

"B" LEVEL HIKING GROUP - FRIDAYS

Meet at the Eagles Nest clubhouse at 6:30 a.m., depart at 6:45 (early meet/depart is 6:00/6:15...but, always check the weekly e-mail).

September 27 – Pyrite Summit Loop (Skyline). Rating B. This is a 9-mile loop hike with an elevation gain of approximately 1900 ft. in the southwestern part of Skyline Regional Park. The trails meander through typical desert terrain. Pyrite, one of the newer trails, goes up to the ridgeline in the southwestern corner of the White Tank Mountains. There is an optional summit trail that goes .3 miles with 170 ft of elevation gain. Trail condition – bushwhacking easy; average to good trail, but steep up Pyrite to the top. This hike will be done in clockwise direction, starting in the big wash. No park fee. Restrooms are at the trailhead. Driving distance is 30 miles RT.

<https://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Skyline-Park/B-HikeSkyline-Pyrite-Loop-CWLynnW2018-2019/>

October 4 - IQ Arch/Helmet Rock Extended Loop (Goldfield Mountains). Rating B. This is a 9.8-mile lollipop loop hike with an elevation gain of about 1750 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>

October 11 – Saddle Mountain Loop Trail (Tonopah). Rating B. This is a 7-mile loop hike with an elevation gain of 1300 ft. The trail works its way up to the main saddle of Saddle Mountain with extensive views to the west (Eagletail Mountains) and south. It then goes down a steep incline from the saddle to complete the loop. 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 to the saddle is along the side of the formation, has loose rocks, and is hard to follow; over the saddle it is very steep with lots of boulders and rocks; the last part is an easy trek along an old jeep road. No restrooms at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is 90 miles.

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

October 18 – Apache Wash-Sidewinder-Ocotillo Loop (Phoenix Sonoran Preserve - North Section). Rating B. This is a 10-mile loop hike with an elevation gain of 1500 ft. The loop combines several trails - the Apache Wash, Ridgeback, Sidewinder, and Ocotillo trails. The hike goes through rolling desert terrain and there are expansive views of the north side of Phoenix, Anthem, and Cave Creek. Trail condition - this is a very good hiking trail with few rocks, stones, steps, etc. There are restrooms at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is 80 miles RT.

<https://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/CaveCreekRegionalPark/Apache-Wash-Trailhead/B-HikeApache-Wash-2-Sidewinder-Ocotillo-loopLynnW2018-2019/>

October 25 – 1st Water/2nd Water/Black Mesa/Dutchman loop (Superstition Mountains). Rating B. This is a 9.3 miles loop with a 1200 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. Good chance of seeing Tarantulas at this time of year. There are restrooms at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is 126 miles RT.

<https://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/SuperstitionWilderness/Garden-Valley-Loop/B-HikeSuperstitions-Garden-Valley-LoopLynnW2018-2019/i-87zLndH>