Trail for a 1 mile hike back to the parking lot. Restrooms are at the Ranger Station. No park fee. Driving distance is 60 miles RT.

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

**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. (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>

**Lake Pleasant North Canyons (I-17 at Exit #236) Rating C+/B.** This is a loop hike of about 6-8+ miles with an elevation gain of 500-900 ft. The B version includes going through a slot canyon near the parking area. We cross the river and hike along an old jeep road before turning into the main canyon. We may encounter some of the free range cattle that wander around along the riverbed. There are lots of views of the riverbed, Lake Pleasant, and the mountain ranges to the west of the lake. Trail condition - Part is along an old jeep road, part is a boulder hop through the canyon, and part is along the sandy riverbed. No restrooms at the trailhead. Park fee is \$6.00. Driving distance is 100 miles RT.

**Library North Trail (White Tanks). Rating D.** This is a 4+ mile in and out hike with an elevation gain of 350 ft. We head north from the White Tanks library with expansive views of the west valley, before taking our break at Ramada #4 and then returning to the library. 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 (safely behind glass). Restrooms are in the library and Ramada #4. Park Fee is \$6.00. Driving distance is 24 miles RT.

**Library to Waterfall Trail (White Tanks). Rating C.** 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 excellent hiking surface. Restrooms are in the library. Park Fee is \$6.00. Driving distance is 24 miles RT.

**Little Granite Mountain Loop, Granite Mountain (Prescott) Rating C+.** Access is at the Metate Trailhead. This is a 7.3 mile loop hike with an elevation gain of about 1500 ft. Trail # 261 starts across the roadway from the parking area. After 1 1/2 miles and at the wilderness boundary Trail #261 goes to the right up onto Granite Mountain. Instead enter the wilderness area through the gate and take the immediate trail to the left, Little Granite Mountain Trail #37. This trail continues south in an ever increasing gradual ascent. After approximately 1 1/2 miles the trail turns to the left and starts a steep

ascent onto a ridge overlooking Skull Valley. Continue along ridge for another mile and at this point the trail will intersect with the Clark Springs Trail #40 (3 mi. from Tr. # 261) going abruptly to the left (leave wilderness thru gate). Follow this trail going northerly direction towards Granite Peak where it will pass the lake and intersect Trail #261. Go to right to return to parking area via a few hundred feet (to the right) on the roadway. Restrooms are at the trailhead. Park fee: \$5.00 (free on Wed). Driving distance is 216 miles RT (using Hwy 89).

**Little Horse/Broken Arrow (Sedona). Rating B/C.** This is an 7.5-8.5 mile hike with an elevation gain of about 700-1000 ft through the red rock and junipers in Sedona. The Little Horse Trail is located just past mile marker 310 on AZ 179. This trail will take you to Chicken Point next to the Praying Nuns, which is about 2.0 miles from the trailhead. From here take the trail on the left next to the jeep road. This is the Broken Arrow Trail. In about .75 mile there will be a junction taking you on a 1 mile side trip to Submarine Rock. Retrace your steps from Submarine Rock back to the Broken Arrow Trail and then turn right and in about .5 mile go past a sinkhole named The Devils Dining Room. Continue on for .75 mile across some shale sections to the Broken Arrow trailhead. From here it is just a return without going out to Submarine Rock. There are some great views of the Sedona area. This hike starts at 4,280 ft. elevation. Restrooms are at the trailhead. A Red Rock Parking Pass (\$5.00) or a Golden Age Pass is required. Driving distance is approx 250 miles RT.

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Category/Little-Horse-Trail>

**Long Canyon Trail via Deadman Pass (Sedona), Rating C.** This is a 7 mile hike with an elevation change of 500ft. Start out on Deadman Pass, which is fairly flat. At the junction with Long Canyon turn right and go 1/3 mile to the Mescal Mountain trail (to the right). There are nice views from the top of the mountain. Return to the junction with Deadman Pass and continue on Long Canyon for 1.5 miles through a forest with occasional views of the red rock formations in the area. There are numerous Alligator Junipers and Arizona Cypress trees along the trail. A good turnaround spot is where the canyon closes in and the trail starts crossing the creek. Restrooms are at the trailhead. Parking fee of \$5.00 or free with Golden Age Pass. Distance is approx 260 miles RT.

Directions: Take I-17 North to Exit 287. Drive West into Cottonwood. Turn right on 89. Turn left on Dry Creek Road. At the end of Dry Creek Road, turn left on Boynton Pass Road. Turn left on 1520 for a short distance to the trailhead for Boynton Canyon and Deadman Pass Trailheads.

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Category/Long-Canyon-Trail>

**Lookout Mountain + Shadow Mountain.Circumference Trails + summit (North Mountain Preserve).Rating C+.** This is 2 hikes - a 2.8 mile loop around Shadow Mountain and a 3.2 mile hike around and up Lookout mountain, both in the north Phoenix area. It has elevation gains of 300 & 800 ft. The trail around Shadow Mountain goes past a mega church. The circumference trail around Lookout Mountain (#308) is an easy to moderate trail, with the summit trail (#150) being fairly steep. The Summit trail is one of the hikes of the Seven Summits of Phoenix Challenge that takes place every year in November. Trail condition - average hiking trail, but steep going to top of

Lookout Mountain. Water and restrooms are at the Lookout Mountain Park trailhead off 18<sup>th</sup> St. There is no park fee. Driving distance is approx 76 miles RT. [SCG=3.5/1100/2.7].

**Loy Canyon (Sedona). Rating B.** This is an 11.4 mile in and out hike with an elevation gain of over 2230 ft. . The last 10 miles are on a dirt road that is rough but passable for most cars. No facilities at the trailhead. Park fee is \$6 (free with Golden Age Pass). Driving distance is 256 miles RT. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Category/Loy-Canyon-Trail>

**Lynx Lake Loop + Salida Gulch trail. Rating C.** This actually two hikes in one totaling 8 miles with an elevation gain of 800 ft - the Lynx Lake Loop trail plus the Salida Gulch trail forming a large loop hike. The Lynx Lake Loop is a very nice tree lined hike around the lake. The Salida Gulch trail takes you up over a ridge with great views of the surrounding area. Trail condition - typical hiking trail. There are restrooms at several spot along the trail. No Park fee with the Senior Parks Pass. Driving distance is 200 miles RT.

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Prescott-1/Lynx-Lake>

**Marcus Landslide/Rock Knob Loop (McDowell Sonoran Preserve) Rating C & D.** The C version is a 7.5 mile loop hike with an elevation gain of 740 ft. The D version is an in-and-out hike to the Marcus Landslide area of 4 miles with an elevation gain of 300 ft. There are lots of great views to the east and north including the Superstitions and Four Peaks areas. Plus there are views of great granite boulders. No park fee. Restrooms are at the trailhead. Driving distance is 108 miles RT. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/McDowellSonoranPreserve/Marcus-LandslideRock-Knob-Loop>

**Marcus Landslide/East End/Tom's Thumb Loop (McDowell Sonoran Preserve) Rating B.** This hike combines multiple trails into a "B" level loop of approximately 10.6 miles with 2,100 ft. elevation gain. It first climbs from the north to Tom's Thumb on a short but steep trail and then proceeds south on East End (very steep)-Windmill-Coachwhip-Pemberton-Boulder-Marcus Landslide in a CCW loop, eventually passing in front of the Marcus Landslide area. There are great views to the east and north including the Superstitions and Four Peaks areas, plus views of impressive granite boulders. No park fee. Restrooms are at the trailhead (no water). Driving distance is 108 miles RT. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/McDowellSonoranPreserve/Toms-Thumb-Marcus-Landslide>

**Margies Cove West (North Maricopa Wilderness) Rating C & B.** This is an out and back hike of up to 10 miles with a gradual elevation change of 700 ft. The elevation change is so gradual you think you are hiking on a level surface. Part of the trail is through a sandy wash, though the sand is well packed so the hiking is not too tough. You can hike as little or as much as you want. Most of the hike is through typical Sonoran desert landscape with lots of Saguaros. There is a restroom at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is 82 miles RT. The final 5.5 miles requires a high clearance vehicle.

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Other-2/Margies-Cove>

**Marg's Draw trails (Sedona). Rating C.** This is a 5 mile out and back hike with an elevation change of 300 ft. It goes past Snoopy Rock and provides great close-up views of several nice red rock formations as well as views of downtown Sedona and a red rock valley. You start on the Huckaby trail and turn left onto Marg's Draw. Park fee is \$5.00 (free with Golden Age pass). Restrooms are at the trailhead. Driving distance is 254 miles RT.

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Category/Margs-Draw-Trail>

**Maricopa Trail - Lake Pleasant East (Lake Pleasant). Rating C-.** This is a 4 mile in and out hike with an elevation gain of 500 ft. The hike goes across the front of the Lake Pleasant dam about half mile away. It goes through several washes as it climbs up above the level of the dam. It goes below, though not under the Arizona Canal (you have to do the hike to see why). Lots of typical desert brush including many types of cactus. This trail can be combined with the Morgan City Wash trail to form a nice 7 mile hike. No restrooms at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is 64 miles RT.

**Massacre Falls Trail (Superstitions). Rating C+.** This is a 6.1 mile out and back hike with an elevation gain of 1400 feet. You start at the Crosscut trailhead and turn left at the edge of the parking lot. The trail passes through typical desert terrain with lots of Saguaros and Jumping Cholla. The trail then starts heading uphill. This is the Praying hands trail and will pass to the right of the lower rock outcropping known as Praying Hands.. There are great views of the valley past the Praying Hands looking towards Apache Junction. You will pass various rock formations as you travel along the trail. You will see Massacre Falls ahead of you as you ascend. We go to a point directly below the falls - this is our turnaround point. Trail condition - average to rough hiking trail. There are no restrooms (though you can go 1.5 miles further up the road to the 1<sup>st</sup> Water trailhead which has restrooms and then return to the trailhead). No park fee from this trailhead. Driving distance is 122 miles RT. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/SuperstitionWilderness/Massacre-Falls-Trail>

**Mesquite Flats Fork Trail (Superstition Mountains). Rating C/B.** This is a 6 to 8 mile "Y" shaped hike with an elevation gain of 1000- to 1600 ft. The C version follows an old road to two overlook areas, while the B version extends the two forks with bushwhacks to higher overlook areas. All of the overlook areas provide views of parts of Canyon Lake and deep canyons in the Superstition Mountain. No restrooms at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is 142 miles RT. <https://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/SuperstitionWilderness/Mesquite-Flats>

**Mesquite Trail + Ford + Willow Springs Trail (White Tank Mountains). Rating B.** This is an 8.7 mile round trip lollypop hike with an elevation gain of 1490 ft. The Mesquite Trail trailhead marker is at picnic unit number six. The trail goes west through a rocky section for 1.8 miles to a junction with the Willow Canyon Trail. Continue west on the Mesquite Trail for another 2.4 miles to the Ford Canyon Trail. Take the Ford Canyon Trail to the right for .9 miles to the other end of the Willow Springs Trail. About .3 mile into the Willow Springs Trail there is an old corral and a spring feed water tank –

Willow Springs. This is a good place for a lunch stop. Continue on the Willow Springs Trail another 1.4 miles to the Mesquite Trail. Turn left and go back to the parking lot. Trail condition - average hiking trail, but steady uphill on Mesquite trail. Restrooms are located at the trailhead. Park fee: \$6.00 per vehicle. Driving distance is approx 30 miles RT.

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/WhiteTankMountainRegionalPark/Ford-Canyon-Mesquite>

**Miner's Needle View (Superstition Mountains). Rating D.** This 4+ mile out-and-back hike starts at the Peralta Trailhead off Route 60 east of Phoenix and goes through an interesting Saguaro forest along the Miner's Needle trail on the way to Miners Needle, which has a hole (arch) in it. Elevation gain is approximately 500 ft. Restrooms are at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is 140 miles RT. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/SuperstitionWilderness/Miners-Needle>

**Montezuma Peak (Sierra Estrella Wilderness) Rating A.** This is a very steep hike of 5.5 miles with an elevation change over 2900 ft. It's a rugged off trail hike to the top of Montezuma Peak, which at 4337 feet is the second highest point in the Estrella Mountain range (an unnamed peak to the northwest tops out at 4512 ft). This hike is best suited to experienced hikers familiar with off trail hiking and climbing over rough and unstable terrain. There are likely many routes one could take to the summit, none of which are particularly user friendly.

From the car park hike north through the desert along the base of the Estrella range a short distance towards two parallel ridgelines. Looking up the ridges you will see that they join about 3/4 of the distance to the top at which point the single ridge heads the remaining distance to the summit of the mountain, at a point just north of Montezuma Peak. You should walk up the southernmost of these two ridgelines, which was rugged and required the use of hands in several places. You'll have to dodge chollas and deal with loose and unstable rocks as you make your way up the steep slope. After the two ridgelines join you'll come to several spots where you'll want to bypass large rock outcrops on one side of the ridge or the other. Some additional hiking and scrambling will bring you to the summit ridge where the walking becomes easier. Turn south (right) at this point and hike along the mountain to the first of two small antennas (which no longer appear to be operational). Passing the antenna, the path becomes rough once more as you drop down a short distance to shallow saddle, and then begin climbing the final pitch of the peak itself. The easiest route to the summit is to continue directly up the ridgeline until you reach a point where you can work your way left into a shallow cleft on the east side of the peak. The cleft will allow you to make your way up to the official summit of Montezuma Peak (identified by a USGS marker which lists the elevation at 4337 feet), and great views in all directions. To get back down you could retrace your steps, or, opt for the steep wash, which leads down to the west from the saddle you passed earlier between the antenna and the peak. The wash is basically a steep hillside at first and is covered with loose rocks that demand your full attention. Further down, water has scoured out the canyon to bare rock, making travel and footing less precarious. The gully eventually becomes less steep, eventually passing the rock

walls of an old Indian ruin located on the left side of the wash. Continue down the drainage until leaving the foothills of the mountain, at which point you'll want to head out of the drainage on the left (south) and route find back to the rough road and your car. There are no restrooms at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is approx 76 miles RT.

**Morgan City Wash Trail (Lake Pleasant). Rating D.** This is a 3 mile lollipop loop with an elevation gain of about 320 ft. The hike starts below the Lake Pleasant dam and goes .6 miles to the lower end of the Morgan City Wash. There are three trails starting at the bridge. There is one on each side of the wash along the ridgeline and an overgrown trail through the wash itself. The easiest route is along one of the ridgeline trails and occasionally dropping down into the wash for a short distance. This is considered one of the better birding areas in the state. There was running water in the wash (it sounded like a babbling brook) in September 2011 when we explored the area. This trail can be combined with the Maricopa Trail Lake Pleasant East to make a mile 7 mile C hike. No restrooms at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is 64 miles RT.

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/LakePleasantArea/Morgan-City-Wash-Maricopa>

**Mountain Peak Trail (Verrado). Rating C & B.** This is an 8-9.2 mile hike with an elevation gain of 1000-1300 feet. It is 8.0 miles & 900 ft to the saddle and another 1.2 miles and 300 ft over two ridges to views of the Caterpillar trail. The first 2.5 miles is flat through rolling desert and then the last 1.5 is fairly steady uphill to the saddle. You go past an eroded ravine and various rock formations to get to the saddle. The saddle provides views towards the East, including the other Verrado trails with Pebble Creek in the distance. The flat part of the trail itself is very wide. The uphill portion has more rocks and stones and has a couple of steep sections over loose rocks. The last 1.2 miles to the Caterpillar trail is a bushwhack through desert brush and rocks. No restrooms at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is approx 15 miles RT.

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/WhiteTankMountains-Verrado/Verrado-Mountain>

**Mountain Wash/Turnbuckle/Granite Falls/Chuckwalla Loop (Skyline Park)**

Rating C. This is about a 6.7 mile loop hike with an elevation gain of about 1100 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/Skyline-Regional-Park/>

**Mule Deer/Black Rock/Waterfall Trails (White Tanks). Rating D.** This is a 4+ mile hike with an elevation gain of 400 ft. The hike starts on the Mule Deer trail at Ramada 3 and goes through typical desert along a good trail to a hidden waterfall (usually dry). Restrooms are at the trailhead. Park fee is \$6.00. Driving distance is 30 miles RT. [SCG=4.5/600/2.4]

**Mule Deer/South Trail/Goat Camp Loop (White Tanks). Rating D.** This is a 4 mile loop hike that goes from the library with an elevation gain of about 350 ft. The hike meanders through typical Sonoran desert vegetation. Restrooms can be found in the library. Trail condition - average hiking trail. There is a \$6 park fee per car, which can be paid in a self pay box near the junction with the Mule Deer Trail. Driving distance is 30 miles RT.

**Mule Deer/Old Saddle/Bajada/Goat Camp Overlook/South/Mule Deer (White Tanks). Rating B.** This is a 8.1 mile loop hike with an elevation gain of 800 feet. Start at the White Tanks Library and turn right onto the Mule Deer Trail. About a mile later turn left on to the Old Saddle for a short connector to the Bajada Trail. Near another mile is the Goat Camp Trail. Again turn right and climb to the top of the steep Goat Camp hill. Just past the top is an unmarked trail to the left. Follow this unmarked trail for about .2 mile to the hill top. At this point turn around and take the Goat Camp Trail back to the South Trail. Turn right and in about .8 mile you will see the junction with the Mule Deer Trail. Turn right and follow the trail back to the library.

A little longer option is the **Mule Deer/Bajada/Goat Camp Overlook/South/Mule Deer Loop.** This is a 8.4 mile loop. The only difference is to continue on the Mule Deer Trail past the junction with the Old Saddle Trail.

This will still lead you to a junction with the Bajada Trail. Turn left onto the Bajada Trail and follow the direction stated above.

Restrooms can be found in the library. There is a \$6 park fee which can be paid in a self pay box near the junction with the Mule Deer Trail. Driving distance is 30 miles RT.

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/WhiteTankMountainRegionalPark/Mule-Deer-Waterfall>

**Munds Wagon Trail (Sedona). RatingC+.** This is an 7.5 mile in and out hike with an elevation gain of about 1500 ft. There are lots of great views of Sedona and red rock formations including Snoopy Rock, the Cow Pies, and the Merry-Go-Round. Park fee is \$5.00. Restrooms are at the trailhead. Driving distance is 250 miles RT.

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Category/Munds-Wagon-Trail>

**National/Holbert/Box Canyon Loop/Los Lomitas Loop/Kiwanis (South Mountain). Rating B.** This is a 7.7 mile loop, with an elevation gain of 1,420 ft. This hike starts at the top of Telegraph Hill on the Summit Rd. Take the National Trail North & East for 2.25 miles to the Horton Trail. The Horton Trail leads to Dobbins Lookout and then to the parking lot at the bottom of South Mountain. Take the road to the left about .1 miles to the Box Canyon Loop Trail and follow it for about 1.0 miles and then turn left onto the Los Lomitas Loop Trail. From here begin the climb back to the car. In about ½ mile you will come across a parking lot with picnic tables to the left. This is where you will find the Kiwanis Trail. Take the climb up the Kiwanis Trail to the car. Restrooms are at the ranger station just after entering the park. There is no park fee. Driving distance is approx 60 mi RT.

**National/Kiwanis/Los Lomitas Loop/Ranger/Bajada Trails (South Mountain). Rating A.** This is a 20.0 mile loop, with an elevation gain of 3,900 ft. None of the hill

climbs are difficult there just are a lot of them. Start at the San Juan Parking lot and take the National Trail to the east. At the 3.6 mile mark is the first mine shaft, at 4.6 there is another mine. The junction with the Ranger Trail is at the 6.0 mile mark, stay on the National Trail. At 6.9 miles there is the Telegraph Pass ramada. Continue on the National Trail, which crosses the Summit Rd at 7.25 miles until .5 miles beyond the junction with the Holbert Trail. Turn around at the 10.0 mile mark and return to the Kiwanis Trail just below the Telegraph Pass ramada (12.8 miles). Take the Kiwanis Trail to the parking lot then find the Los Lomitas Loop trail going off to the left and follow that for almost 1 mile to the Ranger Trail. Take the Ranger Trail left for about .2 miles to the Bajada Trail. Follow the Bajada Trail for 3.2 miles to the National Trail and go west 1.7 miles back to the San Juan parking lot. Restrooms at the Ranger's station. There is no park fee. Driving distance is approx 60 mi RT.

**Nelson (#159), Willow Springs (#12,), Verde Rim (#161), and Pine Mountain (#14) Loop (Pine Mountain, near Dugas). Rating B.** This is a picturesque 10.5 mile out, loop, and back hike with an elevation gain of 1,720 ft. Hiking in a forested area. Park at the end of FR 68 in the campground. There are some outhouses in the campground. The Nelson Trailhead is directly across the stream to the east. Hike 2.5 miles east on Nelson Trail to Willow Springs/Pine Mountain Trail intersect. Suggest hiking the "loop" clockwise because of magnificent views as you descend off of Pine Mountain. Therefore, take the Willow Springs Trail. You will hike to a gradual ascent, about 2.5 miles to the intersection with the Pine Mountain. Trail. Go right. After about ¼ mile of a fairly steep ascent you will see a sign that directs you to the left and the top of Pine Mountain. Will reach the top in about 100 yards. There is an ammo box with writing material to evidence you were there. There are great views of Verde Valley, etc. Return to trail and continue on the Pine Mountain. Trail. In about ½ mile you will reach a heavily burned out forest area - a result of a 1989 fire. Trail goes abruptly down the mountain. Signage is good and you will intersect other trails but be sure to stay on Pine Mountain Trail. As you descend the mountain trail goes southwest and then starts north and intersects the Nelson Trail for return to parking area. The last 20 miles of road are dirt, with a stream to drive through in Dugas (high clearance will work if road is dry). There is no park fee. No restrooms. Driving distance is approx 200 miles RT.

**Northern Ave and the White Tanks (White Tank Mountains). Rating B.** This is a 6.5 mile in and out trail. The hike starts at the South Trail trailhead and turns left to follow the deer trails south and west across the flat desert to an old bunker. From here turn right and follow the jeep road up the hill till the road ends. From this point it is bushwhacking again to the top of the hill overlooking the old caterpillar test road. This is an out of the park wilderness hike. Suggest that this be done only in the wintertime when the rattlesnakes are asleep. There is a park entrance fee of \$6.00 per car. Driving distance is approx 30 miles RT.

**North Mingus Mtn Trail #105 (Prescott). Rating B.** This is a 10.8 mile hike with an elevation gain of 2100 ft. Most of the trail is an old Jeep road that climbs to the top of the mountain. The trail also goes through a cluster pine trees. There are great views of Prescott Valley on the way up. Very scenic – bring your camera! Restrooms are not available at the trailhead. Driving distance is 220 miles Rt

**North Mountain Trail (North Mountain Park). Rating C.** This is a 1.6 mile hike with an elevation gain of 700 ft. This is one of the hikes of the Seven Summits of Phoenix Challenge that takes place every year in November. This is a short steep hike mostly on a paved road. It offers good views of the surrounding area. Restrooms in the parking area. No park fee. Driving distance is 54 miles RT.

**North Mountain/Shaw Butte Divide (North Mountain Park). Rating D.** This is a 4 mile semi-loop hike with an elevation gain of 300. Start out that the North Mountain Visitor's Center and go right on Trail 100 and follow the signs to another trailhead across the valley, going between North Mountain and Shaw Butte. After taking a snack break, return via the alternative trail marked on the map, turning right when trail 100 goes sharply to the right. Restrooms are at the trailhead. There is no park fee. Driving distance is approx 54 miles RT.

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/PhoenixMountainsPreserve/North-Mtn-Shaw-Butte>

**Nothing, Arizona Hike (Highway 93). Rating C/B.** This is a 7-10 mile loop hike with an elevation gain of about 600-900 ft. Nothing is an old town along Hwy 93 to Las Vegas with just a large sign announcing "Nothing". The hike utilizes old jeep roads and open desert bushwhack to loop through a series of boulder 'piles". The boulder formations are very scenic. No restrooms at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is 190 miles.

**Overton, Go John & Quartz Trails (Cave Creek Rec. Area). Rating C+.** This is a 8 mile hike on a combined trail loop with an elevation gain of about 1000 ft. The trail is marked, and is in good condition. We usually travel the trail in the 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 strange saguaro named the Michelin Man saguaro. 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. Restrooms are located at the trailhead. There is a park entrance fee of \$6.00 per car. Driving distance is 93 miles RT. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/CaveCreekRegionalPark/Cave-Creek-Regional-Park/GoJohnOvertonQuartz-and-Variat>

**Palo Verde Trail (Bartlett Reservoir). Rating C+.** This is a 7.5 mile out and back hike. It has little elevation change, but an elevation gain of about 1500 ft. The trail is loose, decomposed granite. Consequently, please wear proper hiking footwear. This is a lovely hike with continuous water views. The Bartlett Reservoir is part of the Verde River between New River and Mazatzal Mountains. It is visible the entire hike. Restrooms are at the Rattlesnake trailhead. There is a \$6.00 park fee (1/2 price with Golden Age Passport - get passes at ranger station on Bartlett Reservoir road). Driving distance is approx 136 miles RT. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/BartlettReservoir/Palo-Verde-Trail>

**Papago Park West Buttes (Phoenix). Rating D.** This is a 3.0 mile hike with an elevation change of 200 ft. This is one of the hikes of the Seven Summits of Phoenix Challenge that takes place every year in November. This is an easy hike in the heart of

Phoenix with nice views of the surrounding area. Trail condition - good trail surface with a steep loose dirt route though the saddle (you can go around this section). No restrooms and no park fee. Driving distance is approx 70 miles RT.

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/PhoenixMountainsPreserve/Papago-Lookout-Mt-Trails>

**Parson's Trail #144 (Cottonwood). Rating C/B.** This is an 8-10 mile in and out hike with an elevation gain of 800-1100 ft. Parson's Spring and Summer Spring provide enough water to have a running creek year round. There are 6 creek crossings (boulder hops). There would be great falls colors due to the abundance of deciduous trees along the creek. There is lots of great scenery along the trail. Trail condition - the first quarter mile is a steep stair like descent, then the trail is good with the 6 boulder hopping crossings. No restrooms and no park fee. Driving distance is approx 110 miles RT.

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Cottonwood/Parsons-Trail>

**Pass Mountain Trail (Usey Mountain Park). Rating C.** This is a 7.7 mile loop, with an elevation change of 600 ft, and elevation gain of 1160 ft on a trail in good condition and with great scenery as you travel around the mountain. The trail encircles Pass Mountain and starts by going through a Saguaro cactus forest. It offers nice views on clear days of other distant mountain ranges including the Superstitions, Catalina, Mazatzal, Four Peaks, and McDowell Mountains. A portion of the loop is on adjacent Tonto National Forest land. This is a long hike - bring and drink plenty of water. Restrooms are located at the trailhead. Park fee is \$6.00 per vehicle. Driving distance is approx 110 miles RT.

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/UseyMountainRegionalPark/Pass-Mountain-Trail>

**Pass Mountain + Wind Cave Trails (Usey Mountain Park). Rating B.** This is a 10.6 mile hike. Pass Mountain is a 7.4 mile loop, with an elevation change of 600 ft, and elevation gain 1,780 ft on a trail in good condition and with great scenery as you travel around the mountain. The trail encircles Pass Mountain and starts by going through a Saguaro cactus forest. It offers nice views on clear days of other distant mountain ranges including the Superstitions, Catalina, Mazatzal, Four Peaks, and McDowell Mountains. A portion of the loop is on adjacent Tonto National Forest land. This is a long hike - bring and drink plenty of water. Just to add some fun to this hike, after going around the mountain we will tackle the Wind Cave Trail. This is a 3.2 mi round trip out and back hike with an elevation change of 650 ft. The trail starts off relatively flat then climbs steadily to a large over hanging rock. The "Wind Caves" are shallow depressions that have been eroded out of the tuff layer of rock by wind and rain. Restrooms are located at the trailhead. Park fee is \$6.00 per vehicle. Driving distance is approx 110 miles RT.

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/UseyMountainRegionalPark/Pass-Mountain-Trail>

**Peavine/Lakeshore Trails (Prescott). Rating C.** This is a 7 to 8 mile lollipop loop hike with an elevation gain of about 600 ft. The Peavine trail itself is an old railroad track that has been smoothed out for hiking and biking. It starts off past a cluster of large Cottonwood trees. There are great views of Watson lake and many granite rock formations. The Lakeshore trail goes close to the lake and then up, over, and through

the Granite Dells rock formations past the dam that forms the lake. Very scenic – bring your camera! Restrooms are available at the trailhead. Park fee is \$2.00. Driving distance is 210 miles RT. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Prescott-1/Peavine-Lakeshore-Trails>

**Peralta Trail #102 (Superstition Mountains). Rating C+.** This is an out and back hike of about 5.7 miles (add .5 to go to GC) with an elevation gain of 1,500 ft – a steep, continuous climb. But it is one of the most beautiful hikes we do - Weaver's Needle will be in front of you at the top. We can also go to a lone tree with terrific close-up views of Weavers Needle and/or hike to Geronimo's Cave, which provides great views of the valley just hiked and points East. The Peralta Road turnoff is located 8.5 miles past Apache Jct. on Hwy 60 east. The trailhead is about 9 miles north on this road – the last 8 miles of which are dirt (a car usually has no problems getting through). Restrooms are available at the trailhead. There is no park fee. Driving distance is approx 140 miles RT. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/SuperstitionWilderness/Peralta-Trail>

**Peralta Trail #102/Geronimo's Cave/Bluff Springs Loop (Superstition Mountains). Rating B.** This is a loop hike of 7 miles with an elevation gain of 1900 ft – a steep, continuous climb then drop off. But it is one of the most beautiful hikes we do - Weaver's Needle will be in front of you at the top. We can also go to a lone tree with terrific close-up views of Weavers Needle and/or hike to Geronimo's cave, which provides great views of the valley just hiked and points East. We then go by Geronimo's cave before going down a steep descent to the Bluff Springs trail. The Peralta Road turnoff is located 8.5 miles past Apache Jct. on Hwy 60 east. The trailhead is about 9 miles north on this road – the last 8 miles of which are dirt (a car usually has no problems getting through). Restrooms are available at the trailhead. There is no park fee. Driving distance is approx 140 miles RT <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/SuperstitionWilderness/Peralta-Geronimo-Cave-Bluff>

**Peralta/Dutchman/Terrapin/Bluffs Springs (Superstitions Mountains). Rating B.** The trail starts with a climb to Freemont Saddle, then past Weavers Needle to the junction with Dutchman Trail. Turn right on Dutchman Trail and proceed thru the valley to Terrapin Trail. Turn right on Terrapin and climb a couple of hills to the Bluffs Springs Trail. Turn right on Bluff Springs and proceed back to the car. Approx 13 miles round trip with an elevation change of 1,360 ft. The Peralta Rd 77 turnoff is located 8.5 miles past Apache Jct. on Hwy 60 east. The trailhead is about 8 miles north on this dirt road. Restrooms are available at the trailhead. There is no parking fee. Approx 140 miles round trip.

**Petersen Long Loop (Estrella Mountains). Rating B.** This is a 15 mile loop hike with an elevation gain of about 1000 ft. The trail goes through typical desert terrain with distance views of the west side of the Estrella Mountains. Restrooms and water are at the trailhead. Park entrance fee is \$6.00 per car. Driving distance is approx 20 miles RT.

**Petroglyphs Wash Trail (Verrado). Rating C.** This is a 5.8 mile out and back hike with an gradual elevation change of 500ft. Turn left .1 miles past the trailhead sign. At

about 1.5 miles you will see a large rock with petroglyphs. At 1.7 miles turn left into the wash. There are numerous interesting mineral veins running through the rock formations all along this wash. The wash is mostly sand and small rocks, with a few small steps over boulders. No facilities at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is 18 miles RT. [SCG=5.0/900/2.7].

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/WhiteTankMountains-Verrado/Petroglyphs>

**Petroglyphs Loop Trail (Verrado). Rating D.** This is a 3.5 mile loop hike with an gradual elevation change of 300ft. Turn left .1 miles past the trailhead sign. At about 1.5 miles you will see a large rock with petroglyphs. Just past the petroglyphs turn left and go up over the ridge. Follow the trail down to a 4-way intersection and turn left to return to the trailhead. Trail condition - A very good hiking surface. No facilities at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is 18 miles RT.

