

Sun City Festival Hiking Club

HIKE DESCRIPTION FORM

Hike Name:

Granite Mountain Hotshots Memorial

Location:

The park entrance is located two miles south of Yarnell on Highway 89 (White Spar)

Rating:

Difficult

Hike Description

The Hotshots Trail takes you through the Weaver Mountains and includes a 1,200 ft. elevation gain with a 5-8 percent grade. As you make your way, you will encounter 200+ stairs carved from the surrounding rock, interpretive signs, benches and 19 memorial plaques. From the trailhead, the 2.85-mile path will lead you up to the observation deck. Every 600 feet, 19 granite plaques set into rocks share a photo and a story of each fallen Hotshot. Four interpretive signs paired with memorial benches provide information about wildland firefighting.

Once you reach the observation deck, you can see the fatality site 400' below and the Town of Yarnell to the east. Additional interpretive signs here, outline the tragic events of the Yarnell Hill Fire.

Once at the observation deck, the 3/4-mile Journey Trail allows you to follow the last steps of the Hotshots down to the Fatality Site where they made their last stand. Encircling the fatality site, 19 gabion baskets, one for each Hotshot, are united by chains representing their eternal team. A short path surrounds the gabions and the nearby memorial flagpole. Please, take a moment to pay your respects, but remain outside of the gabion enclosure out of respect for the Hotshots and their families.

Rating:

Moderate- Difficult

Type:

Out and Back

Length – Miles and Time:

7 miles and 4 hours

Trailhead Start and End:

The park entrance is located two miles south of Yarnell on Highway 89

Elevation Change:

Est. 1000+ft.

Travel Directions:

West on US 60 to Wickenburg. North on US 93 towards Las Vegas. North AZ 89 towards Yarnell. Park and parking lot is signed.

Travel Time: _____ approximately 1 ½ Hrs

Parking:

Yes

Rest Rooms:

Yes