

April 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 Parks 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.**

Wednesday, April 1, 2026, Los Morteros Conservation Area/El Rio Preserve [D/4 mi/50'/\$2/7 am.] Meet behind the Welcome Center. We will hike around a well-preserved Hohokam village site containing a prehistoric ballcourt, remnants of pit houses, and trash mounds. Then hike nearby El Rio Preserve which is next to Santa Cruz River floodplain. This area also features petroglyphs and remnants of the historic Juan Bautista de Anza expedition. Parking located at 10190 N Coachline Blvd in Marana. Tom Meyer, tmeyer80@msn.com

Wednesday, April 1, 2026, Full Moon Golf Course Walk [D/3 miles/100'/6:30 pm] It's Pink 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 the Catalinas. Phil Arms, parms1950@gmail.com

Thursday, April 2, 2026, Hole in the Rock/Dorothys Wash [C/5-6 miles/480'/\$4/7:00am] Meet at the main trailhead in CSP. 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. Ken Percival
knmdsunchasers72@gmail.com

Thursday, April 2, 2026, Coffee Time Hike [D/4mi/50'/\$0/7:30AM] 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

Thursday, April 2, 2026, Golf Course Walk [D/3 miles/100'/6:30pm] It's Thursday 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

Friday, April 3, 2026, Morning Golf Course Walk [D/2 miles/50'/5:45 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 Catalinas. Phil Arms, parms1950@gmail.com

Friday, April 3, 2026, Bike trails to Sausalito Creek and the mystery walls [C+/8mi/397'/\$0/7am] We will meet at Desert Oasis and start promptly at 7am by entering the trail at Summerstar Blvd. We will hike on established bike trails to a jeep road that will lead us to several dams and a windmill and water tank on Sausalito Creek. There are some old stone walls and stone foundations adjacent to the tank and windmill and we will plan to have our snack/lunch there. We will then follow the creek wash through a very interesting part of Sausalito creek canyon and back to a brand-new bike trail section that will take us back to Desert Oasis. Hike is on State Trust land. John Terp, jaterp@comcast.net

Friday, April 3, 2026, High Jinks Ranch [C/4mi/600'/\$5/7am] Hike from American Flag trailhead in Oracle, south on Arizona Trail to High Jinks Ranch house. Ranch was previously owned by Buffalo Bill Cody and is a national Historic Site. Meet behind the Welcome Center. The drive to the trailhead is about 30 minutes. Dave Flatness, sigrid.daveflatness@gmail.com

Saturday, April 4, 2026, Big Wash South Loop [D/4mi/150'/7:30am] Meet at the new Big Wash Trailhead just South of Del Webb Blvd. on Rancho Vistoso Blvd. (enter Vistoso Canyon Estates and enter dirt parking lot on Left). Follow Big Wash and bicycle trails to ruins of old homestead and view construction of new subdivision. Byron Wolffing, wolffing5@gmail.com

NEW HIKE. Monday April 6, 2026, Orientation Hike [D/3mi/350'/\$4/7:30] Reservation required. This is a prerequisite hike for joining the SCOV Hiking Club. Orientation hikes are restricted to returning and prospective members only. Note: Depending on the temperature, this hike may start earlier than 7:30. 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 Peg Rocklin at pegrocklin@gmail.com to reserve your spot.

Monday, April 6, 2026, Morning Golf Course Walk [D/2 miles/50'/5:45 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. This is my last morning walk of the season. Phil Arms, parms1950@gmail.com

Monday, April 6, 2026, Bog Springs/Madera Canyon (C+/5miles/1700'/\$6/6:30am)
We will meet at the Welcome Center at 6:30am to carpool to the trailhead at Madera Canyon Picnic area. We will do the Bog Springs/Kent Springs loop. This trail has some sections that are moderately steep with loose rock. Very beautiful vistas of Green Valley. Limit 8 hikers. Dana Laudenbach. Dlaudenbach1@gmail.com

Monday, April 6, 2026, Gabe Zimmerman to AZT North [C/6mi/630'/\$9/7:00am] 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 (sometimes) flowing water and several train trestles with frequent trains. Continue hiking for 3 miles, then return to trailhead. Byron Wolffing, wolffing5@gmail.com

Tuesday, April 7, 2026, 50 Year CDO Trail Loop [D/4mi/400'/\$4/7:00AM] Meet at the Equestrian Parking Lot CSP at 7:00 AM. Hike to the CDO Trailhead and proceed to the 50Yr. Trail and follow it down to the Parking Lot. Al Schmidt scovhikeral@gmail.com

