



United States Department of Agriculture
Forest Service



PACIFIC SOUTHWEST REGION

Restoring, Enhancing and Sustaining Forests in California, Hawaii and the Pacific Islands

Sierra National Forest

SUGGESTED DAY HIKES

High Sierra Ranger District

HUNTINGTON LAKE AREA

Drive up Highway 168 from Shaver Lake. These first four trails are on the right hand side:

Coyote Lake: 16 miles RT* (from Hwy 168, and 10 miles RT from the beginning of the 4WD road). The jeep road to Coyote Lake is well traveled but an extremely rugged jeep road. The setting is alpine, glacial, partly timbered in shallow rolling forest.

Red Lake: 13 miles RT (from Hwy 168, and 8 miles RT from beginning of the 4WD road). This is a small lake, open and sparsely timbered with a rocky and meadow type shoreline. You can drive by the way of the Red Mountain Off-Highway Vehicle Route. You can also reach West and Strawberry Lakes from this trail.

Indian Pools: 2 miles RT. The trail starts from the China Peak Ski Resort, heading east along Big Creek. This is the only hike in the area that is considered easy since the trail is basically flat.

Rancheria Falls: 2 miles RT. The trailhead is approximately 1.2 miles up the Rancheria Falls road. The trail is of a gentle grade and is 1 mile in length. Elevations range from 7,760 feet at the trailhead to 8,120 feet at the end of the trail near the base of the Falls.

HUNTINGTON LAKE DAM AREA

On the west end of the lake.

Mushroom Rock: Approximately 2 miles from the Huntington Lake Dam on the Huntington Lake Road (going toward Big Creek) turn on road 8S32. Stay on the main dirt road for approximately 4.5 miles. The Mushroom turn-off sign is 3/10 of a mile to the parking area. Just follow the trail sign approximately 300 yards to the vista.

Black Point: Just past the Mushroom turn-off sign is the turn-off to Black Point. Follow the dirt road approximately 1/4 mile to the parking area. The trail is 1/2 mile to the top and is a moderately strenuous walk. Both Huntington and Shaver Lakes can be seen.

KAISER WILDERNESS DAY HIKES

The Kaiser Wilderness is located directly north of Huntington Lake.

College Rock: 5 miles RT. The trail starts behind D&F Pack Station off the Huntington Lake Road. It is a steep, strenuous hike and the halfway point to Kaiser Peak. The view is of the entire Huntington Lake Basin

* Note: RT means "round trip"



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Kaiser Peak: 10 miles RT. The trail starts behind D&F Pack Station off the Huntington Lake Road. It is a steep and strenuous 3,000 foot climb with many switchbacks. At the top there is a spectacular view from the Minarets to Kings Canyon National Park.

Coarsegrass Meadow: 5 miles RT. Starting from Home Creek off the Huntington Lake Road there is a well marked and easy trail to the flowery meadow. Hiking two miles past Coarsegrass Meadow, with a steep drop, you will find another meadow of Quaking Aspen called Aspen Meadow.

Nellie Lake: 10 miles RT. This trail starts approximately 1.5 miles behind the Upper Billy Creek Campground. This trail is 3 hours up at an enjoyable pace with numerous stops due to it being a steep hike with

Twin Lakes: 6 miles RT. The trail begins four miles from the Eastwood Visitor Center on the Kaiser Pass Road. On the right side of the road, 1/4 mile before the Badger Flat Campground, is a large parking area where you can park. Directly across the road from the parking lot is the trailhead. At first there are many switchbacks and is steep. It then changes into more gradual climb that is relatively easy. Along the Potter Pass trail there is a view of Huntington Lake and a good view of the High Sierra. The Pass itself is a lovely sub-alpine field of blue lupine and lodgepole pines. At Potter Pass, Mt. Ritter and Mt. Banner may be seen to the north. The trail then heads down hill to Lower and Upper Twin Lakes.

George Lake: 2 miles RT from Upper Twin Lake, 8 miles RT from Potter Pass trailhead. Moderate to strenuous hike. Beautiful and worth the extra effort from Upper Twin Lake. George Lake sits at the base of one of the higher peaks of Kaiser Ridge. Granite slabs and boulders are all around the lake. It is spectacular. Mtn. Hemlock, western white pine, lodgepole, mountain heather and labradore tea is dominate vegetation around the lake. Last, George Lake provides a good beginning point for further exploration of the higher alpine lakes in the Kaiser Wilderness.

ON KAISER PASS ROAD

These trails are located off of Kaiser Pass Road.

White Bark Vista Point: 2 miles RT. This can be reached by car from a steep dirt road at Kaiser Pass. Or you can choose to walk it. The view here is quite scenic. You can see over a large area of the High Sierra and the Minarets Mountain Range.

Ershim Lake: 8 miles RT from White Bark Vista along the Dusy-Ershim OHV route. This hike is quite long and dry. Along the trail you will see several large meadow that are covered with the usual variety of wildflowers. The jeep club has established two pit toilets and there is plenty of room to camp.

Corbett Lake: 6 miles RT. The trail begins on the road behind the Bosillo Campground, across the road from the High Sierra Visitor Center. This is a short hike that is steep with many switchbacks. The lake itself is small with open space to camp around the area.

Mono Creek Crossing: 5 miles RT. Trailhead starts on the north side of Portal Forebay and goes into the Ansel Adams Wilderness. In places the trail is strenuous, but generally is easy. Various trees, flowers and animals can be seen.

Rattlesnake Crossing: 8 miles RT. Trailhead starts at the north side of Portal Forebay to Rattlesnake Bridge. In the Ansel Adams Wilderness.

ON FLORENCE LAKE ROAD

These trails are located off of the Florence Lake Road or from Florence Lake.

Dutch Lake: 6 miles RT. The trailhead is at the end of the Florence Lake Picnic Area and is a steep hike. The trail ascends 2,000 feet and in some places you will rely completely on rock markers. The lake itself is small with a meadow to the right. There is plenty of room to make camp and fire pits are already established.

Crater Lake: 3 miles RT from Dutch Lake and 9 miles RT from Florence Lake. Starting from Dutch Lake this hike is easy and relatively flat. The lake is well named and is surrounded by jutting, bare mountain tops which result in a striking effect.

Blayne Meadows and Hot Springs: 11 miles RT. Leaving from the south end of Florence Lake the trail travels through various wooded areas and meadow. This hike is not strenuous. You can take the 8:30am ferry and hike out past Muir Trail Ranch to the hot springs, rest and eat lunch, then be back to catch the ferry at 5:00pm. This hike takes you into the John Muir Wilderness.

Around Florence Lake: 8 miles. Hiking around the lake you will see woods, many flowers and plants. Cross the Boulder Creek bridge on the southwest end and hike along the rocky border of the east side of the lake.

ON EDISON LAKE ROAD

These trails are located along Edison Lake Road or at Edison Lake.

Doris Lake: 5 miles RT. This lake is easily reached by foot from a trail that begins at Mono Hot Springs. A good hiker, without a heavy pack, can be there in 30 minