



# HIKE SCHEDULE: NOV-DEC 2023

## HIKE RATINGS, PACE AND ELEVATION CHANGE

### Ratings

Ratings are based on the following round-trip distances and accumulated gains in elevation over the course of the hike. The hike rating is determined by one (or both) of the two values being exceeded. For example, if a hike exceeds the criterion for distance but not for corresponding elevation, the rating would be set for distance. In the hike descriptions that follow, both parameter values are exceeded for some hikes. However, that does not necessarily justify a higher combined rating.

| Hike Rating | Distance (miles) | Accumulated Elevation Gain (feet) |
|-------------|------------------|-----------------------------------|
| A           | >14              | >3000                             |
| B           | >8 to 14         | >1500 to 3000                     |
| C           | >4 to 8          | >500 to 1500                      |
| D           | ≤4               | ≤500                              |

### Special Conditions

\*\*\*Some hikes may have special conditions that make a hike more difficult than the mileage/ elevation gain rating would suggest. This could be due to unusual trail conditions, such as a very rocky trail, large steps up or down, or more exposure (steep banks or a cliff) which are present. These hikes are denoted with three asterisks beside the letter rating and will be repeated in the hike description with an explanation. When hikers sign up for a hike with the symbol \*\*\* they should clarify with the guide about the special condition to determine if the hike is right for them.

### Pace

Pace for our hikes is described in terms of the moving average speed in miles per hour (MPH) over the course of a hike. The overall average speed is much more variable, depending on the number and duration of rest breaks and lunch, and the condition of a particular trail (smooth and flat versus rocky and steep). The following four categories are used to describe pace in the hike descriptions. The following four categories are used to describe pace in the newsletter:

| Pace      | Moving Average Speed (MPH) |
|-----------|----------------------------|
| Leisurely | <1.5                       |
| Slow      | 1.5 to <2.0                |
| Moderate  | 2.0 to <2.5                |
| Fast      | ≥2.5                       |

### Elevation Change

Three indicators are used in the hike descriptions to convey hike difficulty as it relates to elevation change:

Net Elevation Change is generally the change in elevation obtained by subtracting the starting elevation from the highest (or lowest) point reached during the course of the hike, in feet. This estimate may be obtained from USGS maps or a global positioning system (GPS). If no destination is listed, which may be the case for loop hikes or point-to-point hikes, net change is defined as the difference between the trailhead elevation and the highest elevation reached during the hike. If net elevation lost between the trailhead and the destination, a minus sign is used to show that elevation is lost. If an elevation profile is available, which applies in this database to mostly the Arizona Trail hikes for which GPS tracks have been generated, the net elevation change is the difference between the highest and lowest points along the trail.

Accumulated Gain is the sum of all upward stretches of a hike as recorded by a GPS device over the course of the entire hike. Accumulated elevation gain is always a more accurate indicator of hike difficulty than net change in elevation.

Accumulated Loss, another measure of hike difficulty, is the sum of all downward stretches of a hike. Accumulated elevation loss is useful for some downhill hikes and is usually obtained with a GPS device.

A cursory critique of the definition for “net elevation change” reveals that it is vague and imprecise and provides limited insight into trail difficulty which is more accurately described in terms of accumulated gain or loss (parameters that are measured by GPSs). However, accumulated gain/loss information is unavailable for many hikes in the database, so net change has, for the time being, been retained because it is the only statistic available.

Accumulated gains are always greater than net elevation changes, except for point-to-point hikes where the destination is at a lower elevation than trailhead elevation. In this case, the accumulated gain could be much lower than the net elevation change. A good example of this is the hike from the top of Mt. Lemmon to Catalina State Park, which actually results in little gain but rather a significant accumulated loss. For loop and out-and-back hikes, accumulated elevation gains are usually greater, sometimes much greater, than net elevation changes.

## **HIKES OFFERED**

**Wednesday, November 1, Wild Horse Canyon. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [483, 07:00 AM, \$8].** The hike begins at the east end of Speedway at the Wild Horse Trailhead, just before the Douglas Springs Trailhead, and passes through part of the cactus forest of the Saguaro National Park – East and into the foothills of the Rincon Mountains. The destination is a small pool and dam in Wild Horse Canyon. Wild Horse Canyon is a rugged and beautiful canyon that can be reached by using a combination of several trails. There are excellent views along the way of the Santa Catalina and Tucson Mountains, and most of the Tucson valley. Hike 6.3 miles; trailhead elevation 2720 feet; net elevation change 1600 feet; accumulated gain 696 feet; RTD 80 miles. [Guide: Marc Humphrey and [humphreymarc@gmail.com](mailto:humphreymarc@gmail.com)]

**Wednesday, November 1, Tucson Downtown Mural Walk. Rating: D. Pace: Moderate [541, 08:00 AM, \$5].** Fun walk around an area of downtown Tucson and north to University. We will visit over 4 dozen beautiful murals along the way. We will also pass the Ronstadt House and the Historic YWCA. Great way to acquaint yourself with Tucson! We will end with lunch at the Cup Cafe in the Historic Congress Hotel. Walk 4 mi, starting elevation 2400 ft, net elevation change < 50 ft, accumulated gain < 50 ft. RTD 50 mi. [Guide: Kathy Minx, [kminx@longrealty.com](mailto:kminx@longrealty.com).]

**Thursday, November 2, Catalina Hills Cleanup Walk. Rating: D. Pace: Moderate [141, 09:00 AM, \$0].** Volunteers are needed for the Trash Cleanup Walk for Catalina Hills Drive which is part of the Arizona Adopt A Highway Program. This is a community service that our club provides for SaddleBrooke and for Arizona. The walk will only take an hour to an hour and a half of your time. Trash bags and safety vests are provided by the Pinal County Highway Dept. Volunteers should wear long pants and shirts and bring

gloves. A pickup stick will be provided. Volunteers will meet in the usual location at the MVCC parking lot. [Guide: Walt Shields, [waltshields@mac.com](mailto:waltshields@mac.com), 520-404-8998.]

