

March 2025 Hiking Schedule

Updates & changes in RED

NEW HIKES in GREEN

All hikes meet at the Welcome Center unless otherwise specified in the hike description.
Carpools can be arranged when the group meets at Welcome Center

* AZ State Park entrance fees increased on 2/25/25. The fee is now based on the number of people in a vehicle, if no one has a park pass. The fee is \$10 for one person and \$20 for 2 – 4 people total. The fee should be split among those in the vehicle. A park pass allows for up to 4 people to enter without additional charge.

Monday March 3, 2025, Golf Course Walk [D/3 miles/100'/6:30 pm] It's Monday Night Footfall time! Meet by the putting green behind the pro shop. I'm looking for those who'd like to walk a three mile section of the golf course and enjoy the sunset Phil Arms parms1950@gmail.com

Monday, March 3, 2025, Tortolita Preserve West Loop [C/7mi/340'/\$2/7:30am] Meet at the Welcome Center for carpooling, then proceed to the new parking lot at Tortolita Preserve. Hike the longer loop of the preserve trail. Byron Wolffing, wolffing5@gmail.com

Tuesday, March 4, 2025, Oracle Ridge to the View [B/9mi/2000'/\$4/7:30am] Meet at Welcome Center to Caravan to Campo Bonita Road in Oracle. Hike up road 1 mile to trailhead, then follow along ridge to scenic lunch spot. Outstanding views through most of the trail. LIMIT 8 because of parking space. Phil Weinberg, phweinb@gmail.com

Tuesday, March 4, 2025, Walk In The Park 50 Year/CDO Ridge Trail [D/4mi/400'/\$2*/7:30 am] Meet at the Equestrian Trail Parking Lot in CSP a little before 7:30 AM. Hike the 50 Yr. Trail to the CDO Ridge Trail and hike it until it meets the 50 YR. Trail. Descend the 50Yr Trail back to the Parking Lot. alschmidt45@gmail.com

Tuesday, March 4, 2025, Romero Pass [A/13.8 miles/3818'/\$2*/6:00 am] Meet behind Welcome Center. Hike Romero Canyon Trail past Romero Pools and Romero Springs to Romero Pass and return by the same route. Steep uphill section the last 2 miles. Tom Meyer, tmeyer80@msn.com

Wednesday March 5, 2025, Romero Canyon Exploratory [D/4 miles/400'/\$2*/8:00am] Meet at the main trailhead in CSP at 8:00. This hike may change if we can't cross the Wash up the Canyon Loop. We'll see how far we can go to view the base of Green Rock, and into the Romero

Canyon. Then we'll proceed up Canyon Loop and take a side bridle trail which loops back onto the main trail. Ken Percival knmdsunchasers72@gmail.com

Thursday, March 6, 2025, Breakfast Walk to Denny's [D/3mi/>50'/\$0/8:00 am] We will meet in front of the Walmart at the Oro Valley Marketplace and walk on the Huckelberry loop trail to Denny's for breakfast and return on the same trail for a total of 3 miles. Limit 12 people. Bob & Leslie Esparza, rlsuncity@yahoo.com

HIKE IS FULL. Thursday, March 6, 2025, Sam Hughes History Hike [D/4 mi/100'/\$5.00/8:30 am] Meet at Himmel Park in Tucson. Walk a historic neighborhood in midtown and hear about its history. Includes a refreshment stop. Limit: 15. Jim Williams, jaswilliams128@msn.com

NEW HIKE. Thursday, March 6 Hutch's Pool via Phoneline Trail. [A/17mi/1800'/\$4/5am] Hike up the Phoneline Trail, which parallels tram road with outstanding views of canyon, hike into inner canyon of Catalina mountains to pools for lunch, and return. This is a good training hike for anyone doing the 21 miler. We will strive to hike around 30 min/mile estimation of total time is around 9.5 hrs with breaks. Meet at the WC for a 5am departure. Headlamps will be required as sunrise is 6:44 but civil twilight will start around 6:20am. We should have some daylight once we reach Phoneline from the parking lot. Jo Eaton roadrunnerjo7@gmail.com

