December 2022 Hiking Schedule

(Updates & changes in RED)

All hikes meet at the Welcome Center unless otherwise specified in the hike description.

Carpools can be arranged when group meets at Welcome Center.

All hikers are required to have face masks or face coverings available on all hikes. They should be used at the guide's direction in case of accident/emergency.

HIKE IS FULL. Thursday, December 1, 2022 Oracle State Park - Wildlife Corridor to Windmill [C/5mi/700'/$5/8am] Meet at welcome center. Carpool to Kannally Ranch House at Oracle State Park (pass or daily fee required). Hike the wildlife trail to the windmill and return. Optional brunch/snack afterwards at Oracle Patio Cafe. Limit 12 hikers. Meg Gerken, meg_stuff3@icloud.com

Thursday, December 1, 2022 Tortolita Preserve [D/3mi/250'/$2/730am] Meet behind the Welcome Center. We'll car pool to Tortolita Preserve. Take the trail straight back to the bench, take a break, and return back the same way. Nice level, easy hike. Julie Cherry jewelscherry@gmail.com.

Thursday, December 1, 2022 Orientation Hike [D/3mi/350'/$2/8am] Reservation required. This is a prerequisite hike for joining the SCOV Hiking Club. This hike meets behind the Welcome Center in the parking lot. We will introduce ourselves and then drive to Catalina State Park Equestrian Center. We will hike 1-1/2 miles up the 50 Year Trail and return. State Parks pass required or a $7 entry fee at the gate. Bring sufficient water, wear sturdy shoes or hiking boots, and if you use walking poles bring them as well. Also a good sun hat. Please contact Gayle Franklin at cactigal50@gmail.com, or Cary Roper at carybayley@gmail.com.

NEW HIKE ADDED. Thursday Decemeber, 1, 2022 Wasson Peak via Sweetwater Trail [B/10mi/1800'/$6/7:30am] Park at trailhead on east end of El Camino del Cerro, hike a new portion of trail to old portion, continue up east side of peak to a saddle, take Hugh Norris Trail to the highest peak in the Tucson Mountains. A Crested Saguaro & Old Mine Shafts on this route. Meet at Welcome Center, driving instructions will be provided. Harry Niese 520-730-6293 han2500@yahoo.com

Friday, December 2, 2022 Big Wash to Oasis [C-/6mi/300'/$0/8am] Park at Admin building and hike 6 miles in loop via Big Wash / Oasis back to admin building. Max Haegele, 43avocet@gmail.com.

CANCELLED. **Friday December 2 , 2022 Coffee Time [D/4mi/50'/$0/8am]** Enter the Oro Valley Hospital parking entrance and drive to the far west end of the parking lot near the medical buildings where the hike will meet. We will hike on a paved path to the coffee shop located in the Encantada apartment complex. The shop offers a variety of coffee creations as well as a selection of teas. Pastries are available. There is some seating just outside the shop, but another option may be available. The hike Is limited to 10. Mask are not required. We will be mindful of general COVID procedures. Contact: Judith Maisch jam4930@yahoo.com.

Saturday, December 3, 2022 Big Wash South Loop [D/4mi/150'/$0/8am] Meet at the new Big Wash Trailhead just South (left) of Del Webb Blvd. on Rancho Vistoso Blvd. (An alternate location will be used if closed for construction). Follow Big Wash and bicycle trails to view construction of new subdivision and ruins of old homestead (scheduled on Saturday to avoid construction traffic). Byron Wolffing, wolffing5@gmail.com.

Monday December 5, 2022 Bug Spring Trail, Lower [C/5mi/1000'/$6/8am] The Bug Spring Trailhead is 7.6 miles up the Mt. Lemmon Highway from the start of the highway. We steadily gain elevation all the way to an area with interesting rock formations, many good for sitting. That's a good snack or early lunch spot before we return. Return time to Sun City may be about 3:00pm, but never guaranteed. Limit 12 hikers. Bob Eschrich, 520-825-1482, HikerBobE@aol.com.