**Friday, November 3, Dripping Springs from the Sutherland Trail. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [172, 08:00 AM, \$2 + \$2].** From the main trailhead at the east end of Catalina State Park, the hike follows the Sutherland Trail past the wilderness sign, and then turns toward Dripping Springs at a Sutherland Trail sign. There are large rocks placed in a row on the right (east) side of the Sutherland Trail. Much of the trail is sandy and there may be several water crossings. After entering the wilderness area, the trail is somewhat rocky. An old abandoned mine is visible to the left of the canyon. Keep to the left at a trail junction for lower Romero Canyon, which can be visited later. Hike 4.2 miles; trailhead elevation 2700 feet; net elevation change 475 feet; accumulated gain 475 feet; RTD 24 miles. [Guide: Terry McCarthy [t.mccarthy410@gmail.com](mailto:t.mccarthy410@gmail.com)]

**Friday, November 3, SBHC Fall Picnic at Catalina State Park [Gila Monster Picnic Area @ 11:30am]**

**Monday, November 6, Bug Spring Trail No.1. Rating: B. Pace: Moderate [125, 08:00 AM, \$9].** From the Lower Bug Spring Trailhead (a quarter mile up the Catalina Highway from Hirabayashi Campground), the hike proceeds southeast along a narrow ribbon of trail carved into the granite hillside. After an uphill set of switchbacks, the terrain mellows out with outstanding vistas and views of granite sculptures. The trail dives down the north side of the ridge into a heavily forested drainage. Upward to the highpoint of the trail, you can see a few big madrone trees and views of the Sierrita Mountains, Baboquivari and the mighty Rincons. The trail descends steeply to the Upper Bug Spring Trailhead (a quarter mile south of General Hitchcock Campground), which is the turnaround point. Return is via the same trail. Hike 8.7 miles; trailhead elevation 5000 feet; net elevation change 1625 feet; accumulated gain 2270 feet; RTD 94 miles. [Guide: Seth Basker, [seth@basker.com](mailto:seth@basker.com)]

**Monday, November 6, Esperero Canyon/Rattlesnake/Bluff Loop Trail. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [427, 07:45 AM, \$6].** From the Sabino Canyon Visitor Center, the hike proceeds along the Esperero Canyon/Rattlesnake Canyon trails to the Bluff Trail overlooking Sabino Creek, and is a favorite with views of the canyon and Sabino Creek with velvet ash, cottonwood, willow, and Arizona sycamore trees. Our break will be at the Sabino Dam. We will finish on the Bajada Nature loop with a beautiful crested saguaro. Bring a camera and plenty of water and a snack. Hike 4.6 miles; trailhead elevation 2705 feet; net elevation change 240 feet; accumulated gain 367 feet; RTD 56 miles. [Guide: Bruce Landeck, email: [bflandeck@gmail.com](mailto:bflandeck@gmail.com)]

**Monday, November 6, Sutherland Trail. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [428, 08:00 AM, \$2 + \$2].** The Sutherland is a great trail for viewing wildflowers after adequate winter rains. Along the way, there are several beautiful saguaro cacti and great rock formations. There are numerous photo opportunities. We will also pass the cutoff to Dripping Springs which makes a nice short side trip if the waterfalls are flowing. The hike begins in Catalina State Park and ends at a very scenic, flat, rocky area. The return is via same route. Hike 5.4 miles; trailhead elevation 2700 feet; net elevation change 657 feet; accumulated gain 818 feet; RTD 24 miles. [Guide: Terry McCarthy (404) 617-7286 e-mail: [t.mccarthy410@gmail.com](mailto:t.mccarthy410@gmail.com)]

**Tuesday, November 7, Sabino Canyon - Bear Canyon Loop (no Tram). Rating: A. Pace: Moderate [374, 06:00 AM, \$6].** Starting at the Sabino Canyon Visitor Center, hikers follow the Phone Line and Sabino Canyon Trails to the East Fork intersection, the East Fork to the Bear/Sycamore intersection and then the Bear Canyon Trail past Seven Falls, back to the Visitor Center. We may have to revise the route if the stream is high in Bear Canyon. This is a very scenic hike on good trails. Hike 17.5 miles; trailhead elevation 2720 feet; net elevation change 2683 feet; accumulated gain 3070 feet; RTD 56 miles. [Guide: Margaret Valair [mvalair140.6@gmail.com](mailto:mvalair140.6@gmail.com)]

**Tuesday, November 7, Garwood Dam/Wildhorse Tank Loop. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [198, 08:00 AM, \$8].** From the end of Speedway on the east side of Tucson we enter Saguaro National Park East. Following several trail that circle Wildhorse Trail (but never actually on it) we make our way south to a junction with the Garwood Trail and turn south to visit the site of the old Garwood Dam. We then take Carillo Trail to intersection with the Wildhorse Trail turning south to reach the pools of Wildhorse Tank. We

return on the Garwood Trail to resume our loop hike back to the parking area. After the hike we will have lunch at Tanque Verde Guest Ranch which is across the street from our parking area. Limited to 8 hikers. Bring plenty of water and a snack. Hike 6.0 miles; trailhead elevation 2770; net elevation change 470 feet; accumulated gain 740 feet; RTD 80 miles. [Guide: Ruth Caldwell, [azcaldwell3@gmail.com](mailto:azcaldwell3@gmail.com).]

**Wednesday, November 8, Josephine Saddle via Super Trail and Vault Mine Trail. Rating: B. Pace: Moderate [239, 08:00 AM, \$13].** The hike begins in Madera Canyon (Santa Rita Mountains) and goes up the gentle Super Trail to Josephine Saddle. We then take the Agua Caliente Trail across and return via Vault Mine Trail. The Vault Mine Trail is very steep going down. The hike may be done in reverse. The trail is mostly in the shade. Hike 7.9 miles; trailhead elevation 5450 feet; net elevation change 2000 feet; accumulated gain \_\_\_ feet; RTD 130 miles. There is a fee for parking unless you have a National Park Pass that must be displayed. [Guide: Melia Knecht, [melia.knechtak1@gmail.com](mailto:melia.knechtak1@gmail.com)]

**Wednesday, November 8, Flag, Dome Rock and Extension Trail. Rating: C\*\*\*. Pace: Moderate [548, 08:00 AM, \$0].** This hike has been given \*\*\* due to several steep climbs along the route. Be prepared to climb; it will get you breathing heavily and your heart pumping. This hike begins on the Double Crested/Dome Trail from the south end of S Arroyo Way in Unit 21. We will meet at Mountain View and carpool to the trailhead. Please do not drive to the trailhead. We cross Canada del Oro Wash, and then follow the newly developed route east through a small wash, and along several ridgelines. The route breaks off of the Dome Rock Trail and goes north to the Flag Hill Lookout. After a short break the hike continues east meeting up with the Dome Extension Trail. At the intersection of the Extension Trail the hike progresses north and east along the ridgeline and around to the back side of Dome Rock. After a short break on The Dome we return towards the trailhead. On the return we pass a rare double crested saguaro registered with the Crested Saguaro Society. On top of the Flag Hill Lookout and Dome Rock there are great 360-degree views of Saddlebrooke and Catalina. Hike 5 miles; trailhead elevation 3200 feet; net elevation change 750 feet; accumulated gain 800 feet; RTD 0 miles. [Guide: Tom Stafford, [tominpoint@gmail.com](mailto:tominpoint@gmail.com)]

**Thursday, November 9, Arizona Trail: Redington Pass - La Milagrosa Ridge Trail. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [62, 07:30 AM, \$9].** The hike begins at Molino Basin Campground on the Catalina Hwy and involves traversing a portion of AZT Passage 10. We hike south on the Arizona Trail, traversing 600 feet up the Molino Ridge (high point el. 4800 feet). It is mostly down hill as we reach the junction for the Milagrosa Ridge Trail, and continue along an up-and-down ridge to the vehicles at Horsehead Road (near Soldier Trail Road). There are great views along the way of the valley and sheer rock walls of Milagrosa and Agua Caliente Canyons. The trail is mostly good with a few rocky areas. Cars will need to be left at Horsehead Road (el. 2700 feet) and driven back to Molino Basin, 7 miles away. Hike 7.8 miles; trailhead elevation 4300 feet; net elevation change minus 1600 feet; accumulated gain 900 feet; elevation loss 2500 feet; RTD 88 miles. [Guide: Jim Solon, [jsolon3680@aol.com](mailto:jsolon3680@aol.com)]

**Thursday, November 9, Brown Mountain. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [124, 07:00 AM, \$7].** The Brown Mountain Trail is along a ridge in the heart of the Tucson Mountains. It starts at a trailhead on McCain Loop Road, just south of Kinney Road east of the Arizona Sonoran Desert Museum. Along this ridge ramble are excellent views of the mountains, valleys, and desert vegetation. The route has many up and downs. Hike 5 miles; trailhead elevation 2700 (trailheads at either end are 2640 and 2880) feet; net elevation change 424 feet; accumulated gain 943 feet; RTD 73 miles. [Guide: Marc Humphrey and [humphreymarc@gmail.com](mailto:humphreymarc@gmail.com)]

**Friday, November 10, American Flag. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [8, 08:00 AM, \$4].** The hike begins at the American Flag Trailhead on the old Mt. Lemmon Road and covers a section of the Arizona Trail. Hikers take the American Flag/Cody Trail to its intersection with the Oracle Ridge Trail, where there are great views to the west of Biosphere II and the Tortolitas. On the return, we may swing by the grounds of La Casa del High Jinks, the site where Bill Cody staked his gold mine in 1912. Hike 6.7 miles; trailhead elevation 4400 feet; net elevation change 995 feet; accumulated gain 1267 feet; RTD 41 miles. [Guide: Bruce J Olson 920-205-6963 [brucei0506@gmail.com](mailto:brucei0506@gmail.com)]

**Monday, November 13, Sutherland Wash Petroglyphs loop from Golder Ranch. Rating: C\*\*\*. Pace: Moderate [186, 08:00 AM, \$2].** This hike begins at Golder Ranch. It takes us on a grand circle tour of four concentrations of ancient petroglyphs located west of Baby Jesus Ridge near the Sutherland Wash. The Sutherland Wash Rock Art District is a special place right in our backyard and is on the National Historic Register. Hohokam petroglyphs dating from 900 AD to 1300 AD number in the thousands on the western slope of the Santa Catalina Mountains. Along our hike we will see beautiful saguaros, seasonal wildflowers, and beautiful vistas of Pusch Ridge. \*\*\*The hike involves a few short, steep, rocky sections of trail, some rock scrambling, and a short section of mild bushwhacking. There are also two crossings of a wash which may involve some easy rock-hopping depending on the season. Bring a lunch or snack to enjoy while we rest in the shade of some giant boulders at one of the petroglyph locations. Hike 6.0 miles; trailhead elevation 3200 feet; net elevation change 250 feet; accumulated gain 800 feet; RTD 10 miles. This hike is on or crosses Arizona State Trust Land: The Arizona Land Department's trust management responsibilities include requiring a permit or lease and charging a fee for use of Trust land. Please note that Trust Land is private (not public) and requires a recreation permit for hiking which can be obtained through the state land department. Starting the hike from this parking location avoids the need for high clearance vehicles. [Guide: Ruth Caldwell, [azcaldwell3@gmail.com](mailto:azcaldwell3@gmail.com).]

**Monday, November 13, Sweetwater Preserve (short version). Rating: D. Pace: Moderate [507, 09:00 AM, \$6].** The trailhead is at the end of Tortolita Road, one mile off El Camino del Cerro. The 703-acre preserve is in the Tucson Mountains (this is not the Sweetwater Trail which leads to Wasson Peak.) There is a system of trails within the park made in 2008 by a crew of Piima County trail builders. It consists of 12 distinct loops and paths that interconnect so they can be linked together. Each trail is 0.5 to 1.5 miles in length. A map of the area may be found on the website ([www.sdmb.org/trail-Sweetwater.html](http://www.sdmb.org/trail-Sweetwater.html)). Hike 4.1 miles; trailhead elevation 2464 feet; net elevation change 220 feet; accumulated gain 310 feet; RTD 60 miles. [Guide: Walt Shields, 520-404-8998, [waltshields@mac.com](mailto:waltshields@mac.com).]

**Tuesday, November 14, Wasson Peak via Sweetwater Trail. Rating: B. Pace: Moderate [481, 08:00 AM, \$6].** The hike begins at the trailhead at the end of El Camino del Cerro (the west extension of Ruthrouff Road) on the east side of the Tucson Mountains. From there we hike on the Sweetwater Trail through some of the prettiest saguaro forests in the area. Along the way there will be good views of Tucson and Wasson Peak. At the saddle where the trail joins the King Canyon trail we continue up to Wasson Peak. Views are spectacular from this highest point in the Tucson Mountains. There is little shade along the way. Bring plenty of water and sun protection. Hike 9.4 miles; trailhead elevation 2800 feet; net elevation change 1887; accumulated gain 2329 feet; RTD 60 miles. [Guide: Seth Basker, [seth@basker.com](mailto:seth@basker.com).]

**Tuesday, November 14, Middle Gate Meander. Rating: D. Pace: Moderate [524, 08:00 AM, \$4].** This is a pleasant hike from the Upper Corral parking lot to the Middle Gate using mostly social trails. The route largely avoids the busy 50 Year trail except for a 0.4 mile stretch. This is a relatively flat hike with great, open views of Samaniego, Pusch, and Baby Jesus Ridges. Hike 4.0 miles; trailhead elevation 3260 feet; net elevation change 160 feet; accumulated gain 290 feet; RTD 10 miles (dirt). This hike is on or crosses Arizona State Trust Land: "The Arizona Land Department's trust management responsibilities include requiring a permit or lease and charging a fee for use of Trust land." Please note that Trust Land is private (not public) and requires a recreation permit for hiking which can be obtained through the state land department. [Guide: Tim Butler, [tucsontimmer@gmail.com](mailto:tucsontimmer@gmail.com)]

**Wednesday, November 15, Arizona Trail: Work Session. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [87, 07:30 AM, \$4 Paid by club].** Come and join the fun — it's nice to work side by side with other hiking club members, as we help maintain the "Oracle Passage" section of the Arizona National Scenic Trail. This 6.5 mile section starts at the American Flag TH, ambles through washes and across low ridges speckled with high desert plants just east of Oracle State Park south to Highway 77. Generally, the work is light, and involves clipping, brushing, raking, pruning, building cairns and developing/clearing erosion control devices. Bring along defensive clothing, gloves, hat, sunscreen, and water. Tools, hard hats and refreshments will be provided. The work session usually lasts about 3.5 hours. Hike 3-4 miles. RTD 41 miles. The club will pay the \$4 driver donation. [Guide: Seana Kobak, [seanabk88@gmail.com](mailto:seanabk88@gmail.com), or Ray Peale, [ray.peale@gmail.com](mailto:ray.peale@gmail.com)]