CANCELLED. Friday, March 7, 2025, Linda Vista Outer Loop [D+++/3mi/400'/\$2/8:00 am] Meet behind Welcome Center to Caravan at 8:00 am. A loop hike on rocky hiking trails offering beautiful views both up the trail looking at Pusch Ridge, and down the trail, looking at Oro Valley. Don't let low mileage/elevation fool you! This hike involves climbing up and down large rocks for over half the loop! Kevin Kopp, kkopp.eyes@comcast.net

Friday, March 7, 2025, Honeybee Meadow Tortolita Flats [C/5miles/ 240'/\$0/8am] Meet at Desert Oasis Parking Lot. Hike from there out to the Flats to a meadow loop and back . Pretty desert hike and mountain views. This is on State Trust Land. Sigrid Flatness sigrid.daveflatness@gmail.com

Friday, March 7, 2025, Orientation Hike [D/3mi/350'/\$2*/8 am] Reservation required. This is a prerequisite hike for joining or rejoining the SCOV Hiking club. This hike meets behind the SCOV Welcome Center in the parking lot. I will give a bit of information about our club. We will then drive to Catalina State Park Equestrian Center. Bring \$2 if you would like to carpool, or if you drive yourself, a State Parks pass is required or pay a \$7 entry fee at the gate. We will hike 1-1/2 miles up the 50 Year Trail and return. Bring sufficient water, wear sturdy shoes or hiking

boots; if you use walking poles bring them, as well as a good sun hat. Please contact Peg Rocklin at pegrocklin@gmail.com to reserve a spot.

Monday, March 10, 2025, Big Wash to Oasis [C-/6mi/300'/\$0/7:30 am] Park at WC and hike 6 miles in loop via Big Wash / Oasis back to WC. Max Haegele 43avocet@gmail.com

NEW HIKE. Monday March 10 Tortilita Scenic Stroll [C/6 miles/<400'/\$0/7:30] Meet at Desert Oasis. Enter the bike trail at Summerstar, then enter State Trust Land toward the Power lines. Wind down to the Grove, and head back on the Honey Bee access trail making a loop. Ken Percival knmdsunchasers72@gmail.com

Date change. Now 3/14. ~~Monday, March 10, 2025, Vistoso Trails Nature Preserve [D/3 miles/100'/7:00 am]~~ Meet at the Preserve's parking lot. I'm looking for those who'd like to explore the birds in our local area with me! I'm happy to have both experienced birders and new birders who'd like to know more about our resident birds. We'll be watching for birds and listening for their calls. If you're new to listening for birds I highly recommend you download a free app from Cornell University's Lab of Ornithology. It's called Merlin. We'll talk about how to use it as we explore. We'll walk the paved trail on what used to be the front nine of the former golf course. I have a spare pair of binoculars if anyone needs them. Debbie Carr-Taylor, debbiecarrtaylor@gmail.com

Tuesday, March 11, 2025, Golf Course Full Moon Walk [D/3 miles/100'/6:30 pm] Meet by the putting green behind the pro shop. I'm looking for those who'd like to walk the front nine of the golf course and enjoy the sunset It's WORM moon time. Maximum 15 hikers. Phil Arms parms1950@gmail.com

Tuesday, March 11, 2025. Coffee Break Hike [D/4mi/50'/\$0/8:30AM] Meet at the Oro Valley Hospital towards the back of the parking lot of the Medical building. The hike will follow a paved path to the coffee shop located in The Encantada apartment complex. There is a short gravel walk from the parking lot to the paved path. Outside seating is available at the coffee shop. Hike is limited to 10. Jane Budden, janeannabudden@gmail.com

HIKE IS FULL. Waitlist available. Tuesday, March 11, 2025, Sausalito Creek [C/7mi/300'/\$0/8am] Meet at Desert Oasis parking lot, hike mostly on dirt roads and trails through flats and foothills of Tortolita Mountains. Snack near the windmill in Sausalito Creek and return. This hike is on State Trust Land, Ron Brillhart, rdb Brill6660@gmail.com

HIKE IS FULL. Waitlist available. Wednesday, March 12, 2025, Hole in the Rock/Dorothy's Wash [C/5miles/480'/\$2*/8:00am] Meet at the main trailhead in CSP. Take a bridle trail off Canyon loop up to a scenic ridge and cutover to view the "hole in the rock". Then head back over to Dorothy's wash. Take a short break and snack. Hike back out to Sutherland Trail to loop back. Hopefully we can cross the wash. Ken Percival knmdsunchasers72@gmail.com

Wednesday, March 12, 2025, Walk In The Park Alamo Canyon Loop.

