

MT. WHITNEY MOUNTAINEERS ROUTE (North Fork of Lone Pine Creek)



INYO NATIONAL FOREST



The mountaineers route is very strenuous and there is no maintained trail. It is not suitable for inexperienced hikers or climbers. Hikers should be well conditioned physically and skilled in the techniques and equipment required to safely move over rock, snow and ice.

Location Of Route: Approximately 1/2 mile from the trailhead, leave the main Mt. Whitney Trail at the sign that says "North Fork of Lone Pine Creek." **To prevent resource damage please begin your hike on the north side of Lone Pine Creek.**

Trailhead Location: Whitney Portal (elevation 8,365 feet) is located 13 miles west of Lone Pine on the Whitney Portal Road. Whitney Portal Road intersects Highway 395 at the traffic signal in downtown Lone Pine. The road is usually open from May through November. The last 6 miles of the road are not plowed in the winter.

Forest Service Campgrounds: Sites are available, 60% reservable, 40% first-come, first-serve. For campground reservations call the National Recreation Service: 1-877-444-6777. International calls: 518-885-3639. Web site: <http://reserveusa.com>

Maps: United States Geological Survey, 15 minute quads: Mt. Whitney and Mt. Langley, California.

Doug Thompson, 7 1/2 minute, waterproof foldout: Mt. Whitney Area Map. To order by mail call: 760-876-6222

PACK-OUT-YOUR-POOP PROGRAM

Human waste disposal is a resource problem in this drainage. Improperly disposed waste pollutes the drinking water, spreads disease, and is unsightly. It is not uncommon to pitch your tent at one of the lakes only to find a pile of poop a few feet from your campsite. If hikers cannot help solve this problem, an alternative would be to limit use by restricting access. None of us wants this to happen. Many hikers have improved the situation by volunteering to pack out their poop.

Here's how it works: The Ranger Station will give you a Natures Calls Kit. One kit is all a person needs for a 3 to 4 day trip. The kit contains a plastic bag to put your waste in. Pack out the sealed bag with you. Deposit your full white bag containing your waste in the human waste receptacle at the trailhead. The receptacle is off to the east (left) as you approach the trailhead display.

If you are not packing out your poop please use the standard cat hole method. Choose a spot with care, away from water and campsites. It is unacceptable to deposit your waste under or on a rock or leave it exposed. Pack out all your used toilet paper. Thank you for choosing to make a difference.



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