

Sun City Festival Hiking Club
HIKE DESCRIPTION FORM

Hike Name: Lost Ranch Ruins Trail to Lost Ranch Mines Trail Loop

Location: South Mountain Park

Hike Description: The mystery of the Lost Ranch is how and why the ruins got there. From a distance you can barely make out the stone frame of a fireplace. As you get closer, a second fireplace becomes visible. When you arrive upon the site, it becomes evident this was once an elaborate structure. Some speculate it was the ruins of a mining camp, Some say it was a nudist resort for the Hollywood types, or a dude ranch of some sort. Urban legend says it was a speakeasy during the prohibition. The best description found was that it was built by the Civilian Conservation Corps between 1933-1940. The hike is challenging because after you find the ruins, you are faced with a steep elevation change when hiking to the abandoned mines. The amazing views along the way are of beautiful desert vegetation.

Rating: Difficult

Type: Loop

Trail Names: Lost Ranch Ruins Trail to Lost Ranch Mines

Length – Miles and Time: 4.9 miles, 3.5 Hours

Trailhead Start and End: Bursera Trailhead

Elevation Change: 1,253 ft

Travel Directions: 303 South to Exit 104 A onto I-10 E towards Phoenix, Exit 138 onto 202 Loop, Exit 62 17th Ave, Left on W Chandler Blvd, Right on S 19th Ave, Left into Parking lot.,

Travel Time: 1 to 1.5 hours

Parking: Yes

Rest Rooms: No