{D/4miles/334'/\$2*/7:30AM} Meet at the Romero Ruins Parking Lot in CSP a little before 7:30 AM. Hike the Alamo Canyon Loop Trail. Poles would be beneficial as there are some steep ups and downs. Al Schmidt alschmidt45@gmail.com

Wednesday, March 12, 2025, Cochie Trail [B/10mi/1500'/\$3.00/7:30am]

Meet at the Welcome Center at 7:30am to carpool to the trailhead at Dove Mountain. This is an out and back hike with a few steeper, rockier sections as well as some pretty, rolling terrain. We will take a lunch break at the windmill & old homestead site. Limit 8 hikers. Dana Laudenschach, dlaudenschach1@gmail.com

Wednesday, March 12, 2025, Soldier Trail [B/6mi/2300'/\$6/8am] Park at GHRA. Hike to the lower end of the trail for snacks and return by the same route. Limit 10 Dennis Potter, potterdennis49@gmail.com

Thursday, March 13, 2025, 50 Year, Powerline, CDO Trail [D/4mi/390'/\$2*/7:30am] Meet at Catalina State Park Equestrian Center, take 50 Year trail to newly cleared Powerline route. Follow this down to CDO wash and return to the Equestrian Center. Byron Wolffing, wolffing5@gmail.com

Thursday, March 13, 2025, Painted Cave Trail [C/6 mi/900'/\$6/8am] Meet behind the Welcome Center. Drive to the Yetman trailhead at the end of Camino de Oeste. Hike the Yetman trail past the Bowen homestead ruins. Take a social trail to the right and hike to Painted Cave. Continue up the trail and hike a ridge back to the Yetman trail to get some great views, then back to the parking area. Some steep climbing near the cave where hiking poles would be helpful. Larry Best, lbestrun@gmail.com

Originally scheduled for 3/10. Friday, March 14, 2025, Vistoso Trails Nature Preserve [D/3 miles/100'/7:00 am] Meet at the Preserve's parking lot. I'm looking for those who'd like to explore the birds in our local area with me! I'm happy to have both experienced birders and new birders who'd like to know more about our resident birds. We'll be watching for birds and listening for their calls. If you're new to listening for birds I highly recommend you download a

free app from Cornell University's Lab of Ornithology. It's called Merlin. We'll talk about how to use it as we explore. We'll walk the paved trail on what used to be the front nine of the former golf course. I have a spare pair of binoculars if anyone needs them. Debbie Carr-Taylor, debbiecarrtaylor@gmail.com

Friday, March 14, 2025, Oracle State Park Wildlife Trail [C/5 mi./800'/\$5*/8:00am]

We will carpool to Oracle State Park and hike to the windmill and back. Those who wish may stop for pie or lunch at the Patio Cafe. Please meet at the Welcome Center by 7:45 am. Jorgy launiebob@gmail.com 406-672-0823

Friday, March 14, 2025, Mount Kimball [A/12 mi/4200'/\$3/7am]. Depart from the SCOV Welcome Center at 07:00 a.m.. Park at the north end of Alvernon Way, hike Finger Rock Canyon trail to a saddle between Mount Kimball and "Little Kimball," take Pima Canyon Trail a half-mile to top of Mt. Kimball, and return. This hike is dependent on the weather as well as the presence of snow and/or ice at the higher elevations. May adjust the date & link-up time due to weather conditions. Gary Hilmes, gary.hilmes@gmail.com

Monday, March 17, 2025, Desperado Loop Sweetwater Preserve [D/4mi/270'/\$4/7:30am]