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/WhiteTankMountains-Verrado/Petroglyphs>

**Petroglyphs/South of Border (SOB) Loop (Verrado). Rating D+.** This is a 4.7 mile loop hike with elevation change of 500ft. Turn left .1 miles past the trailhead sign. Then turn right just before a rocky wash, following the road about 1.3 miles to see a large rock with petroglyphs. Just past the petroglyphs turn left and go up to the saddle. Turn right at the intersection at the saddle and follow the SOB trail for 2.8 miles. The trail will intersect the old road at this point. Turn right and go .4 miles back to the trailhead. There are nice rock formations as well a short hike through a steep sided wash. Trail condition - A very good hiking surface. No facilities at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is 18 miles RT.

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/WhiteTankMountains-Verrado/Petroglyphs>

**Petroglyphs ridge Loop (Verrado). Rating C.** This is a 5 mile loop hike with an elevation change of 600ft. Turn right .1 miles past the trailhead sign. You will come to a cement sidewalk on the left. Take the trail that leads left off the far end of the sidewalk. At any trail junction, go left. At about 1.5 miles you will dip into a wash and the trail turns left. 100 yards ahead you will see a large rock with petroglyphs. Turn right just this side of the petroglyphs and follow the trail up to and over a saddle. At a trail junction around mile 2 (the crossing trail goes left back to the cars or right up to a ridge), you have a choice. Either turn right and hike up to the ridge, take your break, and then return straight back down, going through the trail intersection. Or you can continue straight through the intersection through rolling desert, take your break, return to the intersection, and turn right to go back to the cars. ON the return to the cars, you will come to a large pile of boulders, but just to the left is a trail leading up around them. Once past the boulders, go to the right on the trail. This will lead you to the intersection with the trail you started on at the point you turned right. Simply turn right to return to the cars about .1 miles away. No facilities at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is 18 miles RT.

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/WhiteTankMountains-Verrado/Petroglyphs>

**Petroglyphs Waterfall Trail (Verrado) Rating C.** This is a 7.1 mile semi-loop hike with an elevation gain of about 700 ft. The hike starts on an unpaved road, then turns off at a cement sidewalk (in the middle of nowhere). It then follows a curving trail

through the desert to a wash just before the petroglyphs. The trail then goes up the wash. You take the left fork to the base of a 30 ft dry waterfall where we will have our break. Trail condition - most of the trail is an average hiking trail, but the last .5 miles to the waterfall is a boulder hop. On the return we pass the petroglyphs before returning to the cars. No facilities at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is 18 miles RT.

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/WhiteTankMountains-Verrado/Petroglyphs>

**Phone Line Trail (Sabino Canyon Catalina Mountains) Rating C & B.** From the Sabino Canyon Visitor's Center: The Phone Line Trail: Overlooks canyon, rock enclosed haven. Round trip or one way, your choice. The hike begins in the Sabino Canyon parking lot. After crossing Sabino Creek there is a moderate climb to the Phoneline Trail. The trail is above and generally parallel to the tram road and offers outstanding views of the canyon. The return route will be back along the tram road or ride the tram back down for a C hike. \$6.00 (have the exact change) tram fee can be paid to the driver at the embarkation point, stop 9. Hike 10 miles for a B hike or 5 for a C hike. The elevation change is 900 ft at an altitude starting at start 2700 ft.

**Picacho Peak (Picacho Peak State Park). Rating B.** Hunter Trail trailhead elevation: 1780 ft, summit elevation 3160 ft. From Barrett Loop road take Hunter Trail 2.1 miles to the summit with an elevation change of 1380 ft. From the saddle hike down the Hunter trail to the Sunset Vista Trail then to the top of Picacho Peak using the permanently installed guide cables to get to the top. Bring cotton or leather gloves for holding on to the cables. Return requires a climb down Sunset Vista trail then up the Hunter Trail again to the saddle. This is a short strenuous, hike and a favorite among hikers. The alternate route is to drive 1.8 miles further into the park and take the Sunset Vista trail 2.2 miles to first cable climb or 2.8 miles to summit. The Sunset Vista Trail crosses the Hunter Trail just past the first cable assisted climb.

This hike overlooks the site of Arizona's only Civil War battle (The Battle of Picacho Pass on Apr 15, 1862). Twelve California Union Cavalrymen and one scout, commanded by Lt. Barrett, conducting a sweep of the Picacho Pass area, surprised and captured three of Captain Sherod Hunter's lookouts, but seven other confederates fought more than an hour, killing Union Lieutenant Barrett and two men, and wounding three others. Both sides withdrew from the **Westernmost Civil War Battle**. The confederates in Tucson returned to Texas, and Union forces divided Arizona from New Mexico Territory, along the present line. So, the Civil War made Arizona a separate Territory and later State (1912), instead of remaining part of the original New Mexico Territory stretching from Calif. to Texas (Two of the three Union soldiers buried at Picacho Pass, were later returned to Calif. Lt. Barrett's grave, found by railroad workers, is unmarked to avoid disturbance and is located near the rock outcrop across I-10). The park's roads are named after these leaders. Restrooms are located at the trailhead. The park entrance fee is \$6.00. Driving distance is approx 200 miles RT. [SCG=6.0/2400/4.7]. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/PicachoPeakStatePark/Picacho-Peak-Trail>

**Picketpost Mountain & Arizona Trail (Superior). Rating C.** This is an 8 mile in and out hike with an elevation gain of 800 ft. This is an interesting hike around most of

Picketpost Mountain through a large Saguaro and Fishhook cacti forest. There are lots of interesting views of the surrounding area. No restrooms. No park fee. Driving distance is 160 miles RT. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Superior/Picketpost-Mtn-Arizona-Trail>

**Pima/Javalina/Ridge Line/Beverly Canyon/Desert Classic trails from 48<sup>th</sup> St (South Mountain). Rating C.** This is a 6.5 mile hike with an elevation change of about 800 ft. The hike starts out at the 48<sup>th</sup> St entrance to South Mtn Park. Take Pima Wash past a golf course to Javalina trail. Take Javalina to the top of the ridge, then take the Ridgeline trail left. There are great views of downtown Phoenix along this ridge. Turn right on Beverly Canyon to the Desert Classic trail. Turn left on Desert Classic and take this back to the parking area. There are 100s of pincushion cactus on the beginning and ending sections of this hike. Trail condition - overall a good hiking surface. Restrooms are at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is 66 miles RT.

**Pima Canyon Trail (Tucson). Rating B.** This hike is 8 miles round trip, with 2,000 feet in elevation change. Beginning in the desert scrub at the base of the Catalinas, the Pima Canyon Trail leaves the parking lot (2,900 feet) and travels gently uphill for a short distance. Saguaros are abundant on the hillside, and in warmer months, may have flowers in bloom. Turning back to the southwest reveals gorgeous views of West Tucson, providing an excellent opportunity for photos. Shortly thereafter, the trail drops down into Pima Canyon, and winds across a drainage numerous times as the vegetation occasionally transitions into riparian (streamside) habitat. After three miles of hiking, you will arrive at the Pima Canyon Dam (3,700 feet), where two small, bowl-shaped depressions in a large slab of rock signify the imprints of the Hohokam Indians, whose women used the rock to grind mesquite beans over 1,000 years ago. A steep and rocky climb awaits you after the dam. The trail ascends continually through dry grassland for about two miles before reaching Pima Canyon Spring. There is no park fee. Driving Distance is approx 252 miles RT.

**Pine Canyon Trail (Strawberry). Rating C/B.** A 5.5 to 8.0 mile out and back hike with an elevation change of 970 ft. It's a steady uphill hike for the first 2.5 miles through a pine forest. At the top are interesting views of the valley below. Restrooms are at the trailhead. There is no park fee. Driving distance is approx 260 miles RT.

**Pinnacle Peak Trail (Scottsdale). Rating C.** A 4.5 mi. out and back hike with an elevation gain of about 1100 ft. It skirts around a prominent 3,171 ft. valley landmark. The hike when taken at a leisurely pace should be about 2 hours. The Park entrance is on 102nd Way, just west of Pinnacle Peak Patio Restaurant. It is an enjoyable hike with nice views of the north Scottsdale area, including a golf course and some very large estates. There is a Park office, restrooms, shaded ramada, picnic tables and ample parking. No park fee. Driving distance is 116 miles RT. [SCG=4.0/1300/2.9]. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/PinnaclePeakPark/Pinnacle-Peak-Trail>

**Pioneer Park Trails (Prescott). Rating C.** The green trail at Pioneer Park is a 6.1 mile loop with an elevation change of 200 feet. There are good views of the surrounding community and Granite Mountain. In late Spring (May), there are many different

wildflowers in bloom. You drive by a Dairy Queen about 1 mile from the trailhead. . No restrooms at the trailhead. There is no park fee. Driving distance is approx 220 miles RT.

**Pipeline Canyon Trail (Lake Pleasant Regional Park). Rating D.** This is a 4 mile hike in Lake Pleasant Regional Park with an elevation gain of 550 ft. This is an easy hike. The hike uses a floating bridge that crosses part of the lake. It's a good spring wildflower hike if we get any winter rains. Keep your eyes peeled for burros - there are many in the area. Restrooms are at the trailhead. There is a park fee of \$6.00. Driving distance is 80 miles RT. [SCG=4.0/800/2.3].

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Other-12/Pipeline-Yavapai-Cottonwood>

**Pipeline Canyon to Bridge + Yavapai Point Trails (Lake Pleasant Regional Park). Rating D+.** This is a 4.9 mile hike in Lake Pleasant Regional Park with an elevation gain of 500+ ft. The hike goes from Area 3 on the Pipeline trail to the floating bridge. It then returns to the Yavapai Point trail and goes up to the point, before returning to Area 3. There are excellent views of the lake from the top of Yavapai Point. It's a good spring wildflower hike if we get any winter rains. And keep your eyes peeled for wild burros - there are many in the area. Restrooms are at the trailhead. There is a park fee of \$6.00. Driving distance is 80 miles RT. [SCG=4.0/800/2.3].

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Other-12/Pipeline-Yavapai-Cottonwood>

**Pipeline Canyon + Yavapai Point Trails (Lake Pleasant Regional Park). Rating C.** This is a 6.8 mile hike in Lake Pleasant Regional Park with an elevation gain of 960 ft. The hike uses a floating bridge that crosses part of the lake. There are excellent views of the lake from the top of Yavapai Point. It's a good spring wildflower hike if we get any winter rains. Keep your eyes peeled for burros - there are many in the area. Restrooms are at the trailhead and at the snack break point. There is a park fee of \$6.00. Driving distance is 80 miles RT. [SCG=4.0/800/2.3].

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Other-12/Pipeline-Yavapai-Cottonwood>

**Praying Hands Trail (Superstitions). Rating C.** This is a 7 mile out and back hike with an elevation gain of 1000 feet. You start on Jacob's Crosscut trail for one mile, passing through typical desert terrain with lots of Saguaros and Jumping Cholla. Then turn left (uphill) on trail 56. Up the hill past a rock cropping is a bench at the junction with a trail going left. This is the Praying hands trail and will pass to the right of the lower rock outcropping known as Praying Hands. There are several winding trails that get you up to the saddle - so take any of them that head toward Praying Hands. There are great views of the valley and various rock formations as you travel along the trail. Around the 3 mile point you will come to another saddle with to a rock formation on the right that looks like a baby. This is our turnaround point. There are no restrooms (though you can go 1.5 miles further up the road to the 1<sup>st</sup> Water trailhead which has restrooms and then return to the trailhead). No park fee from this trailhead. Driving distance is 122 miles RT.

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/SuperstitionWilderness/Jacobs-Crosscut-Tr-to-Praying>

**Praying Hands/Massacre Falls Loop (Superstitions). Rating B.** This is a 9 mile loop hike with an elevation gain of 2000 feet. You start on Jacob's Crosscut trail for one mile, passing through typical desert terrain with lots of Saguaros and Jumping Cholla. Then turn left (uphill) on trail 56. Up the hill past a rock cropping is a bench at the junction with a trail going left. This is the Praying hands trail and will pass to the right of the lower rock outcropping known as Praying Hands. There are several winding trails that get you up to the saddle – so take any of them that head toward Praying Hands. There are great views of the valley and various rock formations as you travel along the trail. Once you get past the Praying Hands rock formation, the trail is marked by cairns. Massacre Falls will appear around the 6 mile point - off to the right. After stopping at the falls, you take the trail angling right back down the mountain to the trailhead. Trail condition - the first and last thirds are good hiking surfaces, with the middle third a boulder covered semi-bushwhack. There are no restrooms (though you can go 1.5 miles further up the road to the 1<sup>st</sup> Water trailhead which has restrooms and then return to the trailhead). No park fee from this trailhead. Driving distance is 122 miles RT.

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/SuperstitionWilderness/Massacre-Falls-Trail>

**Quartz Mine/Lost Creek/Turnbuckle/Chuckwalla/Granite Falls/ Turnbuckle Loop (Skyline Regional Park). Rating B.** This is a loop hike of 9.8 miles with an elevation gain of 1800 ft. This hike does a loop around the outer edges of the park (as of Aug 2016). There are lots of views of the west valley. Restrooms are at the trailhead. There is no park fee. Driving distance is 30 miles RT. <https://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Skyline-Park/Outer-Loop-Trails>

**Quartz Mine/Lost Creek/Turnbuckle/Granite Falls/Turnbuckle Loop (Skyline Regional Park). Rating C+.** This is a loop hike of 7.8 miles with an elevation gain of 1200 ft. This hike does a loop around the edge of the park as of January 2016 (it's expanded now). There are lots of views of the west valley. Restrooms are at the trailhead. There is no park fee. Driving distance is 30 miles RT. <https://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Skyline-Park/Outer-Loop-Trails>

**Quartz Peak (Estrella Mountains). Rating B+.** This is a 6 mile hike with an elevation gain of 2550 ft. Quartz Peak Trail, in the 14,400-acre Sierra Estrella Wilderness, leads visitors from the floor of Rainbow Valley (elevation 1,550 feet) to the summit ridge of the Sierra Estrella at Quartz Peak (elevation 4,052 feet) in just 3 miles. Along the way, visitors are treated to a variety of Sonoran Desert plants and wildlife, scenic vistas, and evidence of the area's volcanic history. The views from the summit are spectacular--to the west is a dramatic panorama of rugged mountain ranges and desert plains, and to the east metropolitan Phoenix unfolds over the valley of the lower Salt River.

The trail begins at Quartz Peak Trailhead by following a closed four-wheel-drive track approximately 1/4 mile. Look to the left as you walk up the old road and see a narrow trail ascending the ridge to the north. The trail is poorly marked in places and does not extend to the summit--the final 1/4 mile to Quartz Peak is a scramble over boulder and

talus slopes that requires careful footing. Quartz Peak is a point on the spine of the Sierra Estrella capped with an outcrop of white quartz.

Quartz Peak is accessed from Rainbow Valley and Riggs Roads in Rainbow Valley, Southwest of Pebble Creek. Trail condition - this is mostly a steep, boulder hopping, bushwhack hike. A high clearance vehicle is necessary to get to the trailhead. There are restrooms at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is approx 70 miles RT.

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/EstrellaMountainRegionalPark/Quartz-Peak>

**Quartz Ridge Trail (Piestewa Peak Rec. Area). Rating C.** This is a hike of 6.4 miles with an elevation gain of 1000 ft. It is usually an out and back hike, but can be done as a loop taking alternate paths. There are nice views of the Phoenix area and Piestewa Peak as well as a white quartz outcropping for which this trail is named. We park at the lot at the far end of Piestewa Peak Drive. Start hiking on trail # 304 which intersects Trail# 8 (located northeast of Piestewa Peak Rec. Area) length 2.45 mi each way, elev. change: 220 ft. The trail terminates at the 40<sup>th</sup> St entrance. There are variations to this trail so the hike can be done as a loop. Loop option #1: Trail # 304 to Trail 8B, up the hill and down to the junction with Trail 8A. Make a left turn on 8A to the wash and a junction with Trail 8. Right turn on Trail 8 and continue to 40<sup>th</sup>St entrance (3.0 miles and elevation change of 360 ft). On the way back take Trail 8 to Trail 100. Turn right on Trail 100 to trail 1A. Turn left on Trail 1A to the junction with Trail 8. After crossing Trail 8, Trail 1A becomes Trail # 304. Take Trail # 304 back to the car. Total distance of this option is 7.6 miles with an elevation gain of 1,490 ft, a total descent of 1,340 ft and elevation change of 450 ft. Restrooms and water fountain are at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving Distance is approx 66 miles RT.