Tuesday, April 7, 2026, Rams Canyon Trail (C/6mi/700'/\$2/7am) Meet at Welcome Center, then drive to destination (street parking). Hike goes through a canyon and then up and out toward the Catalina's (great views). We will either head towards a waterfall (may be dry) and/or a large water tank. Phil Weinberg, phweinb@gmail.com

Tuesday, April 7, 2026, Golf Course Walk [D/3 miles/100'/6:30 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

Wednesday, April 8, 2026, Alamo Canyon and Birding Trail Loop Bird Hike [C/5 miles/300'/6:45 AM] Meet at the Romero Ruins parking lot at Catalina State Park or 6:30 AM at Welcome Center parking lot \$4 if you want to carpool. 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. The park should be busy with many new 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

Wednesday, April 8, 2026, Dripping Springs/Romero Canyon Green Rock View

[C/5miles/500'/\$4/7:00am]. Meet at the main trailhead in CSP. Take Canyon Loop to the Sutherland trail over to Dripping Springs. Possibly we'll see some water dripping if we've had rain. We'll take a short break and then head back down and take a side trail down to get a better view of Green Rock, and into the Romero Canyon. Then return the same route. Ken Percival knmdsunchasers72@gmail.com

Wednesday, April 8, 2026, Carrie Nation/Agua Caliente/Vault Mine Loop

[B/6mi./1800'/\$12/7am] Meet behind the Welcome Center. Drive to the Madera Canyon Mt. Wrightson Picnic Area. Hike the Carrie Nation Trail to the mine. Take a social trail up to the Agua Caliente Trail. Go right on the Agua Caliente Trail to the Vault Mine Trail and hike that steep downhill trail back to the trailhead. Larry Best, lbestrun@gmail.com

Wednesday, April 8, 2026, Granite Overlook in Oracle State Park (C/4 mi./535'/\$5/7:30am)

Meet behind WC to carpool to Kannally Ranch House. We will hike a variety of interior trails to reach Granite Overlook and return to cars. There are some very STEEP and eroded sections of the trail. Jorgy Jorgenson launiebob@gmail.com, 406-671-2152

CANCELLED. Thursday, April 9, 2026, Butterfly Trail Loop [B/10mi/2100'/\$9/7am] On the Mt. Lemmon Hwy. Park at Soldier Camp. Hike down Butterfly Trail to Novia Springs and back to Bigelow Saddle. To complete the loop, we follow trails and roads over Mt. Bigelow (8500'), through Bear Wallow to our cars at 7700'. Limit 8. Dennis Potter, potterdennis49@gmail.com

Thursday, April 9, 2026, Maiden Pools and Beyond [C+/6 miles 1400'/\$4/7am]

We will meet behind the Welcome Center at 7:00am and carpool to the Ventana Resort employee's parking lot. From there we'll hike the Ventana Canyon trail to the pools, this is a fairly steep hike so poles are recommended. We will also hike a little beyond the pools to an

interesting rock I call the "Indiana Jones" boulder, you'll see why when we get there. Our snack/lunch break will be at the pools (hopefully there'll be some water) then return. Limit 8 hikers. John Terp, jaterp@comcast.net

Thursday, April 9, 2026, Golf Course Walk [D/3 miles/100'/6:00pm] It's Thursday 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. This is my last evening walk of the season. Phil Arms, parms1950@gmail.com

NEW HIKE. Friday, April 10, 2026, Morning Golf Course Walk [D/2 miles/50'/5:40 am] Meet by the putting green behind the pro shop. We leave at the stroke of 5:40 to exit the walk on time. 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. This is my last morning walk of the season, really it is! Phil Arms, parms1950@gmail.com

Saturday, April 11, 2026, Naranja Park, [D/4 mi/100'/\$2/7 am.] Meet behind Welcome Center. Come explore Oro Valley's newest City Park complex. We will walk trails with great views, see OV's Veteran's Memorial, Gila Monster mosaic, Grouse sculptures, and a variety of kids and playfields. Park is located at 810 W Naranja Dr, Oro Valley. Tom Meyer, tmeyer80@msn.com

Saturday, April 11, 2026, Vistoso Trails Nature Preserve [D/3mi/100'/\$0/8:30 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