Monday, December 5, 2022 Sabino Phoneline Trail Out and Back [B/10mi/1400'/$4/8am] Meet at the Welcome Center to carpool. Hike from Sabino Canyon parking lot to Phoneline Trailhead. Trail is situated above the canyon providing outstanding views of the canyon and mountains. Hike to the tram stop 9 connection and return. Deb Wehrung, debwehrung@gmail.com.

Tuesday, December 6, 2022 Full Moon Golf Course Hike [D/3+mi/100'/$0/6:30pm] Meet at 6:15 pm between the golf pro shop and the Views Restaurant. We will walk one of the nine-hole courses under the full moon. (Moon rise appears to be later in December)Wear comfortable walking shoes. Flashlights are recommended. Judy Maisch, jam4930@yahoo.com.

Tuesday, December 6, 2022 McDougal Ridge [C/5mi/1300'/$6/7:30am] Starting at 3600 feet this trail off Mt Lemmon Highway will bring the heart rate up. Park at Babat Duag Overlook, hike Babad Duag Trail on southern slope to about 4700', generally paralleling Soldier Canyon. Near our lunch spot we arrive at a location that reminds me of a scene from "The Sound of Music". Past the "End of Trail" sign about 1/3 mile we'll have lunch at a series of waterfalls. Doug Higgins, dahiggins@comcast.net.

Wednesday, December 7, 2022 Board meeting, 3:30 PM, Desert Oasis – Saguaro

Wednesday, December 7, 2022 Tortolita Foothills Stroll [D/4mi/100'/$0/8am] Meet at Desert Oasis parking lot, hike in foothills of Tortolita Mountains. This hike is on State Trust Land, Ron Brillhart, rdbrill6660@gmail.com.

NEW HIKE ADDED. **Wednesday, Dec 7th, 2022. Around the Mountain Trail [B/10mi/1500'/$4/8:00am]** Drive out Golder Ranch Rd to Corrals. Follow the jeep trail down to Sutherland Wash and start on the Middle gate Trail, to 50yr Trail, then NE on Cowboy Slick Rock Trail, to Around the Mountain Trail, to north end of 50YR trail, to Middle Gate cutoff, back to starting point. Along route, Crested Saguaro, Metates and Wonderful views and rock formations. This hike is on State Trust Land. Meet at Welcome Center. Contact: Harry Niese 520-730-6293, han2500@yahoo.com

HIKE IS FULL. **Thursday, December 8, 2022 Ram's Field Pass [C/5mi/700'/$2/8am]** Carpooling required due to shortage of parking at trailhead. Gather at Welcome Center for 8AM departure, ride to trailhead just off CDO Wash and Oracle Rd, hike loop trail to stock tank reservoir, break and return. Limit 10 hikers. Jack Evert, jackevert439@gmail.com.

Thursday, December 8, 2022 Seven Falls and Beyond [B/11mi/1500'/$4/8am] Hike Bear Canyon trail past Seven Falls for 1 ½ miles to big boulders along stream bed; lunch there and return by same route. Laurie Payne, pinklaurie360@gmail.com.

Friday, December 9, 2022 Gabe Zimmerman to AZT North [C/6mi/630'/$9/7:30am] Meet at the Welcome Center to carpool to the Gabe Zimmerman Trailhead (16000 E Marsh Station Rd., Vail). Hike Passage 8 of the Arizona Trail North to the Cinema Creek riparian area with flowing water and several train trestles with frequent trains. Continue hiking for 3 miles, then return to trailhead. Optional short drive after hike to ruins of Titan II missile launch complex/silo with some remaining structures. Byron Wolffing, wolffing5@gmail.com.

Saturday, December 10, 2022 Coffee hike [D/4mi/50'/$0/8am] Enter the Oro Valley Hospital parking entrance and meet at the far west end of the parking lot. We will hike on mostly paved path to the coffee shop located in the Encantada apartment complex. The shop offers a variety of coffee creations as well as a selection of teas. Pastries are available. There is seating just outside the shop. The hike is limited to 10.Jack Evert, jackevert439@gmail.com.

