

C LEVEL HIKING GROUP - FRIDAYS

Meet at the Eagles Nest clubhouse at 7:15 am, depart at 7:30.

January 4 - Shaw Butte, Trail# 306 (North Mountain Park). Rating C. This is a 5 mile hike with an elevation gain of 780 ft., on a trail in good condition. This is one of the hikes of the Seven Summits of Phoenix Challenge that takes place every year in November. Nice views of the North Phoenix metro area. Overlooks Moon Valley. We also pass the ruins of Cloud Nine, a restaurant from the 1950s & 60s. Trail condition – mostly a good hiking trail, but the climb up to Shaw Butte is steep and on an old road. Restrooms are at the trailhead. There is no park fee. Driving distance is approx 54 miles RT.

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/PhoenixMountainsPreserve/North-Mtn-Shaw-Butte>

January 11 - Competitive Track – Long Loop (Estrella Mountain Regional Park). Rating C+. This is a 9.6 mile loop hike with an elevation gain of 1100 ft. This hike goes through typical desert terrain with lots of Saguaro cactus. The first half of the hike goes up 700 ft very gradually, then starts a slow descent. Trail condition – a good hiking trail. There is a porta-john at the trailhead. Park fee is \$7.00. Driving distance is 26 miles RT.

<https://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/EstrellaMountainRegionalPark>

January 18 - Saddle Mountain Saddle View Trail (Tonopah). Rating C+. This is a 6 mile in-and -out hike with an elevation gain of 1100 ft. The trail goes across the east side of Saddle Mountain to a large canyon with a view of the main saddle. 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 is an open bushwhack along the side of the formation. No restrooms at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is 90 miles.

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

January 25 - South of the Boarder/Old Road/Javalina/Tortuga Trails (Verrado). Rating C/C+. This is a 7.5-9 mile in & out hike with an elevation gain of 1000-1600 ft. The hike goes through typical desert washes and up to a saddle (or optionally to the peak) of the nearest mountain to Pebble Creek. It then goes halfway around the mountain before returning to the trailhead. No park fee. No restrooms at the trailhead. Driving distance is 18 miles RT.

<https://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/WhiteTankMountains-Verrado/Javelina-Summit-Loop>