

ARAVAIPA CANYON WEST HIKE DETAILS

3-3-21

Safety Protocol:

- Same virus protection procedures as Club Hikes.
- Each person or couple drives directly to the trailhead in own vehicle, leaving SCOV at specified time; do not meet at Welcome Center; do not caravan.
- When we assemble at the trailhead, masks must be worn and spacing must be observed.
- On the hike, spacing is required; masks must be carried but wearing is optional.

Items to Bring:

- After-hike items including: towel; plastic bags for wet hiking shoes & socks; second set of shoes & socks.
- Each hiker is to bring his/her own after-hike refreshments and your own cooler.
- Hiking poles can be helpful but not mandatory.
- Shoes that drain well and do not allow the pebbles in; a good choice is low-cut hikers with venting mesh and cleats, not GTX, not WP, not over-ankle high; tennis shoes will work but don't grip; make sure the soles of tennis shoes are not hardened and slippery; open sandal hiking shoes will work but you will be stopping often to get the pebbles out.
- Thick wool blend socks (not cotton) are best; tighten strings to keep pebbles out.
- Gaiters will also help keep pebbles out.
- Salty snacks, lunch, minimum of 80 oz. of water/hiker (each hiker carries own).
- If day is to be hot, additional electrolyte drink is recommended.

Driving to Aravaipa West:

- North on Oracle Rd. (Rt.#77) past Mammoth about 10 miles; then right at the Aravaipa sign; take paved + dirt road for about 8 miles which dead-ends at the trailhead.
- Low clearance vehicles such as sports cars are not recommended; most sedans are OK; 4X4 drive is not required.
- Restroom (primitive) is located at trailhead.

The Hike:

- Many, many stream crossings; water level is typically about 6 in. to 12 in. high; shoes are not removed for stream crossings.
- We pause frequently for photo shoots and for absorbing the beauty of the canyon; also stop for a snack break going up and coming back.
- Hike pace is a steady "B" level; we lunch at turn-around point after hiking about three hours; total time for hiking is about six hours (return is less time than going up).

After-Hike:

- Tailgate refreshments (bring your own) at your vehicle.
- Leave whenever you are ready.
- Return to SCOV with happy memories.

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