**Wednesday, November 15, SBHC Program @4pm HOA#1 Activity Center**

**Thursday, November 16, Tanque Verde Ridge Trail - Part Way. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [444, 07:00 AM, \$8].** The hike begins at the Javalina picnic area in Saguaro National Park – East, and is a picturesque hike in the Rincon Mountains with tremendous views of Tucson and the surrounding area. We hike east up to and along the Tanque Verde Ridge and turn around at about 3 miles (by a crested saguaro.) The hike is somewhat steep at some points, but there are great photo stops along the way. Hike 5.6 miles; trailhead elevation 3120 feet; net elevation change 1300 feet; accumulated gain 1646 feet; RTD 82 miles. [Guide: Marc Humphrey and [humphreymarc@gmail.com](mailto:humphreymarc@gmail.com)]

**Thursday, November 16, Alamo Canyon Up/Back or Loop. Rating: D. Pace: Moderate [6, 08:00 AM, \$2 + \$2].** The hike begins at the Romero Ruins Trailhead in Catalina State Park. This hike can be done on north side trail in-out or as a loop around Alamo Canyon going up one side and returning down the other (clockwise or counter-clockwise). Other than one short area by the wash, the elevation change is generally gradual. The south-side trail traverses several rocky washes. This is a lovely hike up to Alamo Canyon Falls and return. There is a very scenic large flat-rock area above the falls. Water may be present in the canyon after rainy periods, but there are no significant water crossings. Hikers may stop by the Romero Ruins and take the informative loop trail from there. Hike 3.5 miles; trailhead elevation 2700 feet; net elevation change 360 feet; accumulated gain 429 feet; RTD 24 miles. [Guide: Rob Simms ... [Spartan7375@gmail.com](mailto:Spartan7375@gmail.com) ]

**Friday, November 17, Barrio Viejo Cultural & Historic Walking Tour, Rating: D. Pace: Moderate [NEW, 9:00 AM, \$5].** An interesting walk thru Barrio Viejo; the largest 19th century collection of adobe buildings and best preserved Barrio in the United States. This will be a cultural & historical walk; through neighborhood residences, art studios and galleries, and markets-restaurants. Along the way we will see colorful murals and shrines both old and new. Key landmarks include; Teatro Carmen, El Pacque de San Cosme, El Tiradito, The Wishing Shrine, and location of early Tucson's Public Baths & Gardens. The walk will leave Saddlebrooke and begin at the 5 Points Market in Barrio Viejo. We will take a lunch break at one of the local eateries. Our walk is 3.5 miles, starting elevation 2400 ft, net elevation gain 50 feet, accumulated gain 50 ft. RTD 50 Mi. [Guide: Carol Olson 920-277-7687 [carolson3855@gmail.com](mailto:carolson3855@gmail.com)]

**Friday, November 17, CCP Chutes Gem and Cowboy Slickrock, Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [New, 08:00 AM, \$0]** From Catalina County Park, just south of Miraval Resort, we will follow some local trails that approach Miraval, then turn southeast to climb up to The Chutes network of trails, connect to the Gem trail, the 50 Year Trail, the Cowboy Slickrock trail, and finally to a view of Hidden Canyon. At about 3.5 miles we will stop for a snack and return on a similar route. Hike 7.0 miles, accumulated gain 800 feet. RTD 5 miles. This hike is on or crosses Arizona State Trust Land: The Arizona Land Department's trust management responsibilities include requiring a permit or lease and charging a fee for use of Trust land. Please note that Trust Land is private (not public) and requires a recreation permit for hiking which can be obtained through the state land department (<https://land.az.gov/applications-permits>). [Guide: Susan Hollis and Randy Park, [rparktucson@gmail.com](mailto:rparktucson@gmail.com)]

**Monday, November 20, Pair O' Chutes. Rating: D. Pace: Moderate [540, 08:00 AM, \$4].** Nice hike with some rolling hills from the Upper Corral parking area. This hike combines a couple of the "Chutes" trails in the northwestern part of the 50 Year trail area. There are great views of the Catalina mountains as we hike north before circling back along a ridge and then return on a trail alongside some beautiful juniper trees. This hike begins and ends on Arizona State Trust Land. Please note that Trust Land is private (not public) and requires a recreation permit for hiking which can be obtained through the state land department. Hike 4.0 mi, trailhead elevation 3260 ft., net elevation change 175 ft., accumulated gain 340 ft. RTD 10 mi (dirt). [Guide: Tim Butler, [tucsontimmer@gmail.com](mailto:tucsontimmer@gmail.com)]

**Tuesday, November 21, Tour de Tortolitas: Loop of Alamo Springs Trail, Ridgeline Trail, Loop Trail, Wild Burro, and Wild Mustang Trail. Rating: A. Pace: Moderate [171, 06:00 AM, \$4].** From the Ritz Carlton hiker parking lot, proceed through Wild Burro wash and Lower Javalina Trail to Alamo Spring Trail. Follow Alamo Springs Trail to the Ridgeline Trail. Return on the Loop Trail, a segment of the Wild Burro Trail, and the Wild Mustang Trail, returning to the parking lot down the Upper Javalina Trail and Hotel spur trail. Hike 15.5 miles; trailhead elevation 3000; net elevation change 1449 feet; accumulated gain 3216 feet; RTD 44 miles [Guide: Margaret Valair [mvalair140.6@gmail.com](mailto:mvalair140.6@gmail.com)]

**Tuesday, November 21, Dripping Springs from the Sutherland Trail. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [172, 08:00 AM, \$2 + \$2].** From the main trailhead at the east end of Catalina State Park, the hike follows the Sutherland Trail past the wilderness sign, and then turns toward Dripping Springs at a Sutherland Trail sign. There are large rocks placed in a row on the right (east) side of the Sutherland Trail. Much of the trail is sandy and there may be several water crossings. After entering the wilderness area, the trail is somewhat rocky. An old abandoned mine is visible to the left of the canyon. Keep to the left at a trail junction for lower Romero Canyon, which can be visited later. Hike 4.2 miles; trailhead elevation 2700 feet; net elevation change 475 feet; accumulated gain 475 feet; RTD 24 miles. [Guide: Bruce Landeck, [bflandeck@gmail.com](mailto:bflandeck@gmail.com).]