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/PhoenixMountainsPreserve/Dixie-Peak>

**Quartz Mine/East Road/Lost Creek/Turnbuckle Loop (Skyline Regional Park). Rating C.** This is a 7 mile loop hike with an elevation gain of 1000 ft. The trail goes through typical desert terrain and provides views of Buckeye as it works it's way up to some nice viewpoints. Trail condition - average hiking trail. There are restrooms at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is 18 miles RT.

**Quartz Mine/Lost Creek/Mountain Wash Loop (Skyline Park) Rating D+** This is about a 4.0 mile loop hike with an elevation gain of about 550 ft. in Buckeye's New Skyline Regional Park. The trail gradually climbs the first part of the hike to Lost Creek Trail, which connects to Mountain Wash for the descent back to the trailhead. This is one of the trails in Buckeye's Skyline Regional Park. No park fee. Restrooms are at the trailhead. Driving distance is 30 miles RT.

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

**Quartz Mountain (Prescott).** Rating C. This is an 8 mile in and out hike with an elevation gain of 1000 ft. This is a scenic hike with views of Prescott and the surrounding mountain ranges. The top of the mountain has a large deposit of quartz. Restrooms are at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving Distance is approx 210 miles RT.

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Prescott-1/Quartz-Mountain>

**Quartz Trail (McDowell Sonoran Preserve). Rating C/B.** This is a 7-8.5 mile out and back hike with an elevation gain of 1100-500 ft. You start out hiking through a neighborhood of nice houses, before starting to climb the mountain. The C version goes up to a quartz outcropping while the B version continues further up the mountain. There are lots of great views of Scottsdale and Phoenix. Trail condition - overall an average hiking trail, but steady uphill going and downhill coming back. No restrooms at the trailhead. There is no park entrance fee. Driving distance is 100 miles RT.

**Rainbow Valley/Toothaker Loop (Estrella Mountains). Rating C.** This is a 6.4 mile loop beginning on the west side of the rodeo. It has an elevation gain of 500 ft. The trail goes through typical desert terrain. The Rainbow Valley trail is wide and relatively flat. It intersects the Toothaker Trail. Turn left onto the Toothaker Trail to return to the rodeo. A restroom is at the trailhead. Park entrance is \$6.00 per car. Driving distance is 20 miles RT.<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/EstrellaMountainRegionalPark/Rainbow-Toothaker>

**Rainbow Valley/Toothaker/Coldwater Loop (Estrella Mountains). Rating B.** This is an 8.3 mile loop beginning on the west side of the rodeo. The Rainbow Valley trail is wide and relatively flat (320ft elev. Change and 900 ftelevation gain). It intersects the Toothaker Trail. Turn right onto the Toothaker Trail to the Pedersen Trail. Turn left on the Pedersen Trail for a short distance to the Coldwater Trail and the turn left again and head back to the rodeo. A restroom is at the trailhead. Park entrance \$6.00 per car. Driving distance is approx 20 miles RT.

**Rainbow Valley/Dysart/Toothaker Loop (Estrella Mountains). Rating D.** This is a 4 mile loop with a 400 ft elevation gain. Beginning on the west side of the rodeo. The Rainbow Valley trail is wide and relatively flat. It intersects the Dysart Trail. Turn left onto the Dysart Trail to the Toothaker Trail. Turn left on the Toothaker Trail and head back to the rodeo. Trail condition - good hiking trail. A restroom is at the trailhead. Park entrance fee is \$6.00 per car. Driving distance is 20 miles RT.  
<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/EstrellaMountainRegionalPark/Rainbow-Toothaker>

**Rainbow Valley/Toothaker/Gadsden/Butterfield Loop (Estrella Mountains). Rating B.** This is a 9.6 mile loop beginning on the west side of the rodeo. The Rainbow Valley trail is wide and relatively flat (320ft elev. Change). It intersects the Toothaker Trail. Turn right onto the Toothaker Trail to the Pedersen Trail. Turn left on the Pedersen Trail. Turn left on the Gadsden Trail, then right on the Butterfield trail and head back to the rodeo. A restroom is at the trailhead. Park entrance fee is \$6.00 per car. Driving distance is approx 20 miles RT.<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/EstrellaMountainRegionalPark/Rainbow-Toothaker-Gadsen>

**Ranger/National/Bajada Trails (South Mountain). Rating B.** Distance 8.3 miles round trip loop, elevation change 900 ft, elevation gain/descent 1,300 ft. The hike starts by going up the Summit Rd for about .5 miles to the Ranger Trail. Proceed to the right and climb to the National Trail then turn right to the Bajada Trail. Following the Bajada Trail to the left will bring you back to the Summit Rd and the auto(s). We carpool on I-10E to I-17S, Exit at 7<sup>th</sup> Ave, straight ahead to Central Ave. Turn Rt onto Central which

goes into So. Mountain Park. We will stop at the restroom by the park office. Car pool to the junction of the Summit Rd and San Juan Rd, near the two mile post. There are no park fees. Driving distance is 60 miles RT.

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Other-4/Ranger-National-Alta-Bajada>

**Ranger/National/Kiwanis/Los Lomita Loop Trails (South Mountain). Rating C.**

This is a hike of 5.5 miles with an elevation gain of about 1000 ft. This hike has nice views of downtown Phoenix and the mountains on the North side of Phoenix. The hike starts by climbing up 800 feet to the National Trail on the ridge. It then goes along the National Trail to a ramada where we will take our break. We will then follow the Kiwanis trail down to the bottom and take Los Lomita back to the cars. Restrooms are at the ranger station on the right after you enter the park. Trail condition - steep going up to the ridgeline and steep with lots of steps coming down the Kiwanis trail. There are no park fees. Driving distance is 60 miles RT.

**Ranger/Bajada/Max Delta/Tusk/Crosscut Loop (South Mountain) Rating D.**

This is a 4 miles hike with an elevation gain of about 300 ft. This route goes through typical desert vegetation with some unusual barrel cacti and a crested Saguaro. The high point provides a view of downtown Phoenix. Restrooms are at at the ranger station. There are no park fees. Driving distance is 60 miles RT.

**Ranger/National/Mines/Pyramid/National Trails (South Mountain) Rating B**

This is a hike of 9.3 miles with an elevation gain of about 2000 ft. This hike has nice views of downtown Phoenix and the mountains on the North side of Phoenix. The hike starts by climbing up 800 feet to the National Trail on the ridge. It then goes to the Pyramid trail, which goes down the south side of the mountain before going back up to the National Trail. It then goes along the National Trail to a ramada where we will take our break. We will then follow the Kiwanis trail down to the bottom and take Los Lomita back to the cars. Restrooms are at the ranger station on the right after you enter the park. There are no park fees. Driving distance is 60 miles RT.

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Other-4/Ranger-National-Mines-Pyramid>

**Ranger/National/Ruins/Gila West/National/Kiwanis/Los Lomitas/Ranger Trails Loop (South Mountain). Rating B+.** This is a 11 mi loop with an elevation gain of 2000 ft. This is a way to incorporate the trail system to the south of the National Trail. It is 1.75 miles climb up the Ranger Trail from the parking lot to the National Trail, then turn left on the National Trail for 2 miles to a unmarked junction with the Ruins Trail. Turn left and go down the hill past the ruins and into the wash in 1.2 miles. Turn left in the wash to a service road. The junction with the Gila West Trail will be found in 1 mile. Turn left on the Gila West Trail and begin the big climb up to the National Trail. This leg is about 2 miles long. Turn right at the junction with the National Trail and start the descent going past the ramada to the Summit Road. Cross Summit Road to the Kiwanis Trail. Follow this trail for 1.45 miles to the Los Lomitas Trail just the other side of the parking lot. Turn right onto the Los Lomitas Trail and follow for about 1 mile to the Ranger Trail. Turn right for about .25 miles to the Five Tables parking lot. Restrooms are at the Ranger Station. No park fee. Driving distance is 60 miles RT.

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

**Red Rock State Park Loop (Sedona). Rating C & D.** This is a loop hike of about 7 miles (C level) or 4 miles (D level) with an elevation gain of 700 ft or 400 ft. Both hikes cross Oak Creek (via bridges) a couple of times and go up to great viewpoints. There are lots of red rock formations in this area as well as many Cottonwood and Sycamore trees. This would be a good hike in the fall with the changing of the leaves. The C version goes up to several overlooks with great views of many of the rock formations in the Sedona area. The D version goes up to most of the overlooks but cuts off some of the trails that go along Oak Creek. Restrooms are at the trailhead. Park fee is \$7.00 per person. Driving Distance is 230 miles RT. <https://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Category/Red-Rock-State-Park>

**Red Picacho Trail, near Morristown (Castle Hot Springs Area). Rating C+.** A 5+ mi. out and back hike with an elevation gain of 1200 ft. The hike will lead through canyons and washes surrounded by scenic mountains and go past an old mining operation. Good views. We may see some wild burrows and javalina along the way. The trail starts as a jeep trail, crosses a wash and then goes by the old mine. There are lots of Hedgehog cacti near the far end of the trail. Great wildflowers after a rainy winter. Trail condition - part is an average trail, part is rocky, and one section is on very steep, loose soil. There are no facilities and no park fee. Driving distance is approx 90 miles RT. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Wickenburg/Castle-Hot-Springs-Area>

**Red Top Mountain Loop Trail A (Wickenburg). Rating C.** This is a 7.5 mile loop hike with an elevation gain of 970 ft. This hike offers 360 degree views of Red Top Mountain. There are many species of cactus as well as numerous interesting rock formations. The hike starts at the Sophie Flat trailhead and follows trail A signs around Precious Peak and Red Top Mountain in a counterclockwise direction. Trail condition - this is a horse trail of loose soil and sandy washes with some rocky places. No park Fee. Restrooms are at the trailhead. Driving distance is 102 miles RT. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Wickenburg/Redtop-Mountain>

**Rocky Ridge and Brookbank trails (Flagstaff). Rated B.** This is an 8.8 mile hike with an elevation change of 800 ft. These trails wander through the pine forests just North of Flagstaff. No restrooms at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is 370 miles RT.

**Rollercoaster Trail (Hwy 74). Rating B.** This is an 8 mile hike with an elevation change of 600 ft, but elevation gain of 1800 ft. It reminds one of a rollercoaster - steep ups and downs all the way. The trail surface is loose stone in many areas. There are great views of Lake Pleasant, Phoenix, and the surrounding mountain ranges. No restrooms. No park fee. Driving distance is 80 miles RT.

**Romero Canyon Trail (Catalina Mountains). Rating B.** A desert canyon stream and great views of Pusch Ridge and the Santa Catalina Mountains await you along this popular trail. The hike starts in Catalina State Park and uses scenic Romero Canyon as an access route into the Pusch Ridge Wilderness. Even along its early stretches, this trail

offers good views of the Santa Catalina Mountains and of Cathedral Rock towering over the pinnacles of Pusch Ridge as well as sweeping views of the city.

The climb toward Romero Pass includes several sections of steep switchbacks, some of which are rocky and rutted. In places, the trail is marked with cairns to distinguish it from the maze of opportunistic pathways that branch off to random destinations. As you make your way toward the pass, however, broad vistas continue to increase in drama and occasional sightings of desert bighorn sheep add an extra element of excitement to an already rewarding hike.

After 3.9 miles and climbing 1,500 ft we will come to Romero Pass where there are a number of trails to choose from. Connecting trails provide routes to the summit of Mt. Lemmon, to the Wilderness of Rock area, and to the scenic Sabino Basin and Sabino Canyon area to the south and east. Cathedral Rock Trail #26, a rugged and difficult route, provides access from Romero Pass to all the Front Range trails. The State Park fee of \$6.00 per car. Driving distance is approx 260 miles RT <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Other-1/Romero-Canyon-Trail>

**Rookie Run Exploratory hike (Verrado).** This hike did not produce a workable trail, but the pictures show what happened on the hike. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/WhiteTankMountains-Verrado/Verrado-West-Loop>

**"50 in 1" Saguaro Trail (Superstition Mountains). Rating B,** 9.5 mi round trip, 1320 ft elevation change, 1,924 ft elevation gain, over parts of trails (Bluff Springs, Lost Dutchman) to see one of Arizona's 6 co-champion saguaros (over 200 yrs old) and the favorite of a big trees committee member. This is a long hike up and down mountains and across streams. Recommended for long range, experienced hikers. Bring extra water on this hike (at least three quarts) as we will be out most of the day. We bring lunch and have it out at the saguaro. The saguaro is a sight to see and worth the effort. Take Bluffs Springs Trail 3.3 miles to Lost Dutchman Trail turn left and go 1.4 miles on Lost Dutchman to the Saguaro. Restrooms are at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is approx. 140 miles RT. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/SuperstitionWilderness/50-in-1-Saguaro>

**Saddle Mountain Saddle View (Tonopah). Rating C.** This is a 6 mile in-and-out hike with an elevation gain of 800 ft. The trail works its way around to views of the saddle of Saddle Mountain. There are great views of the rugged rock formations that comprise the mountain. Trail condition - the early part of the trail is a very good surface, but the last mile is across open desert with no real trail. No restrooms at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is 90 miles. <https://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Other-10/Saddle-Mountain-Tonopah>

**Saddle Mountain Saddle Trail (Tonopah). Rating B.** This is a 6+ mile in-and-out hike with an elevation gain of 1200 ft. The trail works its way up to the main saddle of Saddle Mountain with extensive views to the west (Eagletail Mountains) and south. There are great views of the rugged rock formations that comprise the mountain. Trail condition - the early part of the trail is a very good surface, but the last mile is along the

side of the formation, is composed of loose stones, and is hard to follow. No restrooms at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is 90 miles.

<https://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Other-10/Saddle-Mountain-Tonapah>

**Saddle Mountain Summit (Tonopah). Rating B+.** This is a 6 mile in-and -out hike with an elevation gain of 1500 ft. The trail works its way up to a saddle of Saddle Mountain with extensive views to the west (Eagletail Mountains) and south. From the saddle it is a steep bushwhack to the peak over loose material. There are great views of the rugged rock formations that comprise the mountain. Trail condition - the first third of the trail is a very good surface, the second third is steeply uphill, with the final third is along the edge of the formation and is composed of loose stones and very steep. No restrooms at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is 90 miles.

**Saddle Mountain – West Loop (Tonopah - Exit 94). Rating B.** This is an interesting 6.5 mile loop hike with approximately 1100 ft. of elevation gain on the northwest side of Saddle Mountain and provides impressive views of a different part of the mountain. The hike is relatively short by "B" standards but provides a variety of challenges since it is roughly half trail/road and half bushwhack (nothing too rugged) through washes and over ridges; depending on the group, the hike provides an opportunity for free form hiking. No restrooms at the trailhead. Access to the starting point is via a jeep road so a higher clearance vehicle is recommended. No Park Fee. Driving distance is 95 miles RT.

<https://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Other-10/Saddle-Mountain-Tonapah/Saddle-Mountain-NW-Side/B-Exploratory-Hike-2LynnW2015/>

**Saddle Mountain – West Trail (Tonopah - Exit 94). Rating C.** This is an interesting 5+ mile hike with approximately 800 ft. of elevation gain on the northwest side of Saddle Mountain. It provides impressive views of a different part of the mountain. It goes through a wash and up to a saddle area with very interesting rocks. Trail condition - it is roughly half old road and half bushwhack (nothing very rugged). No restrooms at the trailhead. No Park Fee. Driving distance is 95 miles RT.

<https://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Other-10/Saddle-Mountain-Tonapah/Saddle-Mountain-NW-Side/B-Exploratory-Hike-2LynnW2015/>

**Saddle Mountain Loop (Wickenburg). Rating C.** This is a 6.8 mile hike with an elevation gain of about 940 feet. At least 2 miles of it is on soft sand along the Hassayampa river and in Dinosaur Wash. This is a very scenic hike, quite different than most desert hikes because of the canyons and water. This is an area where the river is above ground, but it's not very deep except after a rain. There are several slot canyons along Dinosaur Wash. The box in Box Canyon is short canyon somewhat hidden behind a stand of large Salt Cedar trees. There are no restrooms at the trailhead, but there are restrooms at a Dairy Queen/gas station you drive past, about 8 miles from the trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is 105 miles RT. [SCG=6.3/1300/3.5].

