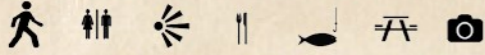


South Lake Wildflower Trail



Hiking Distance / Elevation / GPS Coordinates: About ½ mile loop around the South Lake Parking Area. 9,820 ft. (2,993 meters). Latitude: N 37.169263; Longitude: W 118.565877.

Difficulty: Easy.

Land Manager: Inyo National Forest – White Mountain Ranger District.

Directions to Trailhead: Drive south about 1 mile from the Bishop Chamber of Commerce on Highway 395 to West Line Street (State Highway 168). Turn right. Drive 14 miles west to the South Lake turnoff. Turn left and proceed about 7 miles to the road's end. Park and look for the 3-panel kiosk overlooking South Lake to begin your walk.



Views: The drive up Bishop Creek Canyon to South Lake is mesmerizing. After the South Lake turnoff, note the hanging valleys carved out in the canyon hillsides well above the valley floor. Quaking aspen, lodgepole pine and willows carpet the

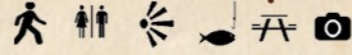
canyon floor and hillsides; landscape palettes of reds, golds, and deep crimson illuminate this spectacular valley during fall. Massive Hurd Peak at 12,237 ft. (3,730 meters) and several other Sierra peaks dominate the skyline at South Lake.

Start your easy trek at the 3-panel trailhead kiosk that overlooks South Lake. Follow the trail for 200 feet and make a left turn at the small grey wooden trail sign. In good rainfall years, this short stretch of trail contains several species of striking wildflowers. The trail ultimately leads you to a small pipeline. After the pipeline, turn left to head back to the parking lot. After a few yards, a picnic area with unobstructed views of Hurd Peak and the Sierra skyline will be on your right.

You may encounter horseback riders on a portion of the trail. If so, move to the right or left edge of the trail and allow them to pass. Follow any instructions by the lead rider.

Afterwards, stop at **Parchers Resort and the Rainbow Pack Outfitters** down the road to get food and drink, learn about other trails, and explore roaming the country on horseback – an exhilarating way to see the world from above it all. Both facilities are historic and are considered one of the first resort and packing operations in the Eastern Sierra.

Intake II Loop Trail



Hiking Distance / Elevation / GPS Coordinates: About 1 mile around Intake II, a 12 acre historic holding pond used to generate hydroelectric power beginning in the early 1900s. 8,100 feet (2,469 meters). Latitude: N 37.248494; Longitude: W 118.586568

Difficulty: Easy.

Land Manager: Inyo National Forest – White Mountain Ranger District.

Directions to Trailhead: Drive south about 1 mile from the Bishop Chamber of Commerce on Highway 395 to West Line Street (State Highway 168). Turn right and drive 14 miles. Pass the South Lake turnoff and proceed about 1 mile toward Lake Sabrina to the Intake II turnoff on your left.

After you turn toward Intake II, follow this short road less than ¼ mile to the parking area immediately past the bathrooms.

Views: The drive up Bishop Creek Canyon to Intake II and Lake Sabrina (pronounced Sub-rye-na) beyond captivates area visitors and locals alike. Your drive climbs out of the Owens Valley flanked by vistas of the Volcanic Tableland, the White Mountains and the Buttermilk Country. In the mountains above the desert floor, you enter a glacially carved valley where forests of aspen, jeffrey pine, lodgepole pine and willows flourish throughout the canyon. During fall season, red, gold, and deep crimson colors adorn this striking natural palette.

The trail winds around the pond returning you back to the parking area.

Outdoor Etiquette at Intake II: The intake is a popular fishing spot. Please walk quietly around fishing enthusiasts you encounter so you don't scare off any trout in the pond. Like other considerate outdoor enthusiasts,

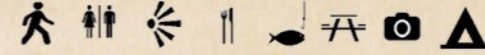


keep your voices at low volume to respect other guests who fish these waters. As good stewards and role models of your public lands, pick up any litter or debris left behind by others and place it in

trash receptacles located in the parking lot. If you choose to sit on the shoreline, please situate yourself away from others and speak quietly to respect their privacy and desire to have a quality outdoor experience.

