

# February 2026 Hiking Schedule

## Updates & changes in RED

## NEW HIKES in GREEN

All hikes meet at the Welcome Center unless otherwise specified in the hike description.  
Carpools can be arranged when the group meets at Welcome Center

AZ State Park entrance fees increased on 2/25/25. The fee is now based on the number of people in a vehicle, if no one has a park pass. The fee is \$10 for one person and \$20 for 2 – 4 people total. The fee should be split among those in the vehicle. A park pass allows for up to 4 people to enter without charge.

Note March Aravaipa hike at the bottom of the list.

## SPRING PICNIC, TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2026, Catalina State Park, Flycatcher Group Area, 11:30 am

**Sunday February 1, 2026, Full Moon Golf Course Walk [D/3 miles/100'/5:30 pm]** It's Wolf Moon time! Meet by the putting green behind the pro shop. I'm looking for those who'd like to walk a three mile section of the golf course and enjoy the full moon rising over Charboneu Gap. Phil Arms [parms1950@gmail.com](mailto:parms1950@gmail.com)

**Monday February 2, 2026, Morning Golf Course Walk [D/2 miles/50'/6:30am]** Meet by the putting green behind the pro shop. I'm looking for those who'd like to walk a two mile section of the golf course and enjoy the sunrise over the Catalina's at 7:17. Phil Arms [parms1950@gmail.com](mailto:parms1950@gmail.com)

**Monday, February 2, 2026, Some AZT and Windmill Loop at OSP [C/7mi/900'/\$5/8am]** Meet at Welcome Center for 35-minute drive to Tiger Mine Road small parking lot (Milepost 105 on SR 77 east of Oracle). We hike portions of the Arizona Trail and Windmill Loop through Oracle State Park, with most of the elevation gain towards the end. Limit 8. Meg Gerken, [desertdolphin99@gmail.com](mailto:desertdolphin99@gmail.com)

**Monday, February 2, 2026, Alamo Canyon Loop [D/4mi/300'/\$4/8AM]** Meet at Welcome Center before 8AM to arrange rides. Proceed to CSP and park at the Romero Ruins Parking Lot. Hike trail to canyon precipice and cross over to South side. Continue East to flat rock amphitheater area. Return via South side route. There are several steep and rocky sections so hiking poles are suggested. Al Schmidt [scovhikeral@gmail.com](mailto:scovhikeral@gmail.com)

**Tuesday, February 3, 2026, Orientation Hike [D/3mi/350'/\$4/8:00] Reservation required.**

This is a prerequisite hike for joining the SCOV Hiking Club. *Orientation hikes are restricted to returning and prospective members only.* This hike meets behind the SCOV Welcome Center in the parking lot. We will give a bit of information about our club. We will then drive to Catalina State Park Equestrian Center. We will hike 1-1/2 miles up the 50 Year Trail and return. A State Parks Pass is required or an entry fee at the gate. Bring sufficient water, wear sturdy shoes or hiking boots, a pack in which to carry your personal belongings. If you use walking poles, bring them. Also bring a good sun hat. Please contact Gayle Franklin at [cactigal50@gmail.com](mailto:cactigal50@gmail.com) or Cary Roper at [carybayley@gmail.com](mailto:carybayley@gmail.com)

**Tuesday, February 3, 2026, Ridgeline/Wild Burro Key Exchange [B/11mi/up-1500' down - 500'/\$3/8am]**

This hike is a key exchange between groups hiking from Rail-X Road and Dove Mountain Trailhead, using the Wild Burro Trail and Ridgeline Trail. The key exchange will occur midway in the hike. Dana Laudenbach -Eastbound /Max Haegele - Westbound. Part of this hike is on State Trust land. Max Haegele, [43avocet@gmail.com](mailto:43avocet@gmail.com)

**Tuesday, February 3, 2026, Sausalito Loop [C/6 mi/350'/\$0/8:00 am]**

Meet at Desert Oasis. Hike trails on both sides of Sausalito Wash. We will be on the lookout for an old cowboy camp, a crested saguaro, and amazing stone formations. Hikers had so much fun last month that I decided to lead this hike again. Limit 12. This hike is on State Trust Land. Tom Meyer [tmeyer80@msn.com](mailto:tmeyer80@msn.com)