**Tuesday, November 21, History Hike: The Sutherlands. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate. [8:00 am, \$2]** From the Catalina State Park north gate, the hike proceeds into CSP to see the adobe remains of William H. Sutherland's homestead, his hand-dug well, and nearby old Rail N corrals and signed water trough. The group then drives north to E. Equestrian Trail road to hike into Sutherland Wash to see the Cottonwoods (Mystery) Dam and the down-stream stone reservoir (William Ray Sutherland). The sites of Frank's and William Ray's homesteads will also be noted. Local historian (and longtime hiking club member) Bob Simpson will be providing narration during the hike. NOTE: This hike will depend on a sufficient number of drivers with high clearance vehicles for the road to the north entrance of Catalina State Park. This hike is on or crosses Arizona State Trust Land: The Arizona Land Department's trust management responsibilities include requiring a permit and charging a fee for use of Trust land. Please note that Trust Land is private (not public) and requires a recreation permit for hiking which can be obtained through the state land department. Hike approx. two miles with minimal elevation gain, trailhead elevation 3,200 ft. RTD 10 miles. [Guide: Terry McCarthy [t.mccarthy410@gmail.com](mailto:t.mccarthy410@gmail.com) (404) 617-7286]

**Wednesday, November 22, Painted Hills: Tucson Mountains. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [NEW, 9:00 AM, \$5].** This hike is a loop traverse around the Painted Hills Preserve which is a pretty park off Anklam Road on the westside of Tucson. Here we will also climb up & back on spur trails to these two summits, Bactrian Summit (140 feet to 2760', .4 mile extra) & Recoil Peak (85 feet to 2705', .4 mile extra). This is a pleasant morning trek to a new area for our club to hike in the Tucson Mountains. Hike 4.8 miles; trailhead elevation 2583 feet; net elevation differential 200 feet; accumulated gain 535 feet; RTD 53 miles. [Guide: Aaron Schoenberg [askus3@centurylink.net](mailto:askus3@centurylink.net)]

**Monday, November 27, Fifty-Year Trail Area Loop – Long Version. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [185, 08:00 AM, \$4].** The hike begins at the Lower Corral then follows Middle Gate trail to the Grand Junction. Hikers proceed north on the Middle Gate trail to the Middle Gate/Upper Fifty Year trail intersection in the Sutherland Wash. At that point the route goes north on the Upper Fifty Year trail, passing a classic crested saguaro as the trail climbs steeply up a ridge. This portion of the hike is a difficult 0.8 mile stretch - very steep with loose rock. The lunch spot is a large flat slick rock area near the top of the Upper Fifty Year loop. The return is via the west side of the Fifty-Year Trail loop. There are beautiful saguaros and rock formations, in addition to excellent views of SaddleBrooke, Sun City, and the Tortolitas. The hike may be done in reverse. Hike 5.6 miles; trailhead elevation 3200 feet; net elevation change 425 feet; accumulated gain 934 feet; RTD 12 miles (dirt). A medium to high clearance vehicle is required for driving on the Forest Service road beyond N. Equestrian Trail. This hike is on or crosses Arizona State Trust Land: The Arizona Land Department's trust management responsibilities include requiring a permit or lease and charging a fee for use of Trust land. Please note that Trust Land is private (not public) and requires a recreation permit for hiking which can be obtained through the state land department. [Guide: Tim Butler, [tucsontimmer@gmail.com](mailto:tucsontimmer@gmail.com)]

**Tuesday, November 28, Picket Post Loop Trail. Rating: B. Pace: Moderate [530, 07:30am AM, \$15].** This scenic trail loops around Picket Post Mountain near Superior, AZ. The first half of the hike features an undulating desert landscape with large saguaros and granite formations, against the backdrop of the towering and colorful cliffs of Picket Post Mountain. The second half journeys through Telegraph Canyon, a seasonal wetland with grasses, perennials, and a canopy of giant cottonwood and willow trees, perhaps one of the best riparian habitats in southern Arizona. We will pass ancient grinding holes, and boulders a hundred feet in diameter that have fallen from the shear cliffs above. Although classified as an easy B level hike according to distance, the accumulated gain is moderate, making this suitable for any strong C

level hiker. See video, <https://www.relive.cc/view/vMv8QLD1yNO> Hike 9.1 miles; trailhead elevation 2400 feet; net elevation change 482 feet; accumulated gain 787 feet; RTD 146 miles. [Guide: Jim Solon, [jsolon3680@aol.com](mailto:jsolon3680@aol.com)]

**Wednesday, November 29, Rams Creek Basin Short Version Rating: C. Pace: Slow [NEW, 09:00 AM, \$2]** This is a shorter version of the popular Rams Creek Basin hike but it affords most of the same beautiful scenery. From the Rams Creek subdivision, we hike up a canyon with stands of giant saguaros and stunning mountain views. There are several steep sections which are suitable for strong D hikers or C hikers. Poles are recommended. At the top of the climb there is a large water tank where we turn around. The return is by a slightly different route. Hike 3.5 miles; trailhead elevation 2,600 feet; net elevation change 523 feet; accumulated gain 563 feet; RTD 21 miles. [Guide: Walt Shields, [waltshields@mac.com](mailto:waltshields@mac.com), 520-404-8998.]

**Thursday, November 30, Bridal Wreath Falls Loop. Rating: C\*\*\*. Pace: Moderate [119, 07:00 AM, \$8]**. The Douglas Spring Trailhead is located at the east end of Speedway Blvd. The hike involves some relatively steep climbing up the Douglas Spring Trail for the first 2.5 miles, before turning off on the 0.3 mile spur leading to the falls.\*\*\* The trail is well used and easy to follow, but does require some rock scrambling to reach the falls. We return via the Douglas Spring trail for 0.3 miles, and then take the Three Tanks Trail to the Garwood Trail that joins the Douglas Spring Trail only 0.3 mile from the trailhead. Water may be flowing over the falls if there has been sufficient rainfall. Hike 7.8 miles; trailhead elevation 2720 feet; net elevation change 1050 feet; accumulated gain 1368 feet; RTD 80 miles. [Guide: Marc Humphrey and [humphreymarc@gmail.com](mailto:humphreymarc@gmail.com).]

**Thursday, November 30, Stone House Ruins and Rancheria Spring Loop. Rating C\*\*\*. Pace: Moderate. [NEW, 08:00 AM, \$0]**. The Trailhead is located at the south end of S. Desert Sky Lane in the Preserve. We will carpool from the usual meeting spot at Mountain View. Please do not drive to the Trailhead location. This is an out and back hike with a short loop in the middle. The special condition designation of \*\*\* for this hike is due to the steep climb up the bare rock surface to the top of Titanic Rock. The trail begins by following the route up to the top of Titanic Rock where you have great views of the Preserve, Biosphere and CDO. After taking a short break on the top of Titanic Rock, the hike continues east for about a mile to the remnants of an old stone structure presumably used by ranchers working the foothills of the Catalinas. From the Ruins the hike loops around to Rancheria Spring. Rancheria Spring, while still containing water, had been used as a water source for cattle and other desert animals. The Spring can be found on maps as far back as the 1920s. The hike continues back to Titanic Rock and loops around the south side of Titanic Rock meeting up with the original route. The hike then returns to the trailhead at Desert Sky Lane. Hike 3.8 miles; trailhead elevation 3285 feet; net elevation change 693 feet; accumulated gain 827 feet. RTD 0 miles. [Guide: Tom Stafford [tominpoint@gmail.com](mailto:tominpoint@gmail.com)]