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Wickenburg/Saddle-Mountain-Loop>

**Saguaro Lake Nature Trail (Saguaro Lake). Rating C.** This is a 6-7 mile out and back hike with an elevation gain of 750. Trailhead is at the Butcher Jones Recreation

Area on the left side of the beach area. Trail is an undulating trail over open desert area. On a clear day you can see Four Peaks across the lake at the turnaround point of the hike. After good winter rains, there will be over 2 dozen different wildflowers blooming in April, including many types of Cholla cactus. There are scenic views of the wilderness area and the surrounding peaks. There are restrooms at the trailhead. There is a park admission fee of \$6.00 per car or \$3.00 with Golden Age Pass (get the Tonto Nat Forest passes at Sporting goods stores in advance). Driving distance is approx 120 miles RT.

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/ButcherJonesRecreationArea/Nature-Trail-Sugaro-Lake>

**San Tan + Goldmine Trails (San Tan Park). Rating C & B.** The C hike is a 7.6 mi loop with an elevation gain of 600 ft. The B hike adds another 1.4 miles (9.0 mi total) and 200 ft of elevation change. The trail starts by going left on the San Tan trail and loops clockwise through a large Saguaro forest with many interestingly shaped Saguaros. There is a nice Crested Saguaro around the 2.5 mile point on the trail. It is straight up the trail about 50 feet ahead as you exit a wash. There are great views of several of the surrounding mountains. When the San Tan trail ends at the Goldmine Trail the C hike turns right and heads back to the trailhead. The B hike turns left on the Goldmine Trail and goes up a steep slope to a saddle. It then returns back down the slope and heads back Goldmine trail to the trailhead. There are restrooms and a visitor center at the trailhead. Trail condition - good hiking trail. Park Fee is \$6.00 per car. Driving distance is 135 miles RT. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/SanTanMountainRegionalPark/San-Tan-Goldmine-Loop>

**San Tan + Goldmine + Dynamite + Moonlight Loop (San Tan Park). Rating C.** This is a 8 mile loop hike with an elevation gain of 1000 ft. The hike goes up over Goldfield Mountain and loops back through another saddle. It goes through a large Saguaro forest before going over another saddle with expansive views of the east valley all the way to the Superstition Mountains. There are restrooms and a visitor center at the trailhead. Trail condition - good hiking trail with one steep uphill & downhill section. Park Fee is \$6.00 per car. Driving distance is 135 miles RT. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/SanTanMountainRegionalPark/San-Tan-Goldmine-Dynamite>

**San Tan + Goldmine + Dynamite + Hedgehog Loop (San Tan Park). Rating B.** This is a 9.6 mile loop hike with an elevation gain of 1160 ft. The hike goes up over the Goldfield Mountains and loops back through another saddle. It goes through a large Saguaro forest before going over another saddle with expansive views of the east valley all the way to the Superstition Mountains. There are restrooms and a visitor center at the trailhead. Trail condition - good hiking trail with one steep uphill & downhill section. Park Fee is \$6.00 per car. Driving distance is 135 miles RT. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/SanTanMountainRegionalPark/San-Tan-Goldmine-Dynamite>

**Scenic Trail (Ft. McDowell Regional Park). Ratings C.** This is a 4.5+ mile hike in a scenic area of McDowell Mountain Park. The trail is accessible off of McDowell Mountain Park Drive, which is reachable by driving through Fountain Hills. After good Winter rains there will be fields of Brittlebush, Lupine, Owl's Clover, Mexican Poppies, and other

wildflowers. There is also a Crested Saguaro on the left on top of the hill (back side of trail). Restrooms are at the trailhead. There is a \$6.00 park entrance fee. Driving distance is 120 miles RT. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/McDowellMountainRegionalPark/Scenic-Trail>

**Scorpion/Pyramid and Skywalker/Old Post Loops (Sedona). Rating B.**  
<https://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Category/ScorpionPyramidSkywalkerOld-Po>

**Second Water Trail #236 (Superstition Mountains). Rating C.** This is a 7.2 mile round trip out and back hike with an elevation gain of about 800ft, primarily on the return to the trailhead. The trail climbs onto Black Mesa, passes a low hill on the right, and enters Garden Valley. After crossing the valley, the trail enters a narrow canyon and descends rapidly. Second Water Canyon enters from the right. There is usually water in this canyon. If we can cross the water easily, we will continue to where the Second Water trail intersects with the Boulder Canyon Trail, then turn around and go back. Restrooms are at the trailhead. Trail condition - overall a good trail, but there is a boulder filled section and it's steep down to Second Water. No park fee. Driving distance is 126 miles RT.

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/SuperstitionWilderness/2nd-Water-to-Boulder-Canyon-Tr>

**Secret Canyon 4 trail Loop (Sedona). Rating B.** This is a 8 mile loop hike with an elevation change of 800 feet. You start on the Secret Canyon trail with views of Sedona's red rock formations. You then turn right on the Dave Miller trail where you will do most of the elevation change in under 2 miles. At the intersection of the Bear Sign trail, turn right and follow it down the wash. At the Dry Creek trail, turn right to go to the Vultee Arch trailhead. Turn right again on the road, which will take you back to the car. The road is extremely rutted – only high clearance vehicles should use the road to the trailhead. No facilities at the trailhead. Park fee is \$6 (free with Golden Age Pass). Driving distance is 256 miles RT.

**Seven Falls (Sabino Canyon, Catalina Mountains). Ratings C** From the Sabino Canyon Visitor Center, take shuttle (1.7miles, 10 minutes, small fee) to the Seven Falls trailhead. The trail is 4.8 miles round trip, with a 500 ft elevation change (2800-3300ft), taking approx 3 hours. There are several stream crossings with the stream being dry to a trickle. Water is in the pool below the falls.

**Seven Mile Gulch Trail (Prescott). Rating C.** This is a 6 mile out and back hike with an elevation change of 1100 feet. The trail travels through a pine forest on a loose rock but wide trail. Views are of Prescott Valley and the mountains around Prescott. Most of the hike is in the shade of the trees. There is a Costco on the corner of Walker Road and 69. No restrooms and no park fee from this trailhead. Driving distance is 210 miles RT.

**Shadow Canyon + Circus Ridge (Estrella Mountain Regional Park).** This hike was mostly a bushwhack and did not produce a reasonable hike to include on the schedule.

It will be redone in the future.<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/EstrellaMountainRegionalPark/Shadow-Canyon-Circus-Ridge>

**Shaw Butte, Trail# 306 (North Mountain Park). Rating C.** This is a 5 mile hike with an elevation gain of 780 ft., on a trail in good condition. This is one of the hikes of the Seven Summits of Phoenix Challenge that takes place every year in November. Nice views of the North Phoenix metro area. Overlooks Moon Valley. Restrooms are at the trailhead. There is no park fee. Driving distance is approx 54 miles RT.<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/PhoenixMountainsPreserve/North-Mtn-Shaw-Butte>

**Shaw Butte/North Mountain Loop (North Mountain Park). Rating B.** This is a 8 mile clockwise loop hike with an elevation gain of 800 (twice). Start out that the North Mountain Visitor's Center and go right on Trail 100. Turn left at the next 2 intersections and head up the back side of North Mountain. Once on top continue down trail 44 and take the first right. This is a very steep portion of the trail so be careful. Stay right until you come to the trail 306 intersection. Turn left to go up Shaw Butte from the back side. Come down the road and turn right near the bottom to return to the Visitor's Center. Both mountains offer 360 degree views of the surrounding areas and mountains. Restrooms are at the trailhead. There is no park fee. Driving distance is approx 54 miles RT.  
<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/PhoenixMountainsPreserve/North-Mtn-Shaw-Butte>

**Sidewinder/Octillo Loop (Phoenix Sonoran Preserve). Rating D+** This is a 5.3 mile loop hike with an elevation gain of about 550 ft. The hike goes through typical desert terrain around a hill from the new trailhead off Carefree Highway with views of the Phoenix Sonoran Desert, Cave Creek and Anthem. New trailhead off Carefree Highway with a large box fan for cool down after the hike. Trail condition - average hiking trail surface. Restrooms are at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is 80 miles RT.

**Siphon Draw Trail, Lost Dutchman State Park (Superstition Mountains). Rating C+.** This is an in/out hike from the Jacob's Crosscut trailhead up to Siphon Draw. The round trip distance is approx. 7 miles with an elevation gain of about 1,300 ft. The first part is rolling hills and then goes up fairly steadily, with the last part getting pretty steep. A very pretty hike especially for the last 1/3rd as you approach Siphon Draw. It is an outstanding hike if the winter rains bring spring wildflowers. No restrooms at the trailhead. No park fee from this trailhead. Driving distance is approx 120 miles RT.  
<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/SuperstitionWilderness/Siphon-Draw>

**Siphon Draw to Flatiron (Superstition Mountains). Rating B.** This is a 7 mile hike on an in and out trip with an elevation change of 2,800ft. The trail is starts out with a gradual climb and into switchbacks to Siphon Draw and waterfall area. From there it is a lot of climbing over boulders and steep trail to the top of Flatiron. Rewarding views are at the top. Restrooms are located at the trailhead, which is in Lost Dutchman Park on the west side of the Superstitions. Restrooms are at the trailhead. There is a park entrance fee of \$6.00 per car. Driving distance is approx 120 miles RT.

**Skull Mesa, Spur Cross Rec Area (Cave Creek). Rating B.** 12.4 miles roundtrip with an elevation gain of 3180 ft. Skull Mesa Trail # 248 features panoramic views of the desert foothills. This is a good place to see deer, javelina, and snakes. This is not recommended for novice equestrians or inexperienced stock. Due to the tall grasses in the area you'll find the rock cairns a useful guide to finding the path. From the west junction with Cottonwood Trail at an elevation of 3260 feet the trail climbs many switchbacks, gaining over 1000 feet in a mile. For next mile, traverse Skull Mesa reaching elevation 4560 feet, then drops to the junction with QuienSabe Trail. The trail climbs and descends for 1.5 miles to its east junction with Cottonwood trail. Directions from Cave Creek: Travel north on Cave Creek road and turn left on Spur Cross Road. The trailhead is about 1.5 miles after the road turns to gravel. Porta-johns at the trailhead. Park fee is \$3.00 per person. Driving distance is approx 110 miles RT <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/SevenSpringsRecreationArea/Skull-Mesa>

**Skunk Tank Trail (Seven Springs Rec Area). Rating C+.** This is a 6 mile in and out hike with an elevation change of about 800 feet. This hike passes through a wooded area before rising up into more typical desert terrain. There are interesting views of the seven springs valley area from the top of the ridge. Restrooms at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is 140 miles RT (the last 10 of which are unpaved).

**Slim Shady/Made in the Shade Loop (Sedona). Rating C.** This is a 7 mile hike with an elevation gain of 1000 ft. This is a very scenic hike with views of many named red rock formations. Trail Condition - Most of the trails in this area are good trails. There are no restrooms at the trailhead (you can stop at the Courthouse Vista Trailhead for restrooms). A Red Rock Parking Pass (\$5.00) or a Golden Age Pass is required. Driving distance is approx 240 miles RT. <https://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Category/Slim-Shady-Made-in-the-Shade>

**Sonoran Loop - Competitive Track (White Tank Mountains). Rating C.** This is a 7 mile loop hike with an elevation gain of 600 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 \$6.00 park entrance fee. Driving distance is approx 30 miles RT. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/WhiteTankMountainRegionalPark/Sonoran-Loop>  
<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/WhiteTankMountainRegionalPark/Competitive-Loop>

**Sonoran Loop - Competitive Track - Short Version (White Tank Mountains). Rating D.** This is a 4.2 mile loop hike with an elevation gain of 250 ft. This is a one-way competitive bike trail with a few ups and downs through washes. The high point gives you nice views back to the east. A short detour on the second half of the hike takes you to a Crested Saguaro. There's a porta-john at the trailhead. There is a \$6.00 park entrance fee. Driving distance is approx 30 miles RT. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/WhiteTankMountainRegionalPark/Sonoran-Loop>  
<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/WhiteTankMountainRegionalPark/Competitive-Loop>

**South of the Border/Petroglyphs Loop (Verrado). Rating D+.** This is a 5 mile loop hike with an elevation gain of 630 ft. The hike goes through typical desert washes, up through a canyon to a saddle and then past the petroglyphs. No park fee. No restrooms at the trailhead. Driving distance is 18 miles RT. <https://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/WhiteTankMountains-Verrado/Verrado-SOB-South-of-the-Borde>

**Spring Valley Trail/Hells Canyon Wilderness (Lake Pleasant). Rating C.** A 6 mile round trip hike with 900 ft of elevation gain. From the trailhead you immediately go down the road and drop down into the huge wash. Which, in fact, is Castle Creek. Then turn back to the left passing a couple of very large cairns in the creek. It's interesting to imagine what type of thunderstorm it takes to fill this broad swath. From the right side of the parking lot, you can see the cairns and the yellow login podium across the wide creek bed between some bushes. If not just remember it's north of the fence by maybe a tenth of a mile, almost opposite the parking lot. The Spring Valley Trail takes off up a small rise then heads fairly flat in a west-southwestern line (slightly left). This is a well maintained trail (lots of large cairns). You will pass through a fence and get distant views of Lake Pleasant as the trail slowly curves to the right. It will make a gradual decent into a wash. The wash is our turnaround point. After our break, we will return the way we came. No restrooms and no park fee. Driving distance is 97 miles RT.<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/LakePleasantArea/Spring-Valley-Trail>

**Spur Cross Loop, Spur Cross Rec Area (Cave Creek). Rating C.** This is a 7.3 mile hike with an elevation gain of about 1000ft. There were 2 dozen different wildflowers in April 2008. You cross a stream 3-4 times and there are great views of the cave creek area and Elephant Mountain. Trail condition - half is an average hiking trail and half is somewhat rough. Porta-johns are at the trailhead. Park fee is \$3.00 per person. Driving distance is approx 110 miles RT. [SCG=7.0/1100/3.3]. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/SpurCrossRanchConservationArea/Spur-Cross-Loop>

**Spur Cross to Maricopa Trail, Spur Cross Rec Area (Cave Creek). Rating C-B.** This is a 6-10 mile hike with an elevation change of 500 ft. . The hike starts out heading West on the Spur Cross trail and travels through typical desert terrain. On the return, turn right on the Dragonfly trail. On the Dragonfly trail you pass through a Saguaro forest with very tall Saguaro cactus. You then descend into a riparian area, which contains permanent pools of water and lots of vegetation. The trail then makes a loop around the Jewel of the Creek Preserve, which contains many different bird species and up to 20 different dragonfly species. Porta-johns are at the trailhead. Park fee is \$3.00 per person. Driving distance is 110 miles RT. [in February 2010, heavy rains wiped out the trail and many of the smaller cottonwood trees in the Preserve]. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/SpurCrossRanchConservationArea/Spur-Cross-Loop>  
<https://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/SpurCrossRanchConservationArea/Metate-Dragonfly-Trails>

**Sterling Pass and Vultee Arch (Sedona). Rating B.** This is a 4.4 mile hike with an elevation change of 1800 ft. Great views of the red rock of Sedona.Vultee Arch is a

beautiful natural arch which very brave hikers can walk across. The trail ascends 1100 ft in the first mile to Sterling Pass, then descends 800 feet to the junction with Vultee Arch trail. The arch is about ¼ mile up the trail up another 300 feet of elevation. No rest rooms at the trailhead. Park entrance fee of \$5 or Golden Age Pass. Driving distance is approx 250 miles RT.

