

C LEVEL HIKING GROUP - MONDAYS

Meet at the Eagles Nest clubhouse at 6:30 am, depart at 6:45.

April 1 - * NEW HIKE **** Wave Cave & Lost Goldmine Trails (Superstitions). Rating C+.** This is a 7 mile two fingered in-n-out hike with an elevation gain of 1300 feet. Starting at the Carney Springs Trailhead, the Wave Cave trail goes up very steeply, on a loose pebble/dirt trail to a cave that has a wave like rock formation in it. From the top of the wave you get great views towards the east side of the Superstitions. You then hike back down to the Lost Goldmine trail and go south (right) for about 2 miles before returning to the trailhead. No restrooms at Carney Springs (Peralta has some a mile further along the road) and no park fee. Driving distance is 140 miles
RT. <https://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/SuperstitionWilderness/Wave-Cave>

April 8 - Brown Mountain Loop (McDowell Sonoran Preserve). Rating C. The Brown Mountain loop is a hike of 6.2 miles with an elevation gain of 1000 ft. There are great views of the surrounding mountains (Weaver's Needle, Four Peaks, Tom's Thumb, etc.) as well as great rock formations along the trail. There are many different cacti species here and late spring could be very colorful after good winter rains. Trail condition - veyr good hiking trail. There is a nice restroom at the trailhead and no park fee. Driving distance is 100 miles RT.
<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/McDowellSonoranPreserve/Brown-Mountain>

April 15 - West Wing Mountain Trail (Peoria). Rating C+. This is a 5 mile hike with an elevation gain of 1100 ft which goes up, down and around the mountain peak. On the South side there are views of the local high-end community as well as views of the West Valley. There are many custom homes at the base of the mountain, including one with what looks like a castle (cabana) and bridge over a moat (pool). On the North side are views of the back of the New River Dam, the green valley behind the dam and mountain vistas beyond that. You hike the first .7 miles through an upscale residential area to get to the trailhead. Watch out for the barking dog head sticking out of the wall! The trail itself is well maintained, but there are several steep areas and numerous scenic overlooks. This hike can best be described as Robson Circle meets Vulture Peak. This is one of the more flexible trails with the optional routes available. It can range from a moderate to challenging C hike. After good winter rains, there would be a wide variety of wildflowers in bloom. Trail condition - overall an average

hiking trail, but has a steep uphill and then a steep downhill section. There is no park fee. Restrooms and water are at the trailhead. Driving distance is 56 miles RT. [SCG=4.5/1100/2.9].

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/CityofPeoria/West-Wing-Mountain>

April 22 - Dragonfly + Metate Loop, Spur Cross Rec Area (Cave Creek). Rating C. This is a 7 mile loop hike with an elevation gain of 800 ft. We head out on the Spur Cross trail to the Metate trail. On the Metate trail there is a forest of very large saguaros. You will cross Cave Creek and travel past the ruins of some houses and an active watering pond. We then go through typical desert terrain for a while. We drop back down into Cave Creek itself. The whole area along the creek is a riparian area, which contains permanent pools of water and lots of vegetation. The trail makes a loop around the Jewel of the Creek Preserve, which contains many different bird species and up to 20 different dragonfly species. We finish with a short rise back up to the road we drove in on and a short walk back to the cars. Trail condition - average hiking trail with a couple of creek crossings. Porta-johns are just past the parking area in the park, and there is a park fee is \$3.00 per person. The Dragonfly trail is free, but the other trails in the area are not. Driving distance is 110 miles RT.

[SCG=5.5/600/2.5]. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/SpurCrossRanchConservationArea/Metate-Dragonfly-Trails>

April 29 - Chuckwagon + Devil's Bridge trails (Sedona). Rating C/B. This is a 7-9.5 mile lollipop loop with a side trip to Devil's Bridge. Elevation gain is 800-1300 ft. This is a very scenic hike in Sedona's red rock country. The side trip to Devil's Bridge is very steep, but the views from the bridge are outstanding. Trail surface - the overall trail is a good bike trail with the quarter mile to the bridge being steep with stair-like steps. Restrooms are at trailhead. There is no park fee with a Senior Parks pass. Driving distance is approx 250 miles RT.

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Category/Devils-Bridge>