**Tuesday February 3, 2026, Golf Course Walk [D/3 miles/100'/5:30 pm] It's Tuesday Night**

**Footfall time!** Meet by the putting green behind the pro shop. I'm looking for those who'd like to walk a three mile section of the golf course and enjoy the sunset Phil Arms [parms1950@gmail.com](mailto:parms1950@gmail.com)

**Wednesday February 4, 2026, Hole in the Rock/Dorothys wash [C/5miles/480'/\$4/8:00am]**

**(Catalina State Park pass is recommended)** Meet at the welcome center at 7:45. Take a bridle trail off Canyon loop up to a scenic ridge and cutover to view the "hole in the rock". Then head back over to Dorothy's wash. Take a short break and snack. Hike back out to Sutherland Trail to loop back. Poles recommended for up and down rocky spots. Hopefully we can cross the wash, otherwise there will be some climbing on a side trail. Ken Perciva [knmdsunchasers72@gmail.com](mailto:knmdsunchasers72@gmail.com)

**Wednesday, February 4, 2026, Tanque Verde Falls Trails [C/5 mi/500'/\$7/8am]**

Meet behind the Welcome Center. Drive to the Tanque Falls middle parking lot. Hike the various trails with good landscape and waterfall views. Some trails are steep and rocky. Larry Best, [lbestrun@gmail.com](mailto:lbestrun@gmail.com)

**HIKE IS FULL. Thursday, February 5, 2026, Isabella Lee Natural Preserve**

**[D/3.5mi/50'/\$5/1:30pm]** An afternoon hike at the confluence of the Agua Caliente and Tanque Verde washes. It's a dry mesquite bosque featuring cottonwoods (one of which is the largest in SE AZ) and Arizona walnuts. Also, this preserve is a renowned birding hotspot for resident and migratory birds. Following our hike we'll stop (for those who wish) at the nearby Sydney's Sweet Shoppe which features pies, cupcakes, and more with ample seating. Doug Higgins [dahiggins@comcast.net](mailto:dahiggins@comcast.net)

**Thursday, February 5, 2026, Deer Camp and Beyond [B/7mi/1000'/\$2/8am]**

Park at the horse corral off Golder Ranch. Hike to Deer Camp and loop back using the connector. Rated B because of a steep rock descent. Deb Wehrung [debwehrung@gmail.com](mailto:debwehrung@gmail.com)

**Friday, February 6, 2026, Owl Head Buttes Foothills [C+/7mi/600'/\$5/7am]**

Meet behind Welcome Center. Owl Head Buttes are at the north end of the Tortolita Mountains. We park 4.8 miles on E Park Link Dr off Hwy 79. walk on jeep roads about 3 miles, then go **off** trail onto a steep and rocky slope for 1/3 mile to a rock window and ridge view of the area.-Return via same route. Sigrid and Dave Flatness, [sigrid.daveflatness@gmail.com](mailto:sigrid.daveflatness@gmail.com)

**Saturday, February 7, 2026, Vistoso Trails Nature Preserve [D/3mi/100'/\$0/10:00 am]**

Short, close-in hike; easy, paved, minimal elevation, three-mile loop trail at Vistoso Trails Nature Preserve. A concrete trail winds through the former Vistoso Golf course. Social pace. Beautiful mountain views and opportunities to view wildlife. Carpool from BEHIND SCOV Welcome Center; Debbie Hansen, 425.931.3334, [djhansolo@comcast.net](mailto:djhansolo@comcast.net)

**Monday, February 9, 2026, Alamo Canyon Loop Bird Hike [D/4+miles/300'/8:00 am at the Romero Ruins parking lot at Catalina State Park or if carpooling from SCOV, \$4 pp]**

Everyone from experienced birders to those who'd like to learn a bit about the birds around the park are welcome to join the hike! We'll do a counterclockwise hike, starting on the side of the canyon with more trees to watch and listen for wintering birds. If you're new to listening for birds I highly recommend you download a free app from Cornell University's Lab of Ornithology. It's called Merlin. We'll talk about how to use it as we explore. We'll make our way to the amphitheater area where there's a seasonal stream for a short snack and return to the parking lot coming down the more open, grassy area. Poles may be helpful in a few rocky, steeper areas. We'll let the birds set our pace so the total hike time may be a bit longer than a typical hike. Limit 10 hikers. I have a spare pair of binoculars if anyone needs them. Debbie Carr-Taylor, [debbiecarrtaylor@gmail.com](mailto:debbiecarrtaylor@gmail.com)