**Friday, December 1, History Hike: Charouleau Ranch and Dodge Tank. Rating: C\*\*\*. Pace: Moderate. [NEW, 9:00 AM, \$1]**. Learn the history of Pierre Charouleau's Cañada del Oro Ranch dating from the early 1880s. From Edwin Road see the new vineyard on the Ranch's southwest corner before parking near the adobe remains known locally (and incorrectly) as "the old stagecoach stop." Hike up scenic Dodge Wash to Charouleau's double-walled dam/reservoir (today called Dodge Tank). See the dramatic alteration in terrain resulting from later dam modifications by Lloyd Golder III. Climb to the top of Edwin Road with beautiful views of the rugged and rocky Dodge Canyon area and north to Biosphere 2. \*\*\*Portions of the hike require significant boulder scrambling and traversing slopes made slippery by loose decomposed granite. Only persons with good balance and body strength, preferably with experience in this type of hiking, should apply. Hike narration provided by local historian (and longtime club member) Bob Simpson. Hike approximately 2.0 miles. Elevation gain 212 feet. [Terry McCarthy [t.mccarthy410@gmail.com](mailto:t.mccarthy410@gmail.com)]

**Monday, December 4, Sweetwater Trail to the Saddle. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [434, 08:00 AM, \$6]**. The hike begins from the trailhead at the end of El Camino del Cerro on the east side of the Tucson Mountains. The trail passes through some of the prettiest saguaro forests in the area. Along the way there are good views of Tucson and Wasson Peak. The hike reaches a saddle where the trail joins the King Canyon Trail and returns. The King Canyon Trail, an alternate route to Wasson Peak, leads up from the



Desert Museum on the west side of the Tucson. We will have lunch at the saddle before heading back to the trailhead. Hike 6.8 miles; trailhead elevation 2800 feet; net elevation change 1200 feet; accumulated gain \_\_\_ feet; RTD 60 miles. [Guide: Jim Solon, [jsolon3680@aol.com](mailto:jsolon3680@aol.com)]

**Monday, December 4, Tucson Downtown Mural Walk. Rating: D. Pace: Moderate [541, 08:00 AM, \$5].** Fun walk around an area of downtown Tucson and north to University. We will visit over 4 dozen beautiful murals along the way. We will also pass the Ronstadt House and the Historic YWCA. Great way to acquaint yourself with Tucson! We will end with lunch at the Cup Cafe in the Historic Congress Hotel. Walk 4 mi, starting elevation 2400 ft, net elevation change < 50 ft, accumulated gain < 50 ft. RTD 50 mi. [Guide: Ruth Caldwell, [azcaldwell3@gmail.com](mailto:azcaldwell3@gmail.com).]

**Tuesday, December 5, Sutherland Trail. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [428, 08:00 AM, \$2 + \$2].** The Sutherland is a great trail for viewing wildflowers after adequate winter rains. Along the way, there are several beautiful saguaro cacti and great rock formations. There are numerous photo opportunities. We will also pass the cutoff to Dripping Springs which makes a nice short side trip if the waterfalls are flowing. The hike begins in Catalina State Park and ends at a very scenic, flat, rocky area. The return is via same route. Hike 5.4 miles; trailhead elevation 2700 feet; net elevation change 657 feet; accumulated gain 818 feet; RTD 24 miles. [Guide: Rob Simms ... [Spartan7375@gmail.com](mailto:Spartan7375@gmail.com) ]

**Wednesday, December 6, Board of Directors Meeting [2pm-3:30pm in the Catalina Room in HOA #1 downstairs]**

**Wednesday, December 6, Guide Meeting [3:30pm-5pm in the Catalina Room in HOA #1 downstairs]**

**Thursday, December 7, Hutch's Pool. Rating: B\*\*\*. Pace: Moderate [227, 07:15 AM, \$6 + \$15 tram].** Hikers will take the Sabino Canyon tram (\$15 fee required) to the trailhead at its last stop up the canyon. After a moderately steep but brief climb out of the canyon, the trail is mostly level but involves several stream crossings along the East and West Forks before reaching the pool. \*\*\*Some boulder hopping may be necessary depending on seasonal rains and winter snow melt on Mt. Lemmon. During periods of heavy rain or significant snow melt, the crossings can be difficult. Ask the guide about current stream flow conditions. This lovely hike will take the group to a permanent pool surrounded by giant Arizona Cypress trees, which is a great place for a snack or lunch. The return is via the same route to the trailhead to catch the tram. Hike 8.2 miles; trailhead elevation 3300 feet; net elevation change 550 feet; accumulated gain 1386 feet; RTD 56 miles. [Guide: Marc Humphrey and [humphreymarc@gmail.com](mailto:humphreymarc@gmail.com).]

**Thursday, December 7, Historical Walking Tour of Downtown Tucson. Rating: D. Pace: Moderate [517, 09:00 AM, \$5].** Tucson has a unique and colorful history. This walking tour begins at the Mercado where we will take the trolley into the downtown area to walk the "Turquoise Trail." The trail encompasses many of the historical buildings and sites that define Tucson. We will visit the newly opened Tucson Visitors Center and its cultural displays. The tour is 2.8 miles and will last approximately 3 hours. At the conclusion we will take the trolley back to the Mercado and enjoy traditional local cuisine. The tour will be limited to 16. RTD 51 miles. [Guide: Walt Shields, [waltshields@mac.com](mailto:waltshields@mac.com), 520-404-8998.]

**Friday, December 8, OSP Arizona Trail/Windmill Loop. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [512, 08:00 AM, \$3].** From the Arizona Trail parking lot at Highway 77 and Tiger Mine Road, we follow the Arizona Trail 1 mile south to the Windmill Loop. The Windmill loop follows a 2 mile scenic ridgeline (with abundant wildflowers and mariposa lilies in the spring) to Kannally Wash. We follow the wash 1 mile west to the Windmill. From the Windmill we hike the Arizona Trail 2.7 miles north to the parking lot at 77. Hike 6.8 miles; trailhead elevation: 3741 feet; 1214 ascent; 1145 descent; 524 elevation change. RTD 32 miles. [Guide: Bruce J Olson 920-205-6963 [brucej0506@gmail.com](mailto:brucej0506@gmail.com)]

**Monday, December 11, Douglas Spring Trail to the Campground. Rating: B. Pace: Moderate [170, 08:00 AM, \$8].** Hikers drive to the east end of Speedway to reach the Douglas Spring Trailhead. The hike involves moderately some steep hiking on a well-used trail to the campground. Coming back we may take the spur out and back to Bridal Wreath Falls, and follow Douglas Spring Trail back to the trailhead. The

trails are mostly open, so bring sun protection. Bring lunch. Hike 13.5 miles; trailhead elevation 2800 feet; net elevation change 2165 feet; accumulated gain 2684 feet; RTD 80 miles. [Guide: Seth Basker, [seth@basker.com](mailto:seth@basker.com).]

**Monday, December 11, Middle Tank/Baby Jesus Trails Loop. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [167, 08:00 AM, \$4].** The hike begins at Lower Corral then follows Middle Gate trail to Grand Junction. From there it follows the Deer Camp Trail for 0.16 miles to the Middle Tank Trail on the right. Follow the trail south until it ends at the Baby Jesus Trail; turn north which leads back to the trailhead. The area has little traffic and is a delight to the senses. Hike 6.2 miles; trailhead elevation 3200 feet; net elevation change 650 feet; accumulated gain 1126 feet; RTD 12 miles (dirt). A medium to high clearance vehicle is required for driving on the Forest Service road beyond N. Equestrian Trail. This hike is on or crosses Arizona State Trust Land: The Arizona Land Department's trust management responsibilities include requiring a permit or lease and charging a fee for use of Trust land. Please note that Trust Land is private (not public) and requires a recreation permit for hiking which can be obtained through the state land department. [Guide: Tim Butler, [tucsontimmer@gmail.com](mailto:tucsontimmer@gmail.com)]

**Monday, December 11, Alamo Canyon Up/Back or Loop. Rating: D. Pace: Moderate [6, 08:00 AM, \$2 + \$2].** The hike begins at the Romero Ruins Trailhead in Catalina State Park. This hike can be done on north side trail in-out or as a loop around Alamo Canyon going up one side and returning down the other (clockwise or counter-clockwise). Other than one short area by the wash, the elevation change is generally gradual. The south-side trail traverses several rocky washes. This is a lovely hike up to Alamo Canyon Falls and return. There is a very scenic large flat-rock area above the falls. Water may be present in the canyon after rainy periods, but there are no significant water crossings. Hikers may stop by the Romero Ruins and take the informative loop trail from there. Hike 3.5 miles; trailhead elevation 2700 feet; net elevation change 360 feet; accumulated gain 429 feet; RTD 24 miles. [Guide: Bruce Landeck, [bflandeck@gmail.com](mailto:bflandeck@gmail.com).]

**Tuesday, December 12, History Hike: The Dams of SaddleBrooke. Pace: Moderate. [NEW, 08:00 AM, \$0].** Meet at the Mountain View Parking area. We will carpool to the Trailhead. Please do not drive yourself to the trailhead. From the south end of S. Desert Sky Lane, we will hike to the top of old Golder Dam and see the emergency spillway, hydraulic controls, and great views. Learn the dam's history and see old photos of Golder Lake. Descend to the Canada del Oro to Pierre Charouleau's masonry of the 1880s and learn its history. Hike is approximately one mile; 200 feet elevation gain. \*\*\*\* rating due to short steep sections, loose rocks, and uneven terrain. Recommend cleated hiking boots and protective clothing. Barbed wire fence crossing. There will be a post-hike option to view the nearby railroad flat car and suspension bridges over the Canada. Limit 8 hikers. [Guide: Tom Stafford, [tominpoint@gmail.com](mailto:tominpoint@gmail.com)]

**Wednesday, December 13, Aviation Parkway Bike Path. Rating: B. Pace: Fast [NEW, 9:00 AM, \$8].** This hike gives you an opportunity to traverse an interesting bike path in Tucson. It is a long distance but easy walking. Sneakers will suffice. We will follow the bike path from Stevens Avenue in the center of Tucson to the junction of Kolb Road with Lakeside Drive to the east. Highlights along the way are art murals, bridges, Todd M. Harris Sports Complex and a close up of the parked jets at the Davis-Monthan Air Force Base. Stops for beverage, snack and public restrooms will be made. Hike 10.1 miles; trailhead elevation 2370/2710 feet; net elevation differential 340 feet; accumulated gain 440 feet; RTD 66 miles + 9 mile car shuttle. [Guide: Aaron Schoenberg [askus3@centurylink.net](mailto:askus3@centurylink.net)]

**Wednesday, December 13, Romero Springs. Rating: B. Pace: Moderate [371, 08:00 AM, \$2 + \$2].** The hike begins in Catalina State Park at the eastern most trailhead and follows Romero Canyon Trail into the foothills. The trail crosses open desert then climbs steeply until it reaches a saddle and then down into the canyon area where several pools are located. The spring is located about 2 miles past the Romero pools in a very scenic section of the canyon. It has been known to have quite a bit of wildlife. There are excellent views of Romero and Montrose Canyons along the way. Lunch will be at the spring. The return is via the same route. Hike 10.3 miles; trailhead elevation 2700 feet; net elevation change 2020 feet; accumulated gain 2736 feet; RTD 24 miles. [Guide: Melia Knecht, [melia.knechtak1@gmail.com](mailto:melia.knechtak1@gmail.com).]

**Thursday, December 14, Phone Line Trail - Round Trip. Rating: B. Pace: Moderate [323, 07:30 AM, \$6].** The hike begins in the Sabino Canyon Visitor Center parking lot. After crossing Sabino Creek there is a moderate climb to the Phone Line Trail, which is above and generally parallels the tram road. The trail offers outstanding views of the canyon. There are three options for the return: the tram road, the same trail, or back part way on the same to trail to a connecting trail that takes us down to the creek and dam and back to the parking lot. There are extended stretches of exposed trail. Hike 10.2 miles; trailhead elevation 2720 feet; net elevation change 964 feet; accumulated gain 1425 feet; RTD 56 miles. [Guide: Jim Solon, [jsolon3680@aol.com](mailto:jsolon3680@aol.com).]

**Thursday, December 14, Rams Creek Basin. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [354, 07:00 AM, \$2].** From the Rams Creek Pass subdivision, we hike up a wash on a new trail through nice vegetation and then climb 560 feet to a watering tank. There are great views of Rancho Vistoso, the Tortolitas, SaddleBrooke, and the Biosphere along the way. We then continue on to a waterfall where we will have lunch. The return is via the same route. Hike 5 miles; trailhead elevation 2600 feet; net elevation change 789 feet; accumulated gain 830 feet; RTD 21 miles. [Guide: Marc Humphrey and [humphreymarc@gmail.com](mailto:humphreymarc@gmail.com).]

**Friday, December 15, Esperero Canyon/Rattlesnake/Phoneline Loop Trail. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [NEW, 08:00 AM, \$2].** From the Sabino Canyon Visitor Center, the hike proceeds along the Esperero Canyon/Rattlesnake Canyon trails to the Tram stop 1 picnic area on Sabino Creek - a favorite with views of Sabino Creek with velvet ash, cottonwood, willow, and Arizona sycamore trees. After a short break we will cross Sabino Creek (if water level permits) and climb a spur trail up to the Phoneline Trail where we turn to head back down towards the Visitor Center. We will finish on the Bajada Nature loop with a beautiful crested saguaro. Bring a camera and plenty of water and snack. Hike 5.1 miles trailhead elevation 2450 feet net elevation change 500 feet accumulated gain 780 feet RTD 56 miles. [Guide: Bruce J Olson 920-205-6963 [brucej0506@gmail.com](mailto:brucej0506@gmail.com)]

**Monday, December 18, Superstitions: Boulder Canyon Trail. Rating: B. Pace: Moderate [398, 08:00 AM, \$19].** The hike begins at a trailhead across the road from Canyon Lake parking lot. Hikers climb up Boulder Canyon Trail to a high point and return the same way. The trail takes hikers high enough to provide tremendous views of the mysterious Superstition Mountains. Your camera is a must on this hike. Hikers also get a great view of Canyon Lake. Bring 2 quarts of water and lunch. Hike 10.2 miles; trailhead elevation 1700 feet; net elevation change 600 feet; accumulated gain 1965 feet; RTD 190 miles. [Guide: Seth Basker, [seth@basker.com](mailto:seth@basker.com).]

**Monday, December 18, Sutherland Wash Petroglyphs Loop from the south.. Rating: C\*\*\*. Pace: Moderate [98, 08:00 AM, \$4].** This hike begins at the CSP North Gate. It takes us on a grand circle tour of four concentrations of ancient petroglyphs located west of Baby Jesus Ridge near the Sutherland Wash. The Sutherland Wash Rock Art District is a special place right in our backyard and is on the National Historic Register. Hohokam petroglyphs dating from 900 AD to 1300 AD number in the thousands on the western slope of the Santa Catalina Mountains. Along our hike we will see beautiful saguaros, seasonal wildflowers, and vistas of Pusch Ridge. \*\*\*The hike involves a few short, steep, rocky sections of trail and uneven footing at times. Bring a lunch or snack to enjoy while we rest on rocks near one of the petroglyph locations. Hike 4.7 miles; trailhead elevation 2950 feet; total ascent: 722 ft, net elevation change: 431 ft. RTD 12 miles (dirt). This hike is on or crosses Arizona State Trust Land: The Arizona Land Department's trust management responsibilities include requiring a permit or lease and charging a fee for use of Trust land. Please note that Trust Land is private (not public) and requires a recreation permit for hiking which can be obtained through the state land department. [Guide: Tim Butler, [tucsontimmer@gmail.com](mailto:tucsontimmer@gmail.com)]

**Monday, December 18, Tucson Downtown Mural Walk. Rating: D. Pace: Moderate [541, 08:00 AM, \$5].** Fun walk around an area of downtown Tucson and north to University. We will visit over 4 dozen beautiful murals along the way. We will also pass the Ronstadt House and the Historic YWCA. Great way to acquaint yourself with Tucson! We will end with lunch at the Cup Cafe in the Historic Congress Hotel. Walk 4 mi, starting elevation 2400 ft, net elevation change < 50 ft, accumulated gain < 50 ft. RTD 50 mi. [Guide: Kathy Minx, [kminx@longrealty.com](mailto:kminx@longrealty.com)]

**Tuesday, December 19, Blacketts Ridge. Rating: B. Pace: Moderate [108, 08:00 AM, \$6].** I'm leading this for hikers that have completed several C\*\*\* hikes. We will go at a slow to moderate pace due to the steep climb. The hike begins at the Sabino Canyon Visitor Center, and follows relatively level, well-used trails east to the Phone Line Trailhead. After 0.4 miles along the Phone Line Trail, the Blacketts Ridge Trail branches right and continues up the ridge between Sabino and Bear Canyons. There are spectacular views of Tucson and the canyons to either side of the trail. The ridge part of the trail has several steep switchbacks mixed in with some level areas. There are three false summits before reaching the end of the trail, a point where it is not possible to continue because the terrain drops precipitously. Hike 6 miles; trailhead elevation 2720 feet; net elevation change 1668 feet; accumulated gain 1733 feet; RTD 56 miles. [Guide: Ruth Caldwell, [azcaldwell3@gmail.com](mailto:azcaldwell3@gmail.com)]

**Wednesday, December 20, Barrio Viejo Cultural & Historic Walking Tour, Rating: D. Pace: Moderate [NEW, 9:00 AM, \$5].** An interesting walk thru Barrio Viejo; the largest 19th century collection of adobe buildings and best preserved Barrio in the United States. This will be a cultural & historical walk; through neighborhood residences, art studios and galleries, and markets-restaurants. Along the way we will see colorful murals and shrines both old and new. Key landmarks include; Teatro Carmen, El Pacque de San Cosme, El Tiradito, The Wishing Shrine, and location of early Tucsons Public Baths & Gardens. The walk will leave Saddlebrooke and begin at the 5 Points Market in Barrio Viejo. We will take a lunch break at one of the local eateries. Our walk is 3.5 miles, starting elevation 2400 ft, net elevation gain 50 feet, accumulated gain 50 ft. RTD 50 Mi. [Guide: Carol Olson 920-277-7687 [carolson3855@gmail.com](mailto:carolson3855@gmail.com)]

**Thursday, December 21, OSP East Loop. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [307, 08:00 AM, \$4 + \$2].** The hike begins at the Kannally Ranch House parking lot in Oracle State Park. Hikers follow the Nature Trail to the Wildlife Corridor Trail where we go northeast to the AZ Trail. At the intersection, we turn southeast and follow trail to the intersection with the Manzanita Trail. We follow this trail west and onto the Nature Trail that takes us back to the trailhead. This route is fairly level with little elevation change with wide open views and interesting rock formations among the low desert plants. Hike 6.2 miles, trailhead elevation 4350 feet; net elevation change \_\_\_ feet; accumulated gain 760 feet; RTD 40 miles. [Guide: Marc Humphrey and [humphreymarc@gmail.com](mailto:humphreymarc@gmail.com)]

**Tuesday, December 26, Wasson Peak at Sunset and Moonrise. Rating: B. Pace: Moderate [476, 03:00 PM, \$7].** The hike takes place on the evening of the full moon, arriving at the summit in time to observe sunset, and to watch the city lights turn on in Tucson. The view is spectacular at night with thousands of lights visible across southern Arizona. Bring a gourmet dinner, and candles. The hike down will be by the light of the moon, and supplemented by red and white headlamps if necessary. We will use the Sendero Esperanza Trail which is well maintained, smooth, and relatively clear of loose rocks. The special conditions designation (exclamation mark) for this hike is due to the decreased visibility after dark. A headlamp with both red and white LEDs is required. This hike will also be enjoyed by any strong C level hikers. Hike 8 miles; trailhead elevation 2985 feet; net elevation change 1702 feet; accumulated gain 1720 feet; RTD 73 miles. [Guide: Bill Bender, [wbender@uw.edu](mailto:wbender@uw.edu).]

**Wednesday, December 27, Pima Canyon to 2nd Dam. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [336, 08:00 AM, \$4].** The Pima Canyon Trailhead is at the east end of Magee Road. The first mile or so is across open desert along the south side of Pusch Peak. We pass the small first dam as we enter the beautiful, rugged canyon. The rocky trail passes through a grove of large trees providing welcome shade before emerging again in the open. The trail then leads to a rocky open area in the canyon beyond a small dam near several Indian grinding holes. The return is via the same route. Hike 6.7 miles; trailhead elevation 2960 feet; net elevation change 1010 feet; accumulated gain 1315 feet; RTD 42 miles. [Guide: Bruce J Olson 920-205-6963 [brucej0506@gmail.com](mailto:brucej0506@gmail.com)]