NEW HIKE ADDED. **Monday December 12th, 2022 Petroglyphs from Sutherland Wash [D+C/4mi/450'/$4/8am].** **T**his is the Shortest Route to the Petroglyphs. Drive out Golder Ranch Rd. Turn Right after Cattle Guard crossing. Higher clearance vehicle needed (SUV or Equivalent) to drive one mile road down to north Catalina State Park gate. Road is little rough for only ¼ mile. Hike moderate trail with 450 foot elevation gain to hundreds of Petroglyphs and a dozen Metates. Lunch/Snack and return same. This hike is on State Trust Land.
Contact: Harry Niese 520-730-6293 han2500@yahoo.com

Monday, December 12, 2022 Alamo Canyon Loop [D+/4mi/300'/$2/8am] Hike on north side trail from Romero Ruins start point to canyon precipice and cross over to south side. Continue on (east 300 yards) to flat rock amphitheater area with season stream. Return via south-side route following trails and washes. Several short but moderately steep/rocky sections on trails through washes/canyons descent. Limit 10 hikers. Phil Weinberg, phweinb@gmail.com.

Monday December 12, 2022, Wildlife Corridor and Cottonwood Wash Trails [C/5mi/500'/$5/7:30am] From the Kannally Ranch House in Oracle State Park we will hike the Wildlife Corridor Trail to the Arizona Trail. After a short 0.2 miles on the AZT we take the Cottonwood Wash Trail to the Gasline Road, then the Nature Trail back to our starting point. If the weather is pleasant, we may sit a bit at the Ranch House at the end of the hike for a snack or early lunch. State Park pass or fee required. Limit 12 hikers. Bob Eschrich, 520-825-1482, HikerBobE@aol.com.

HIKE IS FULL. Tuesday, December 13, 2022 Catalina St. Park History Hike [D/4mi/200'/$2/8:30am] Hike three trails in the park and hear about the homesteaders who settled here from 1869 to the 1930s. Limit:15. Jim Williams jaswilliams128@msn.com.

Tuesday, December 13, 2022 Tortolita Flats loop [C/7mi/500'/$0/8am] Meet at Desert Oasis, enter desert via Chalk Creek wash, hike westerly to windmill lunch, and loop return. Jack Evert, jackevert439@gmail.com

Wednesday, December 14, 2022 Wasson Peak Key Exchange [B/10mi/1800'/$6/8am] This hike is in Saguaro West National Park. The key exchange will occur on Wasson Peak, between groups hiking from Sweetwater (end of El Camino del Cerro Rd) and Hugh Norris Trailheads. Kurt will lead the group from El Camino del Cerro and Georgene Porter will lead the other group. You will need a National Park Pass to park at the Hugh Norris Trailhead. Kurt Schulz, kurt.james.schulz@gmail.com.

NEW HIKE ADDED. Wednesday December 14th, 2022 Waterfall Canyon/Ram's Field Pass [C/7mi/950'/$3/8am] Meet at Welcome Center, Drive to Trail Head. Hike a meandering canyon to a spring that feeds a large concrete water tank, then further up the canyon creek to fantastic views of Bighorn Mountain and Table Maintain, and return. Maximum of 7 hikers.
Contact: Harry Niese 520-730-6293 han2500@yahoo.com

Thursday, December 15, 2022 Bridle trail/Romero ruins [D/3mi/102'/$2/7:30am] Meet behind the Welcome Center and car pool to Catalina SP. Park at the west end of the parking lot. Catch the Bridle trail, cross over to Romero Ruin, go up/thru the ruins and return. Julie Cherry jewelscherry@gmail.com.

Thursday, December 15, 2022 Wild Mustang Trail / Alamo Springs Loop [B/12mi/2200'/$3/8am] Meet at welcome center. From Dove Mt. trailhead take Wild Burro Canyon Trail to the Upper Javalina Trail, then up the mountain to Wild Mustang trail. Continue on Wild Mustang trail to Alamo Springs and return via Alamo Springs Trail. Deb Wehrung, debwehrung@gmail.com.