**Monday, February 9, 2026, Morning Golf Course Walk [D/2 miles/50/6:30am]** Meet by the putting green behind the pro shop. I'm looking for those who'd like to walk a two mile section

of the golf course and enjoy the sunrise over the Catalina's at 7:11. Phil Arms  
[parms1950@gmail.com](mailto:parms1950@gmail.com)

**Monday, February 9, 2026, Samaniego Roost [B/8mi/1400'/\$2/8am]** Park at Horse Corral. Hike to Deer Camp then a trail to Samaniego Roost. Return via Deer Camp Connector and Middle Gate. Rated B due to steep rock descent. Deb Wehrung, [debwehrung@gmail.com](mailto:debwehrung@gmail.com)

**Tuesday, February 10, 2026, Golf Course Walk [D/3 miles/100'/5:30 pm] It's Tuesday Night Footfall time!** Meet by the putting green behind the pro shop. I'm looking for those who'd like to walk a three-mile section of the golf course and enjoy the sunset Phil Arms  
[parms1950@gmail.com](mailto:parms1950@gmail.com)

**Tuesday, February 10, 2026, Coffee Time Hike [D/4mi/50'/\$0/9:00AM]** Meet at the Oro Valley Hospital Medical building parking lot (meet towards the back of the lot in the SW corner). The hike will follow a paved path to the coffee shop located in The Encantada apartment complex. There is a short gravel walk from the parking lot to the paved path. Outside seating is available at the coffee shop. Hike is limited to 10. Jane Budden, [janeannabudden@gmail.com](mailto:janeannabudden@gmail.com)

**Tuesday, February 10, 2026, Sabino Canyon/Bear Canyon Loop [B/ 12mi/ 2200' up/ 2700' down/ \$4/ 8am]** Meet behind the Welcome Center. This hike is in the Santa Catalina Mountains. The hike begins in Sabino Canyon after taking the 9:00 am tram (to stop #9 @\$15.00; must purchase in advance) to our trailhead. We'll hike the Sabino Canyon Trail to the East Fork Trail, have lunch at the beautiful Bear Canyon Overlook and then descend on the Bear Canyon Trail, past Seven Falls to meet the last tram at the Bear Canyon Trailhead around 4 pm. Magnificent views in upper Bear Canyon. USFS pass, equivalent "Golden Pass", or daily fee required for parking at Sabino Canyon. Doug Higgins [dahiggins@comcast.net](mailto:dahiggins@comcast.net)

**Wednesday, February 11, 2026, Lime Falls Cactus Forest [C/6mi/300'/\$5/7:30am]** Meet behind Welcome Center at 7:30am to carpool to Cactus Forest Trailhead near east end of Broadway, entering East Saguaro National Park to hike along mostly level Cactus Forest Trail to a small wash and waterfall (dry or not?) where we have all elevation gain and eat a snack. See lime kiln and explanatory signage. NEED NATIONAL PARK PASS. Optional lunch at Saguaro Corners restaurant after hike. When you sign-up, tell if you want lunch so I can make reservations. Georgene Porter, [gvporter@live.com](mailto:gvporter@live.com)

**Thursday, February 12, 2026, OSP Trails/ Granite Overlook [D/3mi/250'/\$7/8:30am]** This is a D hike, but note that the elevation gain is 250' when you consider joining this hike. Gather at the Welcome Center to carpool to the main entrance to Oracle State Park (\$7 or pass required) on Mount Lemmon Rd. About 0.7 miles from the entrance, park in the large Oak Woodland

Area parking lot, where the hike begins. We will not be doing the Granite Overlook Loop but rather hike on five different trails, including the entire Windy Ridge up to the overlook and back. Kevin Kopp, [kkopp.eyes@comcast.net](mailto:kkopp.eyes@comcast.net)

**Thursday, February 12, 2026, Seven Falls to Last Crossing [B/13mi/1650'/\$4/8am]** Meet at Welcome Center. Hike past 7 Falls to the Last Crossing before ascending trail and return. Limit 10, Dennis Potter [potterdennis49@gmail.com](mailto:potterdennis49@gmail.com)

**Friday, February 13, 2026, Oracle Ridge Key Exchange [C+/6mi/1100'/\$5/7:30am]** Hike the Cody Trail up and over Oracle Ridge, a 35-minute drive away from SCOV. This is a key exchange hike, with Meg Gerken leading a group from the American Flag Ranch trailhead and Dave Flatness leading another from Cody Loop. Lots of views in both directions. Note significant elevation gain and that trail is rocky and steep in places. Optional lunch at Simply Sandwiches after hike. Meg Gerken [desertdolphin99@gmail.com](mailto:desertdolphin99@gmail.com)