Other Outdoor Opportunities: After your hike, continue to take Highway 168 past Intake II and stop at **Cardinal Village Resort** in Aspendell. Turn on Cardinal Road to find the resort. At the resort, sparkling Bishop Creek provides fishing and leisure opportunities and the café serves up lunches in a majestic setting. Further up Highway 168 where the road ends, High Sierra panoramic and photogenic mountain vistas will delight your senses.

Rock Creek Lake Trail



Hiking Distance / Elevation / GPS Coordinates: About 2 miles around Rock Creek Lake with gentle inclines. 9,600 ft (2,926 meters). Latitude: N 37.456249; Longitude: W 118.738169.

Difficulty: Easy.

Land Manager: Inyo National Forest – White Mountain Ranger District.

Directions to Trailhead: Drive about 24 miles north from the Bishop Chamber of Commerce on Highway 395 to the Tom's Place / Rock Creek Lake exit. Turn left onto Rock



Creek Road. Proceed 9 miles to the lake. After Rock Creek Lake Campground on your left, look for the **Rock Creek Lake Group Campground** sign a few hundred feet further. Turn left here. Park in the day use parking which includes the boat launch / beach area. From here, find the trail along the shoreline. You can travel in either direction around the lake.

Views: Rock Creek Canyon and Rock Creek Lake Trail provide crisp and magnificent views of Mt. Morgan, Wheeler Ridge, Rock Creek Lake, and several Sierra peaks above Little Lakes Valley. Quaking aspen and lodgepole pine line the canyon floor. The lake is a deep topaz color surrounded by steep granite walls with sharp ridgelines.

Along the lakeside trail, several picnic tables and benches induce guests to rest, eat, and marvel at the lake's beauty.

The trail at the lake's outlet requires you walk about 100 yards of asphalt road. Fishermen and hikers use this segment to access lakeside fishing spots; vehicles are required to drive slowly. When walking this asphalt portion, be attentive to traffic and others; walk along the road edge facing traffic. Look for the trail to resume along the lakeshore. There are one or two additional brief stretches of trail on the road.

Afterwards, experience delicious alpine barbecue at the **Rock Creek Lake Resort**. Bottling onsite barbecue sauce and smoking their own meats, the resort serves up hearty lunch and breakfast cuisine for guests who discover this unique spot. Rustic cabins and boats are also available to rent.

Eastern Sierra Easy Hiking Trails



**Bishop Area Chamber of Commerce
& Visitors Bureau**

690 North Main Street • Bishop, CA 93514

(760) 873-8405

www.bishopvisitor.com

Alabama Hills Mobius Arch Trail



Hiking Distance / Elevation / GPS Coordinates: This loop trail is about 1 mile. 4,662 feet (1,400 meters).
Latitude: N 36.611308; Longitude: W 118.124946.

Difficulty: Easy.

Land Manager: Bureau of Land Management – Bishop Field Office.

Directions to Trailhead: From Lone Pine, head west on Whitney Portal Road for 2 ¾ miles until Movie Road* — the historic movie production route which ferried movie stars to film westerns, sci-fi, and dramas



in the area's captivating canyons. Turn right on Movie Road. Proceed 1.5 miles where the road makes a sharp 90 degree right turn. Immediately after the turn, the trailhead parking lot appears to your left. Park here and the trailhead begins at the west end of the parking lot closest to the Sierra Nevada mountains. Look for the trailhead sign.

Views: The drive from Lone Pine on Whitney Portal and Movie Roads provides iconic views of world famous Mt. Whitney (the highest mountain peak in the contiguous United States). In the Alabama Hills, the physical forces of erosion, temperature, and weathering formed the potato-shaped and pinnacle like rocks you see in the area. The highly fractured and clustered mountains of brownish and orange rock that colors the scenery attracted early 20th century movie producers and continues to serve as a major film and commercial production location today.

The first 1/3 mile of the trail is predominantly flat terrain and takes you to the Alabama Hills Scenic Area's Mobius and Lathe Arches. From these arches, the remaining 2/3 mile heads south and easterly to the Heart Arch. It contains slightly steep inclines / declines through several washes before it returns to the parking lot.