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Category/Sterling-Pass-to-Vultee-Arch>

**Summit Challenge for B Hikers (Day 1).Phoenix Area. Rating B.** Day 1 is three different hikes for a total of 11.0 miles and 3,114 ft of elevation change. You will begin your trek along the Holbert Trail (7.0 miles & 1,310 ft). Continue past the Dobbins Lookout turn-off. Upon reaching the Summit Road, go straight across to continue on the Holbert Trail to the well-marked junction with the National Trail. From there, walk along the T.V. Tower Road about 1 mile to Gila Valley Lookout. Trail #2 is a climb of Piestewa Peak using Trail 300 (2.4 miles & 1,190 ft). Trail # 3 is a climb of North Mtn on Trail #44 (1.6 miles and 614 ft). Take the trail north to the saddle, and then follow the paved road to the summit. Restrooms are located at the trailheads. 90 miles round trip.

**Summit Challenge for B Hikers (Day 2).Phoenix Area. Rating B.** Day 2 is four different hikes for a total of 11.2 miles and 2,645 ft of elevation change. You will begin your trek along the Echo Canyon Trail (2.2 miles & 1,300 ft) to the summit of Camelback Mtn. Trail #2 is at Papago Park West Buttes (3.0 miles & 200 ft). From the parking lot, head north following the gated, paved trail ("West Park Drive"). Upon reaching Eliot Ramada, go east on the dirt trail and follow the buttes around to the north. Hike up to the saddle between the buttes, and continue south towards Eliot Ramada. Follow the paved trail back to the trailhead. Trail # 3 is a climb of Shaw Butte in the North Mtn area (5.0 miles & 670 ft). Begin hiking west on Trail #100. Go north on Trail #306 and continue on #306 past the designated trailhead – at which point the trail becomes a paved road to the summit. The final hike of this challenge is a short hike up to the summit of Lookout Mtn (1.0 miles & 475 ft). Begin hiking west on Trail #308 to intersection with Trail #150. Continue south on Trail #150 to summit. Restrooms are located at the trailheads for the first three hikes only. 90 miles round trip.

**Summit Challenge for C hikers (Day I) – Papago Park + Lookout Mountain (Phoenix).**4.9 miles for both hikes.

Papago Park West Buttes. Rating D. This is a 3.0 mile hike with an elevation change of 200 ft. This is one of the hikes of the Seven Summits of Phoenix Challenge that takes place every year in November. This is an easy hike in the heart of Phoenix with nice views of the surrounding area. Restrooms at trailhead. No park fee.

Lookout Mountain Summit Trail (North Mountain Preserve). Rating C.This is a 1.0 mile hike in the north Phoenix area. This is one of the hikes of the Seven Summits of Phoenix Challenge that takes place every year in November. It has an elevation change of 500 ft. The summit trail (#150) is fairly steep. The circumference trail (2.7 miles) is optional and has very little elevation change. No restrooms. There is no park fee. Total driving distance for the 2 hikes is approx 87 miles RT.

**Summit Challenge for C hikers (Day II)– Shaw Butte + North Mountain (Phoenix).** 6.5 miles for both hikes.

Shaw Butte, Trail# 306 (North Mountain Park). Rating C. This is a 5 mile hike with an elevation change of 780 ft., on a trail in good condition. This is one of the hikes of the Seven Summits of Phoenix Challenge that takes place every year in November. Nice views of north Phoenix metro area. Overlooks Moon Valley. Restrooms at the trailhead. There is no park fee.

North Mountain Trail (North Mountain Park). Rating C. This is a 1.6 mile hike with an elevation change of 620 ft. This is one of the hikes of the Seven Summits of Phoenix Challenge that takes place every year in November. This is a short steep hike mostly on a paved road. It offers good views of the surrounding area. Restrooms in the parking area. No park fee. Total driving distance for the 2 hikes is approx 62 miles RT.

**Sunrise Mountain Trail (Peoria). Rating D+.** This is a 3.5 mile double-loop hike with an elevation gain of 500 ft, going up and down two mountain peaks. There are views of the community on one side, with the front of New River Dam in the background and mountain ranges beyond that. On the South side are views across the West valley. The trail itself is well maintained with two main hills to climb. After good winter rains, there would be a wide variety of wildflowers in bloom. There is no park fee. Restrooms and water are at the trailhead. Driving distance is 56 miles RT. [SCG=4.9/1100/2.9]. [.http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/CityofPeoria/Sunrise-Mountain](http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/CityofPeoria/Sunrise-Mountain)

**Sunrise Mountain Trail (Peoria). Rating C+.** This is a 5 mile multi-loop hike with an elevation gain of 1230 ft, going up and down three mountain peaks. There are views of the community on one side, with the front of New River Dam in the background and mountain ranges beyond that. On the South side are views across the West valley. The trail itself is well maintained with three main hills to climb. After good winter rains, there would be a wide variety of wildflowers in bloom. There is no park fee. Restrooms and water are at the trailhead. Driving distance is 56 miles RT. [SCG=4.9/1100/2.9].

This hike can be combined with the West Wing Mountain trail for a good B hike of 9.0 miles with an elevation gain of 2200 ft. It goes up and down over 5 short peaks. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/CityofPeoria/Sunrise-Mountain>

**Sunrise Trail (McDowell Sonoran Preserve). Rating C+.** This is a 6.6 mile out and back hike with an elevation gain of 1500 ft in South Eastern Scottsdale. You start at the Lost Dog Wash trailhead. There is a Crested Saguaro on the left about 100 yards from the trailhead. The first 2.75 miles of the trail go up gradually but very steadily about 800 ft to a saddle through typical desert flora. From there the last .25 miles go up another 200+ feet. If your timing is right, you get great views of the Fountain Hills fountain from the saddle and top. You get 360 degree views from the top including Camelback Mtn to the West, and Four Peaks and Weavers Needle to the East. Restrooms and water are at the trailhead. Trail condition - overall an average hiking trail, but steady uphill going and downhill coming back. There is no park entrance fee. Driving distance is 102 miles RT. [SCG=6.0/2000/3.8]. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/McDowellSonoranPreserve/Sunrise-Trail>

**Sunset Trail (Flagstaff).** The Sunset Trailhead is accessible via FR 420 at Schultz Tank. The trail is four miles in length and terminates at the Elden Lookout Trail. It rises 1,426 ft up Elden Mountain. Black bear (shy), elk and mule deer abound in the area. We will turn around at the intersect of the Elden Lookout Trail and return two miles down the slope to the Brookbank Trail and take it to the left for 2.5 mi. (-1,000 ft.) to its trailhead on FR 557 where we will have left a/our vehicle. This hike will be at approx. 8,000 ft. elevation. No park fee.  
Driving distance is approx 320 miles RT.

**Superstition Peak (Superstition Mountains) Rating A.**

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/SuperstitionWilderness/Superstition-Peak>

**Taliesin Overlook (McDowell Sonoran Preserve). Rating D.** This is a 4 mile out and back hike with an elevation gain of 300 ft in South Eastern Scottsdale. You start at the Lost Dog Wash trailhead. There is a Crested Saguaro on the left about 100 yards from the trailhead. The trail goes up very steadily but gradually about 400 ft to a saddle through typical desert flora. From there you can see the top of the Frank Lloyd Wright house in Scottsdale. Restrooms and water are at the trailhead. There is no park entrance fee. Driving distance is 102 miles RT.

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/McDowellSonoranPreserve/Taliesin-West-Overlook>

**Telegraph Pass long Loop (South Mountain).Rating B.** This is a 9.9 mile loop with an elevation change of 800 ft, elevation gain of 1,783 ft. This is a loop on the south side of South Mountain going near the Foothills development. Take the Telegraph Pass Trail down .7 miles then turn left on to the Desert Classic Trail to sign post 45, turn left and follow the unnamed trail to the National Trail then turn left and return to the Telegraph Pass Trail. On the Desert Classic Trail there are two spots where determining the correct path may present problems. At sign post 62 take the path to the right and you will find the trail on top of the little rise. The other turn is at sign post 54, here you take the trail to the left. Restrooms are at the Park Office on the right as you enter the park. There is no park entrance fee. Driving distance is approx 64 miles RT.

**Telegraph Pass short Loop (South Mountain).Rating B.** This is a 7.0 mile in and out with an elevation change of 700 ft, elevation gain of 1,018 ft. This is a trail on the south side of South Mountain going near the Foothills development. Take the Telegraph Pass Trail down .7 miles then turn left on to the Desert Classic Trail to sign post 52, turn around and return to the Telegraph Pass Trail. On the Desert Classic Trail there are two spots where determining the correct path may present problems. At sign post 62 take the path to the right and you will find the path on top of the little rise. The other turn is at sign post 54, here you take the trail to the left. . Restrooms are at the Park Office on the right as you enter the park. There is no park entrance fee. Driving distance is approx 64 miles RT.

**Three Peaks Loop Loop (Phoenix Sonoran Preserve). Rating C.** This is a 10.6 mile lollipop loop hike with an elevation gain of 1900 ft. This is a new trail system made up of well maintained trails. The hike loops around and up to three peaks in the preserve going through typical desert terrain. The hike provides excellent views in all

directions. After good spring rains this would be a great wildflower viewing hike. No restrooms at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is 68 miles RT.<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/PhoenixSonoranPreserve-1/Three-Peak-Loop>

**Thumb Butte Trails, (Prescott). Rating C.** This is a 6 mile hike with an elevation change of 1100 feet. Do the hike in a counterclockwise direction using these trails: right on #326, left on #392, straight on #322, left on #327, left on #321, left on #323, right on #326, right on #314, and right on #33. This route will take you up to the saddle on Thumb Butte in a gradual fashion with the final return to the car down the steep part of #33. You can also go back down #33 from the saddle and return to the car via a less steep but longer (+.6 miles) trail (Trail #33 is actually a 2 mile loop trail). This is a nice hike through a pine forest with excellent views of Prescott and the surrounding mountains from the lookout point near the Thumb Butte saddle. A shorter or longer hike can be done combining other trails in the area. The Prescott Circle Trail, segment #3 uses some of these trails. Restrooms are at the trailhead. Park fee is \$2 (free with Golden Age Pass). Driving distance is 205 miles RT via Wickenburg (longer via I-17).

**Tin Trough Trail, Granite Peak, (Prescott). Rating C.** This is a 5 mile hike on a trail (out and back) with an elevation change of 400 ft. It is an easy hike with views of Granite Peak and the San Francisco Peaks. You will be hiking amongst Granite boulders and juniper and pinion trees. No restrooms at the trailhead. There is no park entrance fee. Driving distance is approx 230 miles RT.

**Tom's Thumb Peak via Windgate Pass & Gateway trails (McDowell Sonoran Preserve - Scottsdale). Rating B+.** This is a 12 mile hike with an elevation change of 2100 ft. The hike starts at the Gateway trailhead area and passes through a typical Saguaro forest. The Gateway trail is fairly flat, the Windgate trail is moderate, and the Tom's Thumb trail is rather steep. At the top you get nearly 360 degree views of the Phoenix area (on a clear day you can see University of Phoenix stadium to the West and Bartlett Reservoir to the East). Restrooms and water are at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is 88 miles RT.

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/McDowellSonoranPreserve/Toms-Thumb>

**Tom's Thumb Trail via Windgate Pass & Gateway trails (McDowell Sonoran Preserve - Scottsdale). Rating C+.** This is a 7.4 mile hike with an elevation change of 1000 ft. The hike starts at the Gateway trailhead area and pass through a typical Saguaro forest. The hike goes from the Gateway trail, to the Windgate trail, and then onto the Tom's Thumb trail for about .7 miles. There is an outcropping of quartz a short distance into the Tom's Thumb trail. Once we pass that, we will stop at a small waterfall and another rock outcropping. Restrooms and water are at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is 88 miles RT.

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/McDowellSonoranPreserve/Windgate-Pass>

**Tom's Thumb trail from the North trailhead (McDowell Sonoran Preserve Scottsdale). Rating C+.** This is a 6.5 mile hike with an elevation gain of 1400 ft. The uphill portion of the trail is decomposed granite, making for a somewhat slippery surface

to hike upon so the hike will go at a slower than normal pace. Tom's Thumb is a 140 ft granite rock sticking up at the top of the mountain. The top of the mountain has a small valley with many interesting boulder formations. A side trail takes us up to a viewpoint with 360 degree views. There are excellent views of Scottsdale and areas to the West as well as Fountain Hills and the Superstition Mountains to the East. Trail condition -overall a good hiking trail, but fairly steep going up the initial climb. Restrooms are at the new trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is 108 miles RT. [SCG=5.7/2300/4.4]. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/McDowellSonoranPreserve/Toms-Thumb>

**Tonto Natural Bridge + Fossil Creek Trail (Strawberry), Rating C.** A pair of short hikes totaling about 5 miles (under 3 for NB and 2.4 for FC) with an elevation gain of about 600 ft. The bridge is a beautiful 180' high, 150' wide, 400' long natural travertine bridge with lots of colors in the rocks. With a little climbing, you can cross right under it, or go up and around to see it from the opposite side. There are several places where you have to scamper over large boulders, but it's more hiking than climbing. Fossil Creek trail has little elevation change, but lots of boulder hopping that provides great views of many rapids and waterfalls. We will stop at a beautiful 15' waterfall. Porta-johns are at both trailheads. \$5.00 entry fee per person. Driving distance is approx 280 miles RT

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Payson/Tonto-Natural-Bridge-State-Par>

**Toothaker/Coldwater Trails (Estrella Mountains).Rating C.** This is a 6.6 mile loop hike with an elevation gain of about 600 ft. The Toothaker (TH) trailhead is on the west side of the Rodeo Arena. This is a shared trailhead with the Rainbow Valley Trail (RB). Very soon after starting on the path Toothaker Trail (TH) will split off to the south (left). In 1.1 miles you will come to the Dysart Trail (DS) junction. Stay on Toothaker, in .9 miles you will cross the Rainbow Valley (RB) junction. Continue on Toothaker (TH) trail for another 1.6 miles to the Pederson Trail (PD) junction. Take the Pederson Trail to the left for .2 mile to the Coldwater Trail (CW) junction. Turn left on to the Coldwater Trail and follow for 1.8 miles back to a gravel parking lot. Follow the gravel road for about 1.0 mile back to the Rodeo Arena. As you come up out of a wash on the road, a trail goes off to the left, taking you through one final wash and to the left side of the fence and back to the cars. Park on the west side of the Rodeo Arena. There are restrooms on this side with running water. There is a \$6.00 park entrance fee. Driving distance is approx 20 miles RT. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/EstrellaMountainRegionalPark/Toothaker-Gadsen-Butterfield>

**Toothaker/Baseline/Rainbow Loop (Estrella Mtn Regional Park). Rating D.** This is a 4.4 mile loop hike with an elevation gain of 400 ft. The trail wanders through the front portion of EMRP with distant views to the north. It goes south into more typical desert areas. Trail condition - a very good hiking trail. Restrooms are at the trailhead. Park fee is \$6.00 per car. Driving distance is 20 miles RT. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/EstrellaMountainRegionalPark/Baseline-Rainbow-Dysart>

**Toothaker/Dysart/Butterfield Loop (Estrella Mountains).Rating D.** This is a 4.2 mile loop hike with an elevation gain of about 400 ft. The Toothaker (TH) trailhead is on the west side of the Rodeo Arena. This is a shared trailhead with the Rainbow Valley Trail

(RB). Very soon after starting on the path Toothaker Trail (TH) will split off to the south (left). In 1.1 miles you will come to the Dysart Trail (DS) junction. Turn left to go to Butterfield trail. Turn left again on Butterfield to get back to Toothaker. Turn right on Toothaker to return to the trailhead. Park on the west side of the Rodeo Arena. There are restrooms on this side with running water. There is a \$6.00 park entrance fee. Driving distance is approx 20 miles RT. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/EstrellaMountainRegionalPark/Toothaker-Gadsen-Butterfield>

**Toothaker/Gadsden/Butterfield Loop (Estrella Mountains). Rating C.** Approx 7 miles, out and back, with an elevation gain of 750 ft. We will follow the trail to a large wash, and follow the wash for 2 miles or so. It is loose sandy soil in the wash. The trail is difficult to follow do to lack of signs and side trails. 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. Porta-Johns are located at trailheads. Park fee is \$6.00 per car. Driving distance is 20 miles RT. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/EstrellaMountainRegionalPark/Coldwater-GadsdenButterfield>

**Trail 620 Loop (South Mountain). Rating C+.** This is a 8 mile loop hike with an elevation gain of 700 feet. The trail starts off through typical desert landscape (which would be colorful after good winter rains) before going up to the ridgeline of South Mountain 620. The ridgeline provides great views to the south including the Estrella Mountains, Gila Indian Reservation, and Ahwatukee. The trail drops down to the valley and loops back to the trailhead. No restrooms and no park fee. Driving distance is 52 miles RT.