**Monday, February 16, 2026, 50 Year Trail Loop [D/4mi/400'/\$4/8AM]** Meet at the Welcome Center Parking Lot a little before 8 AM to arrange rides. Proceed to CSP Equestrian Center Parking Lot and hike the 50 Year Trail to the CDO Trailhead. Continue on to the 50 YR Trail and descend back to the Parking Lot. Al Schmidt [scovhikeral@gmail.com](mailto:scovhikeral@gmail.com)

**Monday, February 16, 2026, Gabe Zimmerman to AZT North [C/6mi/630'/\$9/7:30am]** Meet at the Welcome Center to carpool to Gabe Zimmerman Trailhead (16000 E Marsh Station Rd., Vail). Hike Passage 8 of the Arizona Trail North to the Cienega Creek riparian area with flowing water and several train trestles with frequent trains. Continue hiking 3 miles to a rest stop, then return to trailhead. Byron Wolffing, [wolffing5@gmail.com](mailto:wolffing5@gmail.com)

**Monday, February 16, 2026, Birding in Madera Canyon [C/6 miles/850'/\$10/7:00am]** Meet behind the Welcome Center to carpool to one of the canyon's lower parking lots. Madera Canyon is a beautiful place to hike and look for the birds that spend the winter in the canyon! This is designed as a full day outing with two 3-mile hikes and a picnic lunch break in between. We'll let the temperatures and bird activity guide which hikes we do. Typically, it'll be a great time of year for a lower canyon hike, followed by lunch, and then a middle canyon hike. If there's time, we'll rest our feet and enjoy the busy bird feeders at Santa Rita Lodge before heading home in the late afternoon. I have a spare pair of binoculars if anyone needs them. Limit 8 hikers (2 cars) Debbie Carr-Taylor, [debbiecarrtaylor@gmail.com](mailto:debbiecarrtaylor@gmail.com)

**Monday, February 16, 2026, Picacho Peak [B/6mi/2,100'/\$8/7:00 am]** Meet at the Welcome Center for the one hour drive. This is a challenging hike via the Hunter Trail that involves steep switchbacks, rock scrambles, and climbing up several cableways. Gloves are recommended. All

Trails description click here. First time hikers will be awarded a club patch upon completion.  
Limit 8. Tom Meyer [tmeyer80@msn.com](mailto:tmeyer80@msn.com)

**Monday, February 16, 2026, Morning Golf Course Walk [D/2 miles/50'/6:00 am]** Meet by the putting green behind the pro shop. I'm looking for those who'd like to walk a two mile section of the golf course and enjoy the sunrise over the Catalina's. Phil Arms [parms1950@gmail.com](mailto:parms1950@gmail.com)

**Tuesday, February 17, 2026, Golf Course Walk [D/3 miles/100'/6:00pm] It's Tuesday Night Footfall time!** Meet by the putting green behind the pro shop. I'm looking for those who'd like to walk a three mile section of the golf course and enjoy the sunset Phil Arms [parms1950@gmail.com](mailto:parms1950@gmail.com)

**HIKE IS FULL. Tuesday, February 17, 2026, El Encanto History Hike [D/4 mi/100'/\$6/9:00am]** Walk the El Encanto and Colonia Solana historic neighborhoods and hear about their history/architecture. Start at Reid Park in midtown Tucson. Maximum: 15. Jim Williams [jaswilliams128@msn.com](mailto:jaswilliams128@msn.com)

**CANCELLED. Wednesday, February 18, 2026, Peak 4262 Catalina State Park (B/8miles/1500'/\$4/7am)** We will meet at the Welcome Center at 7:00am to carpool to the trailhead at Catalina State Park. The hike begins on the Dead Horse Canyon trail. We will go past the "waterfall" rock area approximately a 1/2 mile (which is where the Dead Horse hike usually stops) and then veer off the main trail. From this point on it is mainly a bush whack. Well worth it for the spectacular views. Limit 8 hikers. Dana Laudенbach [dlaudenbach1@gmail.com](mailto:dlaudenbach1@gmail.com)