Friday, December 16, 2022 Desperado Loop Sweetwater Preserve [D/4mi/270'/$4/8am] This is NOT the WW Treatment Plant. Meet behind Welcome Center for carpooling/caravan to Tortolita Trailhead and hike this Pima County park. Byron Wolffing, wolffing5@gmail.com.

NEW HIKE ADDED. Friday, December 16, 2022 Loop Trail [E/3mi/<50'/$0/8am] We will start from the parking area in front of Walmart at the Marketplace and walk on the loop trail to the Denny's next to Basis Charter School. After breakfast, return on the same trail. Limit 12. Bob & Leslie Esparza (520) 825-8271.

Saturday, December 17, 2022 Sycamore canyon to Bear Canyon Overlook [B/10 mi/1700'/$6/7:30am] From Gordon Hirabayashi Camp (off Mt. Lemmon Highwy) we hike down Sycamore Canyon Trail, passing the dam and reservoir and onto Bear Canyon Trail to the Overlook. Darrel Cornelius originally took me here. Looking over into Bear Canyon, where lunch will take place, is one of my favorite places in the Santa Catalinas. Doug Higgins dahiggins@comcast.net.

Monday, December 19, 2022, Gould Mine/King Canyon/Esperanza Trails [C/5 mi/800'/$6/7:30am] We park at the King Canyon Trailhead (near the Desert Museum) and hike the King Canyon Trail to the Esperanza Trail, which we take to the Hugh Norris Trail, passing the Gould Mine along the way. We will sit a bit at the Hugh Norris junction, then return on the Esperanza Trail and The Gould Mine Trail. Limit 12 hikers. Bob Eschrich, 520-825-1482, HikerBobE@aol.com.

Monday, December 19, 2022 Orientation Hike [D/3mi/350'/$2/8am[Reservation required. This is a prerequisite hike for joining the SCOV Hiking Club. This hike meets behind the Welcome Center in the parking lot. We will introduce ourselves and then drive to Catalina State Park Equestrian Center. We will hike 1-1/2 miles up the 50 Year Trail and return. State Parks pass required or a $7 entry fee at the gate. Bring sufficient water, wear sturdy shoes or hiking boots, and if you use walking poles bring them as well. Also, a good sun hat. Please contact Gayle Franklin, cactigal50@gmail.com, or Cary Roper at carybayley@gmail.com.

Monday, December 19, 2022 Tortolita Foothills Stroll [D/4mi/200'/$0/8am] Meet at Desert Oasis parking lot, hike in foothills of Tortolita Mountains. This hike is on State Trust Land. Doug Higgins, dahiggins@comcast.net.

Tuesday, December 20, 2022 Romero Pools, Catalina State Park [C/6mi/1400'/$2/8am] Hike Romero Canyon Trail to the upper pools and return by the same route. Kurt Schulz, kurt.james.schulz@gmail.com.

Wednesday, December 21, 2022 Upper Javalina /Cochie Trail [B/10mi/1500'/$3/8am] MEET and Park at Dove Mt. trailhead and take Hotel spur to Upper Javalina trail/Wild Mustang to Cochie trail. Follow Cochie trail to windmill, snack, and return by same route. Ron Brillhart, rdbrill6660@gmail.com.

Thursday, December 22, 2022 Rock Wren, 5thAvenue, Yetman and Starr Pass Loop [C/5mi/400'/$4/8am] Carpool to Starr Pass Trailhead to hike loop of trails through desert and mountain vistas following Rock Wren, 5th Avenue, Yetman and Starr Pass trails. Georgene Porter, gvporter@live.com.

Friday, December 23, 2022 Vision Seeker's Gorge [C/6mi/300'/$3/8am] 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.

NEW HIKE ADDED. Friday, December 23, 2022 Loop Trail [E/3mi/<50'/$0/8am] We will start from the parking area in front of Walmart at the Marketplace and walk on the loop trail to the Denny's next to Basis Charter School. After breakfast, return on the same trail. Limit 10. Bob & Leslie Esparza (520) 825-8271.