**Turnbuckle Loop Trail (Skyline Regional Park - Buckeye). Rating D+.** This is a loop hike of about 3+ miles with an elevation gain of about 600 ft. This is one of the trails in Buckeye's Skyline Regional Park. There are great views of the area from the saddle. There are several optional trails to the tops of the ridges. No park fee. Restrooms are at the trailhead. Driving distance is 30 miles RT. <https://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Skyline-Park/Skyline-Regional-Park/>

### **Turnbuckle/Granite Falls/Chuckwalla Lollipop Loop – Skyline Regional Park**

Turnbuckle/Granite Falls/Cuckwalla Trail (Skyline Park) Rating D+. This is about a 5.0 + mile loop hike with an elevation gain of about 350 ft. in the western part of Buckeye's New Skyline Regional Park including parts of the Granite Falls Trail and Chuckwalla Trail that are accessed from Turnbuckle Trail on the west side of the park. The trails meander through several areas with minimal elevation gain. This is one of the trails in Buckeye's Skyline Regional Park. No park fee. Restrooms are at the trailhead. Driving distance is 30 miles RT. <https://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Skyline-Park/Skyline-Regional-Park/>

**Turnbuckle/Mountain Wash Loop (Skyline Regional Park - Buckeye). Rating C+.** This is a loop hike of about 7 miles with an elevation gain of about 1600 ft. This is one of the loops in Buckeye's Skyline Regional Park. There are great views of the area from the saddle. There are several optional trails to the tops of the ridges providing excellent

views, but also adding hundreds of feet of elevation. No park fee. Restrooms are at the trailhead. Driving distance is 30 miles RT.

**Twin Peaks & Dana's Arch (Wickenburg). Rating C+.** This is a 5.8 mile lollipop loop with a short steep side hike up to the arch. The elevation gain is about 800 feet. The trail itself is very rocky in places and goes through a sandy wash for part of it. You can see parts of Wickenburg and the old Renegade mine, as well as Vulture Peak and other surrounding mountains. There is a Crested Saguaro about 50 yards below the mine (on the right as you look up the road to the mine). The vegetation is dense in some areas and would provide many wildflowers in the spring after winter rains. Dana's arch is an interesting arch reachable by going up to a saddle on the left and hiking across a fairly flat ridgeline. Trail condition - about half of the hike is on a good trail, the rest is in a wash or up a hill to the arch. No restrooms and no park fee. Driving distance is 100 miles RT.

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Wickenburg/Twin-Peaks-Danas-Arch>

**200/202/8A/100/1A/304 Loop (Piestewa Peak). Rating C.** This is a 6 mile loop hike with an elevation gain of 1100 ft. This hike goes up and around the peaks to the East of Piestewa Peak in that park. It provides views of Piestewa Peak as well as Scottsdale, Paradise Valley and downtown Phoenix. It passes through an interesting quartz field. 202 gives you an option of going around an mountain or up through a saddle. No park fee. Restrooms and water are at the trailhead. Driving distance is 66 miles RT.

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/PhoenixMountainsPreserve/Circumference-Summit>

**Unida Wash Trail (Wickenburg). Rating C.** This is a 7 mile out and back hike to the Hassayampa River along the Unida Wash. Elevation change is about 700 ft down to the river and then back up to the trailhead. The original point of interest on this trail was the tallest Saguaro, but it fell a few years back and very little remains of it now. There is an interesting micro-canyon ending in a 10 foot dry waterfall about 2.5 miles into the hike. There are enough rocks and the water is shallow enough to cross a numerous points if one wishes to explore it further. A high clearance vehicle is needed to reach the trailhead. No restrooms at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is 118 miles RT.

**Union Hills Loop (Phoenix Sonoran Preserve). Rating D/C.** This is a 4.6 to 6 mile lollipop loop hike with an elevation gain of 800 to 1300 ft. This is a new trail system made up of well maintained trails. The main loop hike (4.6 miles) goes up and down a couple of saddles through typical desert terrain. The 6 mile version adds 500 ft TA going up 2 peaks along the loop. Both provide excellent views in all directions. After good spring rains this would be a great wildflower viewing hike. Trail condition - overall a good hiking trail. No restrooms at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is 68 miles RT. [SCG=5.7/1000/2.8].

<https://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/PhoenixSonoranPreserve-1/Dixie-Mt-Loop>

<https://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/PhoenixSonoranPreserve-1/Dixie-MountainUnion-Peak-Lolli>

**Valle Verde/Desert Tortoise Loop (Phoenix Sonoran Preserve). Rating D.** This is a 4.2 mile lollipop loop hike with an elevation gain of about 400 ft. The hike goes through typical desert terrain before ascending a hill with excellent views to the south. After good spring rains this would be a great wildflower viewing hike. Trail condition - excellent hiking trail surface. No restrooms at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is 68 miles RT.

**Verrado Deadhead Pass Loop (White Tank Mountains). Rating C.** This is a 7+ 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. No facilities at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is 18 miles RT.

**Verrado North Trail (White Tank Mountains). Rating B.** This is a 8.0 mile in and out hike. The first part of the hike is rather flat then you enter a wash and follow it up to the top of a ridge that will give you a view of the west side of the White Tank Mtns. No facilities at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is 18 miles RT.

**Verrado Walkabout (White Tank Mountains). Rating C.** This is a 7 mile loop hike with about 700 ft of elevation gain. This hike wanders around the trails in Verrado. Lots of rock formations with the chance of assorted wildflowers in Spring. No facilities at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is 18 miles RT.

**Verrado North Trail (White Tank Mountains). Rating D.** This is a 4.2 mile lollipop loop hike. The first part of the hike is rather flat then you parallel a wash and follow it up to a point that will give you nice views of the west side of the White Tank Mountains. No facilities at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is 18 miles RT.

**Verrado/Skyline Crest Loop (White Tank Mountains). Rating C+.** This is a 6-7 mile figure eight loop hike with an elevation gain of 1400 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. Lost of great views of Buckeye and points east. Trail condition - an average hiking trail, but steep along the Skyline Crest trail. No facilities at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is 18 miles RT.

**Verrado/Skyline Loop (White Tank Mountains). Rating D+.** This is a 5 mile lollipop loop hike. The hike goes from the Lost Creek Trailhead in Verrado and does a loop of 2 trails in Skyline Regional Park - Quartz Mine and an un-named trail. Trail condition - average hiking trail. No facilities at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is 18 miles RT.

<https://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Skyline-Park/B-HikeLynnW2016-2017/>  
<https://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Skyline-Park/B-Hike-2LynnW2016-2017/>

**Verrado West Loop (White Tank Mountains -Verrado). Rating B.** This is a 9.1 mile loop hike with an elevation gain of 1570 ft. The hike goes up to the top of the ridge, drops down the other side and loops back towards Buckeye. It then goes back up

to the first saddle before returning to the trailhead. The loop portion of this hike is steep in both directions and the middle section goes through a sandy wash. No restrooms at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving Distance is approx 18 miles RT. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/WhiteTankMountains-Verrado/Verrado-West-Loop>

**Vulture Peak Trail (Wickenburg). Rating C-B.** This is a 4.3 mi round trip (4.6 to top), out & back hike on the same trail. Elevation gain is 1360 with the base at 2,480 ft, the saddle at 3,420 ft, and the peak at 3,660 ft. The trail is easy to the base, moderate to the saddle where most hikers will stop. For those who wish to go to the top of Vulture peak, that part is difficult and you leave walking sticks and backpacks behind for hand over hand climbing. Sign in at the top and you can get a certificate at the Wickenburg Chamber of Commerce. Vulture Peak Trail meanders through classic Sonoran Desert landscapes, including dense stands of saguaro, ocotillo, cholla, and other cactus varieties; crosses wide desert washes; and offers dramatic scenic vistas of rugged desert mountain ranges and valleys in all directions. Trailhead parking is available for 15 vehicles. Trail condition - basically a very steep and rocky hike up to the saddle. Restrooms are at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is approx 120 miles RT. [SCG=4.0/1200/3.0]. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Wickenburg/Vulture-Peak>

**Waddell/Ford Canyon/Mesquite Canyon Trails (White Tank Mountains). Rating B.** 10.4 mi loop hike starting on the Waddell trail with an elevation gain of 2000 ft. The Ford Canyon Trail begins the rocky scenic hike along the side of the canyon to large boulders and dam on the wash. Trail continues up onto a ridge. Will then pick up the Mesquite Canyon Trail and return near our starting point. Restrooms are at the trailhead. Park fee: \$6.00 per vehicle. Driving distance is approx 30 miles RT. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/WhiteTankMountainRegionalPark/Ford-Canyon-Mesquite>

**Waddell/Ford Canyon/Willow Springs/Mesquite Canyon Trails (White Tank Mountains). Rating B.** 9.6 mi loop hike starting on the Waddell trail with an elevation gain of 1820 ft. The Ford Canyon Trail begins the rocky scenic hike along the side of the canyon to large boulders and dam on the wash. Trail continues up onto a ridge. Will then pick up the Willow Springs trail that connects with the Mesquite Canyon Trail and return near our starting point. Restrooms are at the trailhead. Park fee: \$6.00 per vehicle. Driving distance is approx 30 miles RT. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/WhiteTankMountainRegionalPark/Ford-Canyon-Mesquite>

**Waddell to Ford Canyon View (White Tank Mountains). Rating D,** This is about a 4 mile in-and-out hike with an elevation gain of about 300 ft. From the trailhead, take Waddell to Ford Canyon trail and turn left. Go about a half mile past the "no horses" sign to the beginning of the rocky part of Ford Canyon. Take your break and return to the car the way you came. There are restrooms at trailhead. Park fee is \$6.00 per vehicle. Driving distance is 30 miles RT <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/WhiteTankMountainRegionalPark/Ford-Canyon-Mesquite>

**Walking Jim Trail (Hells Canyon Wilderness). Rating C.** An 8 mile hike with an elevation gain of 800 ft. The trail parallels a mostly dry creek and offers a wide variety

of vegetation (from cottonwood trees to Saguaro cactus) and wildlife (wild burros, etc). There are also some interesting red rock/green lichen covered rock formations along the trail. Trail condition - pretty good wilderness trail. No restrooms. No park Fee. Driving distance is 80 miles RT. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/LakePleasantArea/Walking-Jim>

**Walking Jim/Big Jim Loop (Hells Canyon Wilderness). Rating B+.** A 12.5 mile hike with an elevation gain of 3200 ft. The trail parallels a mostly dry creek and offers a wide variety of vegetation (from cottonwood trees to Saguaro cacti) and wildlife (wild burros, etc). It then goes up to a high ridge with great panoramic views. No restrooms. No park Fee. Driving distance is 80 miles RT. [SCG=12.5/3200/6.8].

**Walking Jim North to Lucifer's Gate (Hells Canyon Wilderness). Rating C/B.** The C version is a 7.4 mile in-and-out hike with an elevation gain of 600 ft. The B version is 11.1 miles with an elevation gain of 1300 ft and goes all the way to Lucifer's Gate at Burro Spring. The trail parallels a mostly dry creek before heading north on an old dirt road. It then continues along a canyon and creek to the spring. It offers a wide variety of vegetation (from cottonwood trees to Saguaro cactus) and wildlife (lots of wild burros have been seen). Trail condition - most of the trail is a good hiking trail with one section of loose stones on an old jeep road. The B extension is in a boulder filled sandy/rocky wash that gives new meaning to rock hopping. No restrooms. No park Fee. Driving distance is 80 miles RT. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/LakePleasantArea/Walking-Jim-North>

**Walking Jim Trail (Hells Canyon Wilderness). Rating D.** An 4-4.5 mile hike with an elevation gain of 400 ft. The trail parallels a mostly dry creek and offers a wide variety of vegetation (from cottonwood trees to Saguaro cactus) and wildlife (wild burros, etc). No restrooms. No park Fee. Driving distance is 80 miles RT. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/LakePleasantArea/Walking-Jim>

**Wasson Peak (Tucson). Ratings B-C.** Wasson Peak is at an elevation of 4,687 ft. and is the highest summit in the Tucson Mts. (the range west of the city). This is an 8 mi. hike with an elevation change of 1,700 to 1,800 ft.

**Waterfall/Black Rock Loop Trails (White Tanks Mountains). Regional Park. Rating D.** 3.5 mile hike and elevation change of 250 ft, with a marked trailhead and trail in excellent condition. Trailhead is about ¼ mile west on Waterfall Canyon Road. Among the unique features on the Waterfall trail are the Indian petroglyphs (900-1300 AD) at about the halfway point on the trail. Further along, at the three-quarter point, more petroglyphs are encountered along with an old steel water tank. The trail ends at the waterfall, which has a vertical drop of about 80 ft. The falls are dry, however, except after a rain or during the winter. We add the **Black Rock Loop Trail** to give some length to the hike. Restrooms and water fountain are at the trailhead. Park admission fee is \$6.00 per car. Driving distance is approx 30 miles RT. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/WhiteTankMountainRegionalPark/Mule-Deer-Waterfall>

**Watson Lake Loop Trail (Prescott). Rating C.** This is a 7 mile loop hike with an elevation gain of about 1000 ft. Part of the trail is an old railroad track that has been smoothed out for hiking and biking. The trail also goes through a cluster of large Cottonwood trees. There are great views of Watson lake dam from both sides of it and many granite rock formations. The trail goes close to the lake and then up, over, and through the Granite Dells rock formations. Trail surface - mostly on bare granite rock (trail is marked with painted white dots). Very scenic – bring your camera! Restrooms are available at the trailhead. Park fee is \$2.00 (free on Wednesdays). Driving distance is 210 miles RT - on paved road, with dirt parking off Granite Dells road.

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Prescott-1/Watson-Lake-Loop>

**West Clear Creek (Camp Verde).Rating B-C.** 6+ mile. hike, out and back with an elevation change of 130 ft. The C level will cross the stream twice, stopping at third stream crossing and return to starting point. The B level keeps going after crossing the stream again. Footwear usually gets wet. Dress accordingly. Suggest extra pair of shoes/boots or waterproof hiking boots. Also, helpful to have a hiking stick in order to keep your balance when crossing stream. If you continue on past the third crossing you will come to the fourth and last crossing at about the 5 mi. mark. It's a rough dirt road for the last five miles. Accessible by high clearance vehicles.

Restroom at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is 224 miles RT.

[ SCG=8.0/340/2.8].

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/CampVerde/West-Clear-Creek-Trail>

**West Fork Tail #108,Oak Creek Canyon (Sedona).Rating C.** 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.

**West Wing Mountain Trail (Peoria). Rating C.** This is a 5 mile hike with an elevation change of 450 ft and elevation gain of 1300 ft which goes up, down and around the mountain peak. On the South side there are views of the local high-end community as well as views of the West Valley. There are many custom homes at the base of the mountain, including one with what looks like a castle (cabana) and bridge over a moat (pool). On the North side are views of the back of the New River Dam, the green valley behind the dam and mountain vistas beyond that. You hike the first .7 miles through an upscale residential area to get to the trailhead. Watch out for the barking dog head sticking out of the wall! The trail itself is well maintained, but there are several steep areas and numerous scenic overlooks. This hike can best be described as Robson Circle meets Vulture Peak. This is one of the more flexible trails with the optional routes available. It can range from a moderate to challenging C hike. After

good winter rains, there would be a wide variety of wildflowers in bloom. Trail condition - overall an average hiking trail, but has a steep uphill and then a steep downhill section. There is no park fee. Restrooms and water are at the trailhead. Driving distance is 56 miles RT. [SCG=4.5/1100/2.9].

This hike can be combined with the Sunrise Mountain Trail for a good B hike of 9.0 miles with an elevation change of only 450 ft, but elevation gain of 2200 ft. It goes up and down over 4 short peaks.

