



Whitney Portal Car Camp

July 29 – August 1, 2010

The group campsite at Whitney Portal is set among pines, and sits at a staggering 8,300 feet above sea level. It's the gateway to Mt. Whitney, the tallest peak in the lower 48, rising nearly 14,500 feet above sea level! Our campsite is the trailhead for some spectacular Sierra hikes. We'll experience a bit of the Mt. Whitney trail on our hike to Lone Pine Lake, and explore the Cottonwood Lake Basin.

Our Campsite

We have reserved two group campsites at Whitney Portal (G-2 and G-3). Each site can accommodate up to 10 campers, so we're limited to twenty people total. There are shared picnic tables, potable water and restrooms, but no showers. This is bear country, so we must store our food and provisions in the bear boxes provided. Only two cars may be parked at each group site (those cars will be the trip leader and three high occupancy vehicles). Others must park adjacent to the group site or pay a \$7 per day parking fee (not included in the price of the trip). Bring a bundle of wood for campfires. Pets aren't allowed on this trip.

What to Bring

You'll need the usual clothing and camping equipment for a long weekend in the High Sierra. Bring your tent, tarp, sleeping bag and pad, food, cooler, stove and fuel, lantern, and if you have one, a solar shower. For day hikes, pack boots, a knapsack, water bottle, bug repellent and a flashlight. We're high up in the mountains, so although days should be bright and sunny, it will be COLD at night (possibly dipping into the 40s), so bring a jacket. Thunders showers are possible, so pack a light raincoat or poncho.

How to Get There

Take the 5 north from Los Angeles to the 14 (Palmdale/Lancaster). Pass through Mojave and continue north towards Lone Pine. Whitney Portal is 13 miles west of Lone Pine on Whitney Portal Road. Look for the turn-off for the group site (2 and 3). If your vehicle is not one of the 4 cars permitted to park at the site, you may unload and park in the designated overflow parking area. It's about a 4 to 5 hour drive from LA, depending on traffic.



Itinerary

Thursday (July 29) – You may arrive any time after 2PM. Claim your campsite/share picnic tables/store food in bear boxes.

Friday (July 30) – 9:30AM Hike to Lone Pine Lake (6 miles roundtrip- 1700 ft elevation gain to 10,040 feet) The jagged summit of Mt. Whitney beckons, as we ascend the beginning of the Mt. Whitney Trail. Our destination...Lone Pine Lake....does a watery balancing act on the lip of a canyon, and is a great place for a picnic lunch and a frigid splash. Be ready to go w/appropriate cloths/hiking boots/hat/sunscreen/bug repellent/lunch/snacks/water.

Friday (July 30) - 6:30PM – Our traditional GO potluck. Bring a dish to share....a salad, side, main course, or desert. Dinner will be followed by a campfire and games.

Saturday (July 31) – 8:30 AM Cottonwood Lakes Loop (11.5 miles... to 11,100 ft) Although the mileage for this trek is somewhat daunting, the route, isn't too punishing. Much of our hike is a through a vast (sometimes windswept) alpine lake basin, surrounded by crumbling granite peaks. We'll break for lunch at the Cottonwood Lakes. Be ready to go w/appropriate cloths/hiking boots/hat/sunscreen/bug repellent/lunch/snacks/water. We'll need volunteers to drive to the trailhead.

Sunday (August 1). - We'll have time for a leisurely breakfast and long good-byes. Check out is a 1PM.

Registration

Registration is limited to 20 campers. To register, send the attached registration form with a check made out to Great Outdoors (not to me!). I will confirm your place on the trip by email or phone. We encourage carpooling, and although I will attempt to connect drivers with those who need rides, I cannot guarantee a ride. Cancel by July 15 for a full refund, otherwise refunds will be made only if a suitable replacement camper registers.

For more information about this trip, please contact Timothy at **ts709 @ roadrunner.com**

Whitney Portal (7/30-8/1/10)

Members
Single \$30
Couple (two people/1 tent/1 car) \$45.

Non-members
\$50 (includes GO e-membership)
\$65 (includes GO e-membership)

Make check payable to **Great Outdoors** and mail to:

Timothy Stirton
1328 N. Occidental Blvd.
Los Angeles, CA 90026

Personal Information: (Couples, please register on one form)

Name 1) _____ Name 2) _____

Great Outdoors Member? **Yes** or **No** If Yes, Chapter: _____ Membership # _____

Address:

_____ City/State/Zip: _____

Phone: _____ **E-mail address** : _____

Do you have a carpool companion? Yes or No If yes, who (name) ?

WAIVER, MEDICAL RELEASE AND ASSIGNMENT

I am aware that my participation in the GREAT OUTDOORS may include potentially hazardous activities, and I am voluntarily participating in these activities with that knowledge and understanding that I will use my best judgment to avoid injury to myself and others. I agree to follow the directions of the trip leader and abide by the rules of the facility I am using. I hereby release GREAT OUTDOORS, including its officers, trail or trip leaders, agents or other persons working with GREAT OUTDOORS from any liability for injuries, physical or mental, which I may suffer by reason of any participation in these activities. I recognize in waiving this liability that I am assuming sole responsibility for my actions and cannot blame any injuries on any other persons connected with GREAT OUTDOORS. I hereby agree to assume full financial responsibility for any bills incurred by me for medical treatment as the result of my participation in this GREAT OUTDOORS activity. In the event that I am unable to consent to medical care, I hereby authorize the trip leader to consent to emergency medical treatment for me, including hospitalization and surgery, as may be best determined under the circumstances.

Signature(s) 1) _____ 2) _____

Date _____ In case of emergency contact: _____ Relationship _____

Phone _____ Your Medical Insurance Carrier _____ Group/Policy No. _____

Physician _____ Phone _____

Health problems / allergies _____

Prescriptions that you are presently taking:

Questions? Contact Timothy by email ts709@roadrunner.com