B LEVEL HIKING GROUP - MONDAYS

November 4 - Joshua Tree North Monolith (Highway 93)

Rating B

Trails: Informal loop route via Shiprock Monolith Summit

This is a 7.2mile loop hike with an elevation gain of about 1300 ft. It utilizes old jeep roads, regular trails, sandy wash, and includes a short climb to the top of the outstanding shiprock 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

Directions to Wickenburg - Joshua Tree North Trailhead

Take Loop 303 north to U.S. 60.

Turn west (left) onto U.S. 60 for approx. 28 miles.

Turn right on Highway 93.

Go approx. 36 miles to a pull-off area on the left just before MP 163.

No restrooms...might want to stop at McDonald's in Wickenburg.

November 11 – White Tank Regional Park – Mesquite Ford Canyon Loop. Mesquite Canyon/Ford Canyon/Waddell Trails (White Tank Mountains).

Rating B

10.6 mi loop hike loops the Mesquite, Ford Canyon and Waddell Trails and has an elevation gain of over 2000 ft. We'll climb the Mesquite Trail until it ends at the junction with the Ford Canyon Trail. The Ford Canyon Trail initially drops then rises over a ridge and drops again into the Ford Canyon. This trail continues past the Ford Canyon Dam and drops through a rocky ravine and eventually connects to the Waddell trail connector back to the parking area. 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

Directions to White Tank Mountains Regional Park

Take 303 North (right).

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

Turn right on Cotton.

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

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

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

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

November 18 - Two Humped Camel - the Camelback Traverse

Trails: Echo Canyon Trail – Camelback Summit – Cholla Trail - Cholla Trailhead – Cholla Trail – Camelback Summit – return to Echo Canyon Trailhead

Rating A-

This scenic hike is 5.4 miles in length with elevation gain over 2600 feet.

This hike will traverse the Camelback ridge twice – we'll hike from Echo Canyon trailhead over the summit and down to Cholla Trailhead and then reverse the climb back to the echo Canyon parking lot. Fantastic views north over Paradise Valley and south over the city of Phoenix and beyond.

Be prepared – there are two steep climbs to the summit over rugged granite and sandstone boulders – bring plenty of liquids and extra food for lunch.

There is no park fee. Driving distance is approximately 75 miles RT.

https://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Camelback-Mountain/CamelbackMountainEchoCanyonRec/B-HikeLynnW2016-2017

Directions to Camelback Mountain - Echo Canyon Trail

I-10 east to Hwy 51 North on 51 to Camelback Rd exit Turn right (east) on Camelback Rd Turn left (north) on 44th St. Turn right (east) on McDonald After passing Tatum, turn right on Echo Canyon Parkway

November 25 - Burro Flats Loop via Lucifer's Gate (Hells Canyon Wilderness).

Rating B.

This is a 7.7 mile lollipop loop hike with an elevation change of 1250 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.

Directions to Burro Flats Trailhead (Near Morristown)

Take Rt. 303 to Rt. 60 (Grand Ave.).
Go left on Rt. 60 towards Wickenburg.
At Morristown turn right onto Castle Hot Springs Road.
Drive about 15.5 miles.
This road is a dirt road for the last 13 miles
Turn right on Cedar Basin Road.
Go 2.3 miles to an unmarked trailhead.

The trail goes from the left side of the road.

No Restrooms at the trailhead.