**Wednesday, February 18, 2026, Dripping Springs/Romero Canyon overlook [C/5miles/500'/\$4/8:00am].** (Pass recommended) Meet at the welcome center at 7:45. Hike to Dripping Springs to hopefully see a waterfall via Sutherland Trail. We'll take a short break, and on the way down we'll take a side trail down to get a better view of Green Rock, and into the Romero Canyon. Poles recommended. Ken Percival [knmdsunchasers72@gmail.com](mailto:knmdsunchasers72@gmail.com)

**Wednesday, February 18, 2026, Jeffords Peak [B/7mi/1700'/\$3/7:30am]** High point of the Tortolita Mountains. Park on Rail - X Ranch Road at windmill, hike a jeep road to saddle and down to Wild Burro Canyon. Bushwhacking up the canyon, and ridges to the highest point in the range, a 4696' peak with 360 degree views. Return via bushwhack down northeast ridgeline and past Black Tank. Long pants, sleeves, gloves, and hiking sticks desirable. This hike is on State Trust Land. Doug Higgins [dahiggins@comcast.net](mailto:dahiggins@comcast.net)

**Thursday, February 19, 2026, Black Rock Loop Sweetwater Preserve [D/4mi/400'/\$4/8:30am]**

This is NOT the WW Treatment Plant! Meet behind the Welcome Center to carpool. Hike this Pima County Park through saguaros/desert landscape with occasional suburban views. Saguaro Vista to Black Rock Loop and back to cars. Kevin Kopp, [kkopp.eyes@comcast.net](mailto:kkopp.eyes@comcast.net)

**Thursday, February 19, 2026, Thimble Peak [B/11mi/2300'/\$6/7:30am]**

We will carpool to Gordon Hirabayashi Recreation Site off the Mt. Lemmon Highway. The hike begins with a descent into Sycamore Canyon, continues to a link trail to upper Bear Canyon trail, from there we will do our best to look for and follow a trail to the base of Thimble Peak. This section is not necessarily maintained and has some steep sections with loose gravel. We return looking for the same trails. This is a special hike with water crossings in the canyon and spectacular vistas on the slopes. Deb Wehrung [debwehrung@gmail.com](mailto:debwehrung@gmail.com)

**Friday, February 20, 2026, Orientation Hike [D/3mi/350'/\$4/8:00am].**

Reservation required. This is a prerequisite hike for joining the SCOV Hiking Club. Orientation hikes are restricted to returning and prospective members only. This hike meets behind the SCOV Welcome Center in the parking lot. After a bit of information is shared about our club, we then drive to Catalina State Park Equestrian Center. We will hike 1 1/2 miles up the 50 Year Trail and return. A States Parks Pass or an entry fee at the gate is required. Bring sufficient water, a good sun hat, walking poles if you use them, and wear sturdy shoes or hiking boots. Please contact Meg Gerken at [desertdolphin99@gmail.com](mailto:desertdolphin99@gmail.com) until February 14. After the 14th please contact Jorgy Jorgenson at [launiebob@gmail.com](mailto:launiebob@gmail.com) or call 406-672-0823

**Friday, February 20, 2026, Lost Coyote/Honeybee Canyon South [D/4mi/200'/8am]**

Meet at Mountain View Plaza parking lot and take a short walk on Rancho Vistoso to the powerline. After hiking on Lost Coyote Trail we'll turn onto the Honeybee Trail and hike to the park, restrooms and dam before returning. There are a couple of short uphill parts in this hike. Dave and Sigrid Flatness [sigrid.daveflatness@gmail.com](mailto:sigrid.daveflatness@gmail.com)

**Friday, February 20, 2026, Vision Seeker's Gorge [C/6mi/300'/\$3/7:30am]**

Park at the Crow windmill 5.2 miles in on Rail-X Ranch Road. NOTE: Rail-X (Edwin) road west is somewhat rough. One mile of hike is off trail. No low clearance sport cars. Max Haegele [43avocet@gmail.com](mailto:43avocet@gmail.com)

**Monday, February 23, 2026, Lost Coyote and Honey Bee Canyon Loop [C/5mi/377'/\$0/8am]**

Meet at the Mountain View Plaza parking lot (across from Copper Center). Take Lost Coyote (powerline) trail South to newer subdivision, then an Oro Valley trail to the Southern border of Honey Bee Canyon Park. Follow Honey Bee Canyon trail (some shade) to restrooms and picnic area, and return on Lost Coyote trail. Byron Wolffig, [wolffig5@gmail.com](mailto:wolffig5@gmail.com)