Monday, April 13, 2026, Tortolita Stroll [C/6miles/<400ft/7:00am] Meet at the Desert Oasis. Hike out onto state trust land toward the power lines. Continue on the bike paths toward the west Tortolitas to enjoy scenic saguaros and rock formations, winding around to the cement triangle block. Take a trail to loop back down to power line wash and take another bike path back to DO. Ken Percival Knmdsunchasers72@gmail.com

Monday, April 13, 2026, 50 Year, CDO Ridge, Powerline, CDO Trail [D/4mi/390'/\$4/7:15am] Meet at the Welcome Center to carpool to the Catalina State Park Equestrian Center. Take the 50 Year Trail a short distance until it branches off into the CDO Ridge Trail. This trail connects to the Powerline Trail (we have seen vultures on this trail) which descends to the CDO Wash, then return to the Equestrian Center. Byron Wolff, wolffing5@gmail.com

Wednesday, April 15, 2026, Aravaipa Canyon Wilderness West [C+/8mi/200'/7:30am \$9]

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 a one hour and twenty-minute drive north of SCOV. Limited to 8 by permit. Permit cost to each individual is \$6 payable with cash and due at sign up. Deb Wehrung debwehrung@gmail.com

Saturday, April 18, 2026, Mt Wrightson via Super Trail [A/18mi/4050'/\$10/6am]

We will meet behind the Welcome Center at 6:00 am and drive to Madera Canyon and park at MWPA parking lot. Hike Super Trail to summit, have lunch and return by same route. 360-degree views from Tucson to Mexico. Hike starts at 5400'. We will plan to adjust departure time based on temperature forecast for that day. John Terp, jaterp@comcast.net

Monday, April 20, 2026, Tortolita Flats Trails [D/4mi/120'/7:30am] Meet at Desert Oasis parking lot and take Summerstar trail connecting to bicycle and powerline trails. This hike is on State Trust land. Byron Wolffing, wolffing5@gmail.com

Monday, April 20, 2026 Upper Javelina/Cochie Trail (B/10miles/1500'/\$3.00/6:00am)

We will meet at the Welcome Center at 6:00am & carpool to the trailhead at Dove Mountain. This is an out & back hike with a few sections of steep & rocky terrain as well as some beautiful, rolling terrain. We will take a lunch break at the windmill & old homestead site. Limit 8 hikers. Dana Laudenbach dlaudenbach1@gmail.com

CANCELLED. Tuesday, April 21, 2025, 50 YR CDO Trail Loop [D/4mi/400'/\$4/7:00AM] Meet at the Equestrian Parking Lot CSP at 7:00 and hike to the CDO Trailhead and follow it to the 50 YR Trail. Proceed to the Parking Lot. Al Schmidt scovhiker@gmail.com

HIKE IS FULL. Tuesday, April 21, 2026, Downtown Murals Walk (D/4mi./40'/\$4/8:00am)

Walk around Tucson's downtown area finding 15-20 different murals. Meet behind WC to carpool. Limit 10. Note: this is the same mural walk as last year. Jorgy Jorgenson, launiebob@gmail.com 406-671-2152

Wednesday, April 22, 2026, Butterfly Trail [B/6 mi./1700'/\$10/7am] Meet behind the Welcome Center. Drive to the Butterfly Trailhead on Mt. Lemmon. Hike the Butterfly Trail stopping by the short diversion to the F-86 crash site. Hike on to the end near the Palisades Visitor Center. Larry Best, lbestrun@gmail.com

Friday, April 24, 2026, Fifty Year Trail. [D/4 miles/400'/\$2/7:00am]. Meet at the Equestrian center or the welcome center to arrange a ride. Hike up the 50 yr trail to the 2 mile fork, and return on the CDO Ridgeline trail back down to the parking lot. Ken Percival
knmdsunchasers72@gmail.com

Saturday, April 25, 2026, Vistoso Trails Nature Preserve [D/3mi/100'/\$0/8:30 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

HIKE IS FULL Waitlist available. Wednesday, April 29, 2026, Spring Birding in Madera Canyon [C/6 miles/850'/\$10/6:30 am] Meet behind the Welcome Center to carpool to one of the canyon's lower parking lots. Spring migration and the start of nesting season are the most exciting time of year for birders and Madera Canyon is a beautiful place to hike and look for birds! Many of the Canyon's colorful songbirds will be back for nesting season. 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 it is particularly warm, we'll do mid-canyon followed by upper canyon. 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 Debbie Carr-Taylor, debbiecarrtaylor@gmail.com