Meet behind the Welcome Center for carpooling to Sweetwater Preserve Trailhead and hike this Pima County park. Byron Wolffing, wolffing5@gmail.com

Monday March 17, 2025, Golf Course Walk [D/3 miles/100'/6:30 pm] It's Monday Night Football time! Meet by the putting green behind the pro shop. I'm looking for those who'd like to walk a three mile section of the golf course and enjoy the sunset Phil Arms parms1950@gmail.com

NEW HIKE. Tuesday, March 18, 2025, Honeybee Canyon [D/2.5mi/500'/\$0/7:30am]

Get an advanced in person walk and informational talk by John Scheuring who will be presenting at the club's wine and cheese event on Saturday March 22nd. John is the conservation chair of the AZ Native Plant Society with extensive experience in invasive plant control and native plant restoration in the Tucson area. We will stroll through the upland desert and riparian habitats of Honeybee Park and Canyon with commentary on both native keystone species and invasives as we walk along. This extremely dry year offers a unique opportunity to see drought tolerance differences that we rarely have a chance so clearly. Max participants is 10 with car pooling from the Welcome Center. Jo Eaton, roadrunnerjo7@gmail.com. For those who are interested but do not have availability 3/18, John is willing to do a non-club event. Email Jo for more information.

Tuesday March 18, 2025, Wasson Peak via Sweetwater [B/9mi/2000'/\$4/7:30am]

Meet at the Welcome Center at 7:30am to carpool to the trailhead. We will take the Sweetwater trail to the junction of King Canyon trail & then on up to the peak. We will take our time to appreciate the many stunning views. Limit 8 hikers. Dana Laudenbach, dlaudenbach1@gmail.com

Wednesday March 19, 2025, Oracle State Park to the Windmill [C/7 mi/1100'/\$5*/8:00am]

Carpool to Kannally Ranch House, Hike the Manzanita Trail to the Arizona Trail, take it 1.5 miles and return to Kannally Ranch via Wildlife Corridor Trail with a side trip to the windmill.

Phil Arms parms1950@gmail.com

HIKE IS FULL. Waitlist available. Wednesday, March 19, 2025, Dripping Springs/Overlook

Green Rock Base [C/5mi/500'/\$2*/7:30] Hike to Dripping Springs to hopefully see a waterfall via Sutherland Trail. Then we'll take a new bushwhack trail down to get a better view of Green Rock, and into the Romero Canyon. Return the same route. Ken Percival

knmdsunchasers72@gmail.com

Wednesday, March 19, 2025, Alamo Springs Trail, Wild Burro Trail. Loop,

[C+/7m/1400'/\$3/8AM]. Meet behind the Welcome Center and carpool to Dove Mountain Trailhead. Hike Wild Burro Tr. half mile to Alamo Springs Trail. Hike Alamo Springs Tr. to the 'Spring'/Lunch Spot. Return on the Wild Burro Tr. Ron Brillhart, rdb Brill6660@gmail.com

Thursday, March 20, 2025, Window Peak [A/14 mi/4500'/\$4/7am] Park at Ventana Resort employee parking lot, hike Ventana Canyon trail, a difficult and steep hike, to Esperero Trail, to the Window, and continue 0.4 miles and 300' higher to Window Peak (if energy level allows), and return. This hike is dependent on weather as well as the presence of snow or ice at higher elevation. Jake O'Neill, jakemponeill@gmail.com

Thursday, March 20, 2025, Breakfast Walk to Denny's [D/3mi/>50'/0/8:00a.m.] We will meet in front of the Walmart at the Oro Valley Marketplace and walk on the Huckelberry loop trail to Denny's for breakfast and return on the same trail for a total of 3 miles. Limit 12 people. Bob & Leslie Esparza, rsuncity@yahoo.com