**Monday, February 23, 2026, Morning Golf Course Walk [D/2 mi/50'/6:00 am]** Meet by the putting green behind the pro shop. I'm looking for those who'd like to walk a two mile section of the golf course and enjoy the sunrise over the Catalina's. Phil Arms [parms1950@gmail.com](mailto:parms1950@gmail.com)

**Monday, February 23, 2026, Big Wash Scenic Trail / Honey Bee Canyon Access Loop** [C/6mi/<400'/\$0/8am] From Desert Oasis enter the trail at Summerstar. Hike out to the Scenic Trail, heading down to appreciate the quiet wilderness in our own backyard, take a cookie break in The Grove and return up Honey Bee Canyon Access Trail. Deb Wehrung, [debwehrung@gmail.com](mailto:debwehrung@gmail.com)

**Monday, February 23, 2026, Babad Do'ag Trail Catalina Mts. [C+/5mi/1200'/\$5/7am]** We will meet at the Welcome Center at 7:00am to carpool to the trailhead off the Mt. Lemmon Highway. This hike starts with a bit of climbing before it levels out across a broad plateau. Very beautiful views. Limit 8 hikers. Dana Laudenbach [dlaudenbach1@gmail.com](mailto:dlaudenbach1@gmail.com)

**Tuesday, February 24, 2026, Golf Course Walk [D/3mi/100'/6:00pm] It's Tuesday Night Footfall time!** Meet by the putting green behind the pro shop. I'm looking for those who'd like to walk a three mile section of the golf course and enjoy the sunset Phil Arms [parms1950@gmail.com](mailto:parms1950@gmail.com)

**ANNUAL PICNIC, TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2026, Catalina State Park, Flycatcher Group Area, 11:30 am**

**Tuesday, February 24, 2026, Canada Del Oro Wash Loop [D/4mi/120'/\$4/9am]** Meet at the Equestrian Center in Catalina State Park (or arrange carpools among yourselves). Hike the CDO Wash to Rancho de los Cerros meeting and horseback riding center, then return. Byron Wolffing, [wolffing5@gmail.com](mailto:wolffing5@gmail.com)

**Tuesday, February 24, 2026, Alamo Canyon Loop CSP [D/3mi/300'/\$4/9am]** Meet at Welcome Center if ride needed to CSP. Hike from Romero Ruins to a canyon precipice and return via south side route. There are several short but moderately steep/rocky sections. Dave and Sigrid Flatness, [sigrid.daveflatness@gmail.com](mailto:sigrid.daveflatness@gmail.com)

**Tuesday, February 24, 2026 Fifty-Year and CDO Trail Loop [D/4mi/400'/\$4 or \$6/8:30am]** NEED State Park pass so we'll meet at 8:30 behind the Welcome Center and carpool for hike and picnic after. Cost depends on how many people have a pass. Hike uphill along an old jeep road leaving from the Equestrian Center in Catalina State Park for 2 miles and return on CDO Trail. Bring poles if you have them. Leisurely pace! Georgene Porter, [gvporter@live.com](mailto:gvporter@live.com)

**Tuesday, February 24, 2026, Birding Trail/Nature Trail CSP [D/2mi/3mi/150'\$4/9am]** Meet behind the Welcome Center to carpool at 9am. Catalina State Park hike before Club Picnic. At CSP from Main Trailhead, we'll hike the Birding Trail (2 miles). Possible water crossing. Steps up and steps down. Optional Nature Trail (1 mile) depending on attendees. Debbie Hansen, 425.931.3334, [djhansolo@comcast.net](mailto:djhansolo@comcast.net)

**Tuesday, February 24, 2026, The Green Rock [C++/4 mi/400'/\$5/8am]** Meet behind the Welcome Center. Drive to the Canyon Loop Trailhead in Catalina State Park. Hike the Canyon Loop Trail to a social trail that leads to the Green Rock and return. This trail has some very steep rock scrambling and bushwacking – not for the faint of heart, limited to very experienced hikers only. Larry Best, [lbestrun@gmail.com](mailto:lbestrun@gmail.com)

**Tuesday, February 24, 2026, Montrose Pools [C/3m/200'/\$4/9 am].** Meet behind the Welcome Center to drive to CSP Trailhead. We will hike 1 mile before taking a short steep trail down to Montrose Creek. We will spend some time exploring this hidden gem and return. Hike is rated C because of steep trail and some climbing over/around rocks in the narrow canyon. You may get your feet wet. Limit 8 hikers. Tom Meyer [tmeyer80@msn.com](mailto:tmeyer80@msn.com)

