

Thursday B Hikes for January 2019

Here are your Thursday hikes for January. Be sure and check Pete's weekly emails for hikes and meet/departure times.

Clare

January 3 2019

Ford Canyon/Mesquite Canyon Loop (White Tank Mountains). Rating B, 9.5 mi loop on the starting on the Ford Canyon Trail. Elevation change: 820 ft. Rocky scenic hike along the side of the canyon to large boulders and dam on the wash. Trail continues up onto a ridge. Will then pick up the Mesquite canyon Trail and return near tour starting point. There are restrooms at the trailhead. Park fee is \$7.00 per vehicle. Driving distance is 30 miles RT. [SCG=9.6/2000/4.8]. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/WhiteTankMountainRegionalPark/Ford-Canyon-Mesquite>

January 10

Flat Iron Trail (Superstition Mountains). Rating B+. This is a 7 mile hike, an in and out trip with an elevation change of 2,800ft. The trail starts out with a gradual climb and into switchbacks to Siphon Draw and waterfall area. From there it is a lot of climbing over boulders and steep trail to the top of Flatiron. There is rewarding view at the top. It is recommended that you bring a pair of gloves and long pants for this hike. Driving distance is approx. 120 miles RT. [SCG=6.0/3800/6.3].

January 17

Saddle Mountain Summit (Tonopah). Rating B+. This is a 6 mile in-and -out hike with an elevation gain of 1500 ft. The trail works its way up to a saddle of Saddle Mountain with extensive views to the west (Eagletail Mountains) and south. From the saddle it is a steep bushwhack to the peak over loose material. There are great views of the rugged rock formations that comprise the mountain. Trail condition - the first third of the trail is a very good surface, the second third is steeply uphill, with the final third is along the edge of the formation and is composed of loose stones and very steep. No restrooms at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is 90 miles.

January 24

Marcus Landslide/East End/Tom's Thumb Loop (McDowell Sonoran Preserve) Rating B. This hike combines multiple trails into a "B" level loop of approximately 10.6 miles with 2,100 ft. elevation gain. It first climbs from the north to Tom's Thumb on a short but steep trail and then proceeds south on East End (very steep)-Windmill-Coachwhip-Pemberton-Boulder-Marcus Landslide in a CCW loop, eventually passing in front of the Marcus Landslide area. There are great views to the

east and north including the Superstitions and Four Peaks areas, plus views of impressive granite boulders. No park fee. Restrooms are at the trailhead (no water). Driving distance is 108 miles RT.

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/McDowellSonoranPreserve/Toms-Thumb-Marcus-Landslide>

January 31

Elephant Mountain Loop Spur Cross Rec Area (Cave Creek). Rating B. This is a 10 mile hike with an elevation gain of 1600ft. The hike starts out on the Spur Cross and Tortuga trails. Most of the early trail is very rocky. Besides the view of Elephant Mtn, there is a rock formation that looks like a Buffalo. There are many Saguaro cactus along the trail. Park fee is \$3.) per person. Porta-john at the trailhead. Driving

Distance is 110 miles

RT. [SCG=7.2/1600/4.0].<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/SpurCrossRanchConservationArea/Elephant-Mountain-Trail>

Sent from my iPhone