Monday, December 26, 2022 Hidden Valley/Bowen House [C/5mi/550'/$6/8:30am] We park near the JW Marriot Starr Pass resort on the southeast side of the Tucson Mountains.(I'll provide driving directions.)We will hike the eastern part of the Hidden Valley Loop, then take the Bowen Trail and the Yetman Trail to the Bowen house. Return to the cars via the western part of the Hidden Valley Loop. Limit 12 hikers. Bob Eschrich, 520-825-1482, HikerBobE@aol.com.

Tuesday, December 27, 2022 Sutherland Wash Petroglyphs [C/7mi/500'/$2/8am] Park cars at the Corral one-half mile from the end of Golders Ranch Rd. Hike a jeep trail down to some big cottonwood trees. Cross the wash and head south on a trail for 1.5 miles to find some petroglyphs and a lunch spot. This hike is on State Trust Land. Max Haegele 43avocet@gmail.com or 818-9178.

Wednesday, December 28, 2022 Black Rock Loop Sweetwater Preserve[D/4mi/300'/$4/8:30am or 9:10am]This is NOT the WW Treatment Plant! Meet behind Welcome Center to Caravan over at 8:30 or meet at Tortolita TH at 9:10 to hike this Tucson Mountain Parks reserve through saguaros/desert landscape with occasional suburban views. Lollipop hike of Saguaro Vista to Black Rock Loop and back to cars. Georgene Porter, gvporter@live.com.

Thursday, December 29, 2022 Bridal Wreath Falls Loop [C+/8mi/1400'/$5/8am] Park at Douglas Spring Trailhead near the east end of Speedway Blvd., take Douglas Springs Trail to Bridal Wreath Falls, eat snack/lunch and return via Three Tank, Wildhorse and Garwood Trails. Nice views above Sugauro National Park East and Tucson. Make no afternoon plans. Doug Higgins dahiggins@comcast.net.

Saturday, December 31, 2022 Hiking club Picnic, Catalina State Park, Flycatcher Group Area, 1130.

HIKE IS FULL. Saturday, December 31, 2022 Alamo Canyon Loop [D/4mi/300'/$2/8:45am] Hike on trail counter-clockwise for a loop from Romero Ruins through trails and washes, a canyon precipice and flat rock amphitheater area with seasonal stream. Several short but moderately steep/rocky sections on trails through washes/canyons descent. Meet behind Welcome Center at 8:45 or in Catalina State Park (state park pass required) ready to start hiking at 9am.Limit 12 hikers; must be vaccinated. Meg Gerken, meg_stuff3@icloud.com.

NEW HIKE ADDED. Saturday, December 31, 2022 CSP Bridle Trail [E/3mi/<50'/$2/9am] Leave Sun City at 9 am, drive to the large group picnic area at Catalina State Park. Walk on the bridle trail to the equestrian center, back to the main trailhead and then return to the picnic area. Bob & Leslie Esparza (520) 825-8271.

Saturday, December 31, 2022 Canada Del Oro Loop [D/4mi/120'/$2/8:45am] Meet at the Equestrian Center in Catalina State Park or arrange carpools among yourselves. Hike the CDO wash and (hopefully) horse trails to Rancho de los Cerros meeting center then return. Byron Wolffing, wolffing5@gmail.com.

Saturday, December 31, 2022 50-Year With Side Trail Loop [D/4mi/400'/$2/9am] Meet behind Welcome Center at 8:45am to caravan or at Equestrian Center in Catalina State Park at 9:00am (need State Park pass). An easy hike along an old jeep road leaving from the Equestrian Center uphill 2 miles and return on a grassy side trail. Georgene Porter, gvporter@live.com.

Saturday, December 31, 2922 Hole in the Rock [D/4mi/350'/$2/9am] Meet at the CSP Flycatcher Group Picnic area or arrange carpools among yourselves. Hike from the picnic area on horse trails past the hole in the rock and back to the picnic area. Millie Sparling, milliesparling79@gmail.com.