Sun City Festival Hiking Club

HIKE DESCRIPTION FORM

Hike Name: China Dam

Location: NORTH OF LAKE PLEASANT

Hike Description: You can hike to a dam on Humbug Creek, built by Chinese laborers in the late 1800's. They also constructed a 3-mile-long ditch (with 3 tunnels) to carry water to mining operations in a canyon which is now under the waters of Lake Pleasant. Bring flashlights and gloves to explore the first tunnel.

Rating: Moderate to difficult (creek crossings and boulder hopping)

Type: old roads and off trail hike

Length - Miles and Time: Miles and Time: 3 miles using 4x4 vehicles or 5 miles if hiking entire road

Takes about 5 hours.

Elevation Change: 500 feet accumulated

Travel Directions:

China Dam Driving Directions

Take Sun Valley Parkway and go north on 303. Get off at exit 131. Go north on Lake Pleasant Parkway for 2.4 miles. Turn left onto Highway 74 for 5.5 miles. Turn right onto Castle Hot Springs Road. Pass the main entrance to Lake Pleasant. Continue for another 3.2 miles to the stop sign. Turn Left (the road becomes dirt). After 2.7 miles turn right onto Cow Creek Road. After 2.6 miles park on the side road to the left. You must walk from here unless you have 4x4. Four Wheel Vehicles ONLY turn right and go up the hill one half mile to the parking area.

Travel Time: 1 Hour

Parking: Dirt Road

Rest Rooms: No