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/CityofPeoria/West-Wing-Mountain>

### **Whiskey Bottle/Turpentine/Black Hill Loop (McDowell Sonoran Preserve).**

**Rating C.** Is is an easy loop hike of 7 miles with an elevation gain of 500 ft. It goes through typical Scottsdale desert with nice views of the distant mountains. A highlight is a pair of Saguaros, one a perfect specimen and one with lots of curved arms - A Felix & Oscar pair. No restrooms at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is 105 miles RT.<https://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/McDowellSonoranPreserve/Fraesfield-Trailhead-Loop>

**Whiskey Bottle/Turpentine/Black Hill Loop (McDowell Sonoran Preserve-Fraesfield Trailhead).** Rating D. It is an easy loop hike of 4.7 miles with an elevation gain of 500 ft. It goes through typical Scottsdale desert with nice views of the distant mountains. A highlight is a pair of Saguaros, one a perfect specimen and one with lots of curved arms - A Felix & Oscar pair. No restrooms at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is 105 miles RT. <https://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/McDowellSonoranPreserve/Fraesfield-Trailhead-Loop>

**Wickenburg Peak (Wickenburg).** **Rating C/B.** This is an 8-8.4 mile out and back hike to Wickenburg's namesake peak. Elevation gain is about 1000 ft. Most of the trail is fairly flat, going up and down through a few washes. At around 3.5 miles, the trail comes out of a wash at a dry waterfall and starts to go steadily up. At 4 miles, a good stopping point for C hikers, the trail starts to get steeper, rising 200 ft in .2 miles to the saddle. The final hike to the top is very steep. No restrooms and no park fee. Driving distance is 94 miles RT.

**Wild Burro/Pipeline trails to floating Bridge area (Lake Pleasant Regional Park).** **Rating C.** This is 5.6 mile in and out hike with an elevation gain of 800 ft. The hike starts out at the Beardsley Trailhead parking area and goes north to what's left of a floating bridge. The Wild Burro trail goes along the lake around a small cove before rising up to the Pipeline Trailhead and then on to where a floating bridge was before 2017 Monsoon rains destroyed it. There is a good chance to see wild burros on this trail. Restrooms and water are at the trailhead. Park fee is \$6.00. Driving distance is 80 miles. <https://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Other-12/Wild-Burro-Trail-DougJ-Photos>

**Wild Burro/Pipeline trails to floating Bridge (Lake Pleasant Regional Park).** **Rating D.** This is 4.4 mile in and out hike with an elevation gain of 500 ft. The hike starts out at the Twisted Talon parking area and goes north to a floating bridge. The Wild

Burro trail goes along the lake around a small cove before rising up to the Pipeline Trailhead and then on to an unusual floating bridge. There is a good chance to see wild burros on this trail. Restrooms and water are at the trailhead. Park fee is \$6.00. Driving distance is 80 miles RT. <https://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Other-12/Wild-Burro-Trail-DougJ-Photos>

**Wild Burro/Lower Javalina/Alamo Springs Loop (Tucson - Tortolita Mountain Park). Rating B.** This is a loop hike of 9 miles with an elevation gain of 1800 ft. This area is known for the many Crested Saguaro that live here (3 on this loop), though "truth in advertising" would state the quality of them leaves a lot to be desired. However, there are many barrel and Cholla cacti that are different than those in the Phoenix area. And the rock formations are excellent including one area that looks like stacked granite sheets. Restrooms and water are at the trailhead. There is no park fee. Driving distance is 260 miles RT. <https://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Tucson-Area/Tortolita-Mountains-Park/B-Exploratory-HikeLynnW2015/>

**Wild Burro/Upper Javalina/Wild Mustang/Wild Burro Loop (Tucson - Tortolita Mountain Park). Rating B.** This is a loop hike of 9 miles with an elevation gain of 1700 ft. This area is known for the many Crested Saguaro that live here (9 on this loop), though "truth in advertising" would state the quality of them leaves a lot to be desired. However, there are many barrel and Cholla cacti that are different than those in the Phoenix area. And there is a large forest of Ocotillo plant. Also, the rock formations are excellent. Restrooms and water are at the trailhead. There is no park fee. Driving distance is 260 miles RT. <https://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Tucson-Area/Tortolita-Mountains-Park/B-Exploratory-Hike-2LynnW2015/>

**Willow Lake Dells Trails (Prescott). Rating C.** This is a 7.2 mile multi-loop hike with an elevation change of 300 feet (but elevation gain is about 1500 ft). They used white dots on the rocks to mark the complete trails system. The main trail loop goes for 3.1 miles (with only a 100 ft elevation change) through interesting slick rock formations. A second loop trail branches off the main one for another 2.5 miles providing excellent views of the rock formations and Willow Lake in the background. The Granite Dells are not slick at all but rather very rough rock, which is easy to hike. The Ron James trail is a short side trail taking you up above the dells with more great views. A third trail, called Apex, goes up the side of a very large rock formation, providing 360 degree views of the Dells and Willow Lake. All the rock formations are very interesting. There is a Dairy Queen about 1 mile from the trailhead. There are restrooms and covered tables about a quarter of a mile along the trail from the trailhead. There is a \$2.00 park fee for day campers/hikers (free on Wednesdays). The hike is 6.5 miles from the outer parking lot and 4.5 miles from the inner parking lot. Driving distance is approx 220 miles RT. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Prescott-1/Willow-Lake>

**Willow Spring Canyon trail (Goldfield Mountains). Rating B.** This is an 8-12 mile hike along the Willow Spring Wash with an elevation change of 400 ft. While there is very little elevation change, the amount of soft sand you hike through makes this a difficult trail. At the 6-mile point you will have views of Saguaro Lake. The first 3 miles

are mostly loose sand. The final 3 miles are a mix of boulder hopping and loose sand. There are no facilities at the trailhead and no park fee. Driving distance is 130 miles RT.

**Willow Springs Trail/Mesquite Canyon (White Tank Mountains). Rating C+.** It is a 6.1-6.7 mile round trip 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 \$6.00 per car. Driving distance is approx 30 miles RT. [SCG=6.6/1700/3.8].  
<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/WhiteTankMountainRegionalPark/Mesquite-Willow-Springs>

**Willow Trail 347 to Junction w/ Mint Wash Trail 345 loop, Granite Mountain (Prescott). Rating B.** Located at Williamson Valley Trailhead. This is a 8 mile out, loop and back hike with little to no elevation change. Take Willow Trail 347 to junction with Mint Wash Trail 345(1 ¼ mi.) (You pass thru open fields of packed soil). Take the Mint Wash Trail 345. It is a loop. Return to Willow Trail 347 and then to parking area. No park fee. Driving distance is approx 240 miles RT.

**Wilson Mountain Trail (Sedona). Rating B.** This is an in and out hike of 9-10 miles with an elevation gain of 2500 ft. The hike goes to a scenic overlook with great views of Sedona or all the way to the far side of Wilson Mountain with views of Sterling Pass & Vultee Arch. There are great views of Sedona's red rock formations along the way. No facilities at the trailhead. Park fee is \$6.00 or free with a Senior Parks pass. Driving distance is approx 260 miles RT. [SCG=9.2/3600/6.1].  
<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Category/Wilson-Mountain>

**Wind Cave and Cats Peak Trails (Usery Mountain Park). Rating C.** These two trails form a 6.9 mile hike with an elevation change of 650 ft. The Wind Cave trail is a 3.2 mi round trip out and back hike with an elevation change of 650 ft. The trail starts off relatively flat then climbs steadily to a large over hanging rock. The "Wind Caves" are shallow depressions that have been eroded out of the tuff layer of rock by wind and rain. Some may want to continue further on the non-maintained, rougher steep trail towards the top. The Cats Peak trail is a 3 mile loop around Cats Peak. There is very little elevation change, but you get different views of Pass Mountain and the valleys to the East. Both trails have great wildflowers in the Spring after good Winter rains. Restrooms are at the trailhead. The park fee is \$6.00 per vehicle. Driving distance is approx. 110 miles RT.

**Windgate Pass/Gateway trails McDowell Sonoran Preserve (Scottsdale). Rating C+/B.** This is a 7 to 8+ mile hike with an elevation gain of 1300-1600 ft. The C version of the hike goes to Inspiration Viewpoint, which gives nice views of the desert

valley, Tom Thumb Peak and Scottsdale. The B version goes to the saddle at Windgate Pass giving views of Four Peaks and Weavers Needle. Both versions start at the Gateway trailhead area and pass through a typical Saguaro forest. This part of the McDowell Sonoran Preserve has many crested barrel cacti. Trail condition - trail surface is typical desert but it is basically a steady uphill hike to the viewpoint or saddle. Restrooms and water are at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is 88 miles RT. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/McDowellSonoranPreserve/Windgate-Pass>  
<https://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/McDowellSonoranPreserve/Gateway-Loop>  
<https://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/McDowellSonoranPreserve/Gateway-Loop-Windgate-Pass/Gatgateway-Loop-Windgate-Pass/>

**Wolf Creek Falls Trail (Prescott). Rating C/B.** This is a 6-8 mile hike with an elevation gain of 1000-1200 ft. The C version of the hike is an in and out hike that goes through a typical pine forest down to the top of Wolf Creek Falls. The falls, which are dry most of the year, are actually a quarter mile long series of falls, including one of 30 feet and one over 60 ft. While the dry falls rocks are excellent, in the spring after a wet winter the falls would be spectacular. The B version is a loop going past another set of waterfalls (also usually dry) along the Hassayampa river. Restrooms are at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is 227 miles RT. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Prescott-1/Wolf-Creek-Falls>

**Wood Canyon & Hot Loop (Sedona). Rating C & B.** This is an in and out hike of 7.2 miles (C level) or 10.1 miles (B level) with an elevation gain of 1100 ft or 1750 ft. The C version goes through typical red rock areas before going up to a saddle with views of Bell Rock and Courthouse Rock. The B version goes up to another overlook with different views of the same rock formations. Restrooms are at the trailhead. Park fee is \$6.00 (free with Senior pass). Driving Distance is 220 miles RT. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Category/Woods-Canyon-and-Hot-Loop>

**Woodchute Trail (Jerome). Rating B/C.** This is an in and out hike of 8 miles with an elevation gain of 900 ft. The Woodchute Trail begins near the Potato Patch Campground which is about 8 mi. of winding road southwest of Jerome. The first mile of the hike is along a dirt road to the old trailhead, where there is a trail register and wooden sign to the Woodchute Wilderness. You will hike 1.25 mi. from the old trailhead to Woodchute Tank. The trail becomes less pronounced and begins to climb, gaining about 400 ft over the next 3/4 mi. The last segment of the hike is an easy walk thru a forested meadow. Restrooms are at the trailhead. There is no park fee. Driving distance is approx 254 miles RT. . <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Prescott-1/Woodchute-Mountain-Trail>

**Yeagar Canyon Loop (Prescott). Rating C+.** This is a loop hike of 6.5 miles with an elevation change of 1200 ft. The hike consists of three connected trails: #28, #111, and #533. Most of the hike is in various pine tree and oak trees. Trail 28 goes up about 1000 ft over the course of 2 miles, providing great views of Prescott Valley and Jerome across the valley. Trail 111 descends about 500 ft through the forest. Trail 533 curves around the far side of Yeagar Canyon with excellent views of Prescott Valley before descending back down 700 feet to the trailhead. The trail itself is well maintained with

few rocks in the trail. There are no restrooms and no park fee. Driving distance is 240 miles RT.

## **LONG HIKE OPTIONS (A LEVEL)**

**Ford Canyon/Ironwood/Willow Springs/Mesquite Canyon (White Tank Mountains).** Park at the horse staging area and go north on the Ford Canyon Trail to the Ironwood Trail. Take the Ironwood Trail to the east and continue to where it merges again with the Ford Canyon Trail. Continue on the Ford Canyon Trail thru the wash and up the hill to the Willow Springs Trail connector at about the 7.1 mile mark. Turn left on the Willow Springs Trail and proceed another 1.8 miles to the Mesquite Canyon Trail. Turn left and take the Mesquite Canyon Trail back to the parking lot ramada – 10.7 miles. This is a good place to have lunch. Turn around at this point and take the Mesquite Canyon Trail for 3.3 miles back to the Ford Canyon Trail. Turn right on the Ford Canyon Trail and go .9 miles back to the Willow Springs Trail. Again do the Willow Springs to Mesquite Canyon Trails back to the ramada. From there it's a mile further on the Mesquite Canyon Trail back to the car. This is a 19.4 miles hike. Elevation gain 3,140 ft, total descent 3,180 ft. Restrooms are at the trailhead. Park fee is \$6.00 per car. Driving distance is approx 30 miles RT.

**South Trail/Goat Camp/Willow Springs/Mesquite Canyon (White Tank Mountains).** Park at the South Trail trailhead. Take the South Trail for 1 mile to the Goat Camp Trail. Turn left on the Goat Camp Trail and take it to junction with Ford Canyon Trail. Take the Ford Canyon Trail for .9 mile to the Willow Springs Trail. This is the 7.5 miles mark. Turn right on the Willow Springs Trail for 1.8 miles to the Mesquite Canyon Trail. Turn right on the Mesquite Canyon Trail and go .7 miles, which is at the base of the climb with the loose rock. Turn around and retrace your steps back to the car for a 20.0 mile hike. Restrooms are at the trailhead. Park fee is \$6.00 per car. Driving distance is approx 30 miles RT.

**National/Kiwanis/Los Lomitas Loop/Bajada Trails (South Mountain).** Park at the parking lot at the end of the San Juan Road. Take the National Trail east until .5 miles beyond the junction with the Holbert Trail. Turn around and go back to the Kiwanis Trail, which on the west side of the Summit Road just past the junction with the Telegraph Pass Trail. Follow the Kiwanis Trail for 1 mile to a parking lot, then cross the parking lot to the Los Lomitas Loop Trail. Take this trail to the left and in about 1 mile you will run into the the Ranger Trail. Turn left on the Ranger Trail for about .2 mile to the Bajada Trail junction. Turn right onto the Bajada Trail and go 3.2. miles to the National Trail. Turn right and proceed back to the car. This is a 20.0 mile hike. Restrooms are at the ranger station as you enter the park. There is no park fee. Driving distance is approx 60 miles RT.

## **OVERNIGHT HIKES**

**Overnight backpack - 4 Days.Grand Canyon North Rim.**This is a 27.6 mile four day backpacking hike of the Lollipop Loop on the North Rim of the Grand Canyon. The Elevation change will be around 4,000 ft. Day 1 start at Bill Hall Trailhead down over 3200 feet and 10 miles to junction will Deer Creek Trail and then on to Tapeats Creek. Day 2 will be a hike down to the Colorado River and then up to Deer Creek. Day 3 and Day 4 will be devoted to climbing the 10 mile 4,750 feet back to Bill Hall Trailhead.

**Overnight - 2 Days.Palm Springs, Ca.** Various trails available.

**Overnight – 4 days. Zion and/or Bryce National Parks. Rating C/B.** Various trails available.

**Overnight – 2-3 days. Tuscon . Rating C/B.** Various trails available.

**Overnight – 2 days. Flagstaff – Rating C/B.**Various trails available.

**Overnight - 3 to 4 days. Grand Canyon - Havasupai falls. Rating C/B.**

### **Websites:**

1. [www.hikearizona.com](http://www.hikearizona.com)- best site for hike details
1. [www.arizonahikingtrails.com](http://www.arizonahikingtrails.com)- alternate trail descriptions
2. [www.gvrhc.org](http://www.gvrhc.org) - Green Valley Hiking Club
3. [www.grandhikers.org](http://www.grandhikers.org) - Sun City Grand Hiking Club
4. <http://www.azcentral.com/travel/hiking/hikingindex.html>- AZ Republic Hikes
5. [www.fs.fed.us/r3/](http://www.fs.fed.us/r3/) - US Forest Service Region 3 (Arizona & New Mexico)
6. <http://www.maricopa.gov/parks/> - County Parks Information
8. <http://www.mikeshikes.net/> - hikes around South Mountain

### **NOTES**

The numbers at the bottom of each description [SCG=m.m/ffff/r.r] are the numbers from the Sun City Grand (SCG) Hiking Club. They mean:m.m=length in miles, ffff=elevation gain in feet, and r.r=overall rating. Sun City Grand factors in the length, elevation gain, and trail surface into their ratings. D hikes are typically rated around 2.0, Cs around 3.0, and Bs 4.0 or higher.

The Internet address at the bottom is a link to the club Smugmug photo galleries for that hike.