**Wednesday, February 25, 2026, Painted Cave Trail [C/6 mi/900'/\$6/8am]** Meet behind the Welcome Center. Drive to the Yetman trailhead at the end of Camino de Oeste. Hike the Yetman trail past the Bowen homestead ruins. Take a social trail to the right and hike to Painted Cave. Continue up the trail and hike a ridge back to the Yetman trail to get some great views, then back to the parking area. Some steep climbing near the cave where hiking poles would be helpful. Larry Best, [lbestrun@gmail.com](mailto:lbestrun@gmail.com)

**Wednesday, February 25, 2026, Tiger Mine Trail and The Patio [C/7mi/1000'/\$5/8am]** Meet at the Welcome Center. Turn north on Tiger Mine Road off SR77 North of Oracle. The hike is in the hills north of the Santa Catalina Mountains and north of the Oracle State Park. We'll park by the Arizona Trail sign on Tiger Mine Road. We'll hike 3.5 miles north on the Arizona Trail, snack break, and return. This is a sunny trail with a lot of interesting colored rocks. Lunch at The Patio in Oracle about noon. Doug Higgins [dahiggins@comcast.net](mailto:dahiggins@comcast.net)

**Thursday, February 26, 2026, Cactus Wren to Signal Hill [D/4mi/300'/\$5/8:00am]** Meet to carpool from behind Welcome Center to park near the corner of Sandario and Rudasil Roads and take the easiest trail hike to Signal Hill Picnic area with tables and restroom in Saguaro National Park West. Eat snacks, look at pictographs and return via the same trail. Large stone steps at pictographs, may need poles. A NATIONAL/FEDERAL PARK PASS IS REQUIRED. Georgene Porter, [gvporter@live.com](mailto:gvporter@live.com)

**Thursday, February 26, 2026, Birding Trail up to Alamo Canyon [C/5miles/450'/\$2/8:00am].**

Meet at the main trailhead in CSP South side. Arrange a ride to Catalina State Park. Hike on the Canyon Loop to Birding trail. Take a trail north toward Alamo Canyon flat rocks, with a short jaunt up to view Buster Mt. Then head over to Alamo Canyon and take a short snack break on the rocks and return on the same trail. Ken Percival [knmdsunchasers72@gmail.com](mailto:knmdsunchasers72@gmail.com)

**Thursday, February 26, 2026, Cardiac Gap [B/8mi/2000'/\$4/8am]**

Meet at the Welcome Center. Hike up Tram road .7 miles to Esperero Trail; take it to saddle overlooking Esperero Canyon and falls for lunch, and return. Hikes is initially steep, then gets much steeper. Limit 10, Dennis Potter [potterdennis49@gmail.com](mailto:potterdennis49@gmail.com)

**Friday, February 27, 2026, Sanctuary Cove [C/4-5mi/400'/\$4/7:30am]**

Meet behind Welcome Center to carpool. Sanctuary Cove is at the base of Safford Peak in Marana, where we explore the trails around the edge of Saguaro National Park West. We'll visit the Sanctuary Cove chapel and hike the Ratpack and Passey Loop Trails. Dave and Sigrid Flatness, [sigrid.daveflatness@gmail.com](mailto:sigrid.daveflatness@gmail.com)

**Friday, February 27, 2026, Big Wash to Oasis [C-/6mi/300'/\$0/7:30am]**

Meet at Welcome Center and hike 6 miles in loop via Big Wash / Desert Oasis back to Welcome Center. Max Haegele, [43avocet@gmail.com](mailto:43avocet@gmail.com)

**Wednesday, March 25, 2026, Aravaipa Canyon Wilderness West [C+/8mi/200'/\$9/7:00am]**

After hiking through a lush riparian section, we enter a narrow canyon with towering cliffs and unsurpassed scenery. Paths sometimes disappear thus hiking in the stream and stream crossings are frequently necessary (shoes on). A steady pace will be maintained with photo stops and breaks. We have lunch at the turn-around point and return via the same route. The Aravaipa Canyon is located about one hour's drive north of SCOV. Limited to 10 by permit. Permit cost for each individual is \$6. Sign up will begin when the February hike list is made public. Max Haegele, [43avocet@gmail.com](mailto:43avocet@gmail.com)