*Enhance your trek and visit the **Museum of Western Film History** before your hike. Located in nearby Lone Pine, discover displays depicting the several hundred films produced in the area. Pick up the self-guided **Movie Road Booklet** to direct you to area scenic film locations and where to find other Alabama Hills arches as well.

Eastern California Museum / Dehy Park Historic Trail



Hiking Distance / Elevation / GPS Coordinates: About 2/3 mile on flat terrain from the Eastern California Museum leading to Dehy Park, then back to the museum. 3,930 feet (1,198 meters). Latitude: N 36.801990; Longitude: W 118.203680.

Difficulty: Easy.

Land Manager: Los Angeles Department of Water & Power.

Directions to Trailhead: Drive 1/2 mile west on Center Street from Highway 395 in Independence to the Eastern California Museum. The trail begins behind the museum.

Views: The drive on Highway 395 to Independence carries you through "The Deepest Valley" – a narrow valley flanked by towering mountain peaks reaching 14,000 feet. Independence was established in 1866 and contains many architectural buildings that reflect an earlier pioneer era.



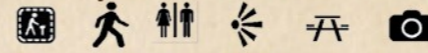
The trail itself threads its way along features highlighting frontier history. First, saunter over to the **Eastern California Museum**. This century-old repository of the past includes venerated mining artifacts, rustic pioneer buildings, preeminent Paiute basketry, and other unique displays. Ask for a **Discover Independence Walking Guide** to use later in your hike.

Ask a museum employee where to find the trail just outside the facility. The trail begins at the **Mary DeDecker Natural Garden**, a floristic landscape dedicated to a premier botanist and conservationist. Cross over the bridge and bear left; at a second bridge, look for the Dehy Park Trail sign just past the bridge. The trail heads north along the town's edge amidst a sagebrush landscape converging into sweeping mountain vistas.

Follow the trail to **Dehy Park**. The park contains picnic tables, playground equipment, bathrooms, and a serene creek. From here, return to the museum by the same trail.

If you picked up a **Discover Independence Walking Guide** and want to expand your trek, then continue south on Main Street to find historic features around town. The guide will identify other easy ways to return to the museum.

Pinyon Nature Trail



Hiking Distance / Elevation / GPS Coordinates: About 1/2 mile with short uphill stretches. 7,800 feet (2,400 meters). Latitude: N 37.314482; Longitude: W 118.181202.

Difficulty: Easy.

Land Manager: Inyo National Forest – White Mountain Ranger District.

Directions to Trailhead: Drive 15 miles south on Highway 395 from the Bishop Chamber of Commerce to Big Pine. Turn left at State Highway 168 and proceed 13 miles east to the Ancient Bristlecone Road. Turn left. Proceed north 3 miles to the Pinyon Nature Trail sign. Turn into the parking lot where you see bathrooms and picnic tables. The trail begins here.

Views: Highway 395 takes you down "The Deepest Valley" – a narrow valley flanked by precipitous mountain peaks reaching 14,000 feet. As you turn toward the White Mountains on Highway 168, note the difference between the White Mountains rock and soil structure compared to the Sierra Nevada's immense grey walls towering above the valley's west side.

The Whites lie at the western fringe of the Great Basin — an arid expanse covering the southwest U.S. They are about 600 million years old and composed of sedimentary rock – roughly 100 million years older than the Sierra where molten lava hardened to form igneous granite rock. The White Mountains exemplify a high desert range and is home to the oldest living trees in the world: the **Ancient Bristlecone Pines**. Water is scarce in this Great Basin Range but the views are striking and endless.



The Pinyon Loop Trail winds through a forest of pinyon pine and Utah juniper supported by a shrub understory of sagebrush, bitterbrush, Mormon tea, and different grass species. Steep ravines dissect steep and round forested mountains forming the backdrop of your hike. Look for trail information signs identifying local plants and Native American traditions.

Several miles up the road, the **Sierra Overlook** has a short 1/4 mile trail leading to breathtaking views of the Sierra Nevada and Owens Valley. The **Schulman Grove of Bristlecone Pines** is another two miles further and offers three more difficult hiking trails at a 9,846 ft. (3,001 meters) elevation.

TRAILS MAP