Thursday, March 20, 2025, Early Spring Migration Birding in Madera Canyon

[C/6miles/850'/\$10/7:00am] Meet behind the Welcome Center to carpool to one of the canyon's lower parking lots. Spring migration is the most exciting time of year for birders and Madera Canyon is a beautiful place to hike and look for birds! This is designed as a full day

outing with two 3-mile hikes and a picnic lunch break in between. We'll let the temperatures and bird activity guide which hikes we do. Typically it'll be a great time of year for a lower canyon hike, followed by lunch, and then a middle canyon hike. If there's time, we'll rest our feet and enjoy the busy bird feeders at Santa Rita Lodge before heading home in the late afternoon. I have a spare pair of binoculars if anyone needs them. Limit 12 hikers (3 cars)
Debbie Carr-Taylor, debbiecarrtaylor@gmail.com

Friday, March 21, 2025, High Jinks Ranch [C/5mi/900'/\$5/7am] Hike from American Flag trailhead in Oracle, south on Arizona Trail to High Jinks Ranch house. Will take a side trip up the American Flag Hill. Ranch is previously owned by Buffalo Bill Cody and is a national Historic Site. Meet behind the Welcome Center. Drive to the trailhead is about 30 minutes. Dave Flatness, sigrid.daveflatness@gmail.com

NEW HIKE. Friday, March 21, 2025, Alamo Canyon Loop [D/4 miles/400'/\$2/7:30am] Hike on north side trail from Romero Ruins start point to canyon precipice and cross over to south side. Continue on East to flat rock amphitheater area with seasonal stream. Have a short snack and return on the backside trail with some short rocky sections descending out to the wash. Meet at the Romero Ruins trailhead in CSP or Welcome Center to carpool. Ken Percival knmdsunchasers72@gmail.com

Friday, March 21, 2025, Desperado Loop Sweetwater Preserve [D+/4mi/500/8am/\$4/8:00am]
This is NOT the WW Treatment Plant! Meet behind Welcome Center to Caravan at 8:00 am or meet at Tortolita TH at 9:00 to hike this Tucson Mountain Park through saguaros/desert landscape with occasional suburban views. Start by hiking Desperado to Night Hawk to Oxbow to Wildflower and meet back up to Desperado back to cars. Kevin Kopp, kkopp.eyes@comcast.net

Monday March 24, 2025, Walk In The Park Green Rock Overlook [D/4mi./377'/\$2*/7:30AM]
Meet at the Main Trailhead Parking Lot in CSP a little before 7:30 am. Hike the Sutherland Trail to the Sutherland Bench and veer East toward Green Rock (a total of about 2 miles). Return the same way. Al Schmidt alschmidt45@gmail.com

Monday March 24, 2025, Golf Course Walk [D/3 miles/100'/6:30 pm] It's Monday Night Footfall time! Meet by the putting green behind the pro shop. I'm looking for those who'd like to walk a three mile section of the golf course and enjoy the sunset Phil Arms parms1950@gmail.com

Tuesday, March 25, 2025, Brandenburg Mtn/Aravaipa Overlook [C/6mi/1500'/\$9/7am] Park along Aravaipa Rd just before the BLM station and hike up wash to cairn marked trail. Follow marked trail up to the road that traverses flat area around Brandenburg Mtn. Follow this road to wonderful overlooks of the Aravaipa canyon. Meet behind the WC. Max Haegele
43avocet@gmail.com

HIKE IS FULL. Tuesday, March 25, 2025, Downtown Murals (D/4 mi./40'/\$4/8:00 am) Walk around Tucson's downtown area finding 15-20 different murals. Meet behind WC to carpool. Limit 10. Jorgy Jorgenson launiebob@gmail.com 406-672-0823

Tuesday, March 25, 2025, Catalina State Park (CSP) to Sabino Canyon or vice versa [A/21mi/4100'/\$2*/time is 5 (if starting from Sabino) or 5:30am (if starting from CSP) TBA a few days prior to hike] Hike from either Catalina State Park (CSP) trailhead or from Sabino Canyon parking lot. Hiking trails include Romero Trail over Romero Pass, down West Fork Sabino Canyon trail to Sabino Canyon. Recent A or higher elevation gain B hike is a prerequisite for this hike.

If hiking from CSP there is a possibility of a shuttle ride from Stop 9 to the Sabino parking for one way ticket purchased with the shuttle driver BUT ONLY IF seats are available which hikers will not know until they arrive at Stop 9 - the last shuttle will be at this stop at 4:30pm. Hikers should expect the possibility of doing 21 miles.

This hike is also being coordinated with our hiking friends at Saddlebrooke Hiking Club. SCOV Hiking Club, at the writing of this post, has 4 interested hikers; Saddlebrooke has 4 hikers. If we get a few more from each club we could possibly do this as a key exchange with 2 groups, one beginning the hike from CSP, the other from Sabino Canyon. This will become clear and a decision will be made no later than 1 week prior. Jo Eaton roadrunnerjo7@gmail.com

Wednesday, March 26, 2025, AZ Trail North [B/8mi/600'/\$5/7:30am] Park at trailhead American Flag in Oracle, hike the AZ Trail north to a windmill for snacks and return the same route. Limit 10 Dennis Potter, potterdennis49@gmail.com

Thursday March 27, 2025, Safford Peak [B/4 mi/1500'/\$4/8am] Meet behind the Welcome Center. Drive to the end of North Scenic Drive near Sanctuary Cove. Hike to the top of Safford Peak for lunch and great views. Return the same way. It is a steep trail with some rock scrambling near the top. Hiking poles recommended. Larry Best, lbestrun@gmail.com

HIKE IS FULL. Thursday, March 27, 2025, Iron Horse History Hike [D/4 mi/150'/\$6.00] Walk a historic area just south of the University and hear its history. Meet at U of AZ parking garage on Euclid Ave. Includes refreshment stop. Limit: 15. Jim Williams, jaswilliams128@msn.com

Friday, March 28, 2025, Middlegate Loop [C/5mi/600'/\$2/7:30am] Meet behind Welcome Center for carpool and directions. Hike 50yr trail, hike Middlegate trail and return. View crested saguaro. Snack along the way at a selected viewpoint. This is partly on State Trust Land. Sigrid and Dave Flatness, sigrid.daveflatness@gmail.com

Saturday, March 29, 2025, Big Wash South Loop [D/4mi/150'/\$0/7:30am] Meet at the new Big Wash trailhead (go South on Rancho Vistoso Blvd. past Del Webb Blvd, turning right at the Vistoso Canyon subdivision entrance, then left into the gravel parking lot). Follow Big Wash and bicycle trails to the ruins of an old homestead and view progress of a new subdivision. Byron Wolfing, wolfing5@gmail.com

Monday, March 31, 2024 Golf Course Bird Walk [D/3 miles/100'/6:00 am] Meet in the parking lot behind the Welcome Center. I'm looking for early risers who'd like to explore spring migration birding with me! I'm happy to have both experienced birders and new birders who'd like to know more about our resident birds and those passing through on their way north for summer breeding season. We'll be watching for birds and listening for their calls. If you're new to listening for birds I highly recommend you download a free app from Cornell University's Lab of Ornithology. It's called Merlin. We'll talk about how to use it as we explore. We'll start off toward the ponds on hole 10 and keep going until the course's walking time is over. We'll let the birds set our pace so our distance may vary. I have a spare pair of binoculars if anyone needs them. Debbie Carr-Taylor, debbiecarrtaylor@gmail.com

Monday, March 31, 2025, Aravaipa Canyon Wilderness West [C+/8mi/200'/\$9/7:00am] After hiking through a lush riparian section, we enter a narrow canyon with towering cliffs and unsurpassed scenery. Paths sometimes disappear thus hiking in the stream and stream crossings are frequently necessary (shoes on). A steady pace will be maintained with photo stops and breaks. We have lunch at the turn-around point and return via the same route. The Aravaipa Canyon is located about one hour's drive north of SCOV. Limited to 10 by permit. Permit cost to each individual is \$6. Max Haegele, 43avocet@gmail.com

Monday March 31, 2025, Golf Course Walk [D/3 miles/100'/6:30 pm] It's Monday Night Footfall time! Meet by the putting green behind the pro shop. I'm looking for those who'd like to walk a three mile section of the golf course and enjoy the sunset Phil Arms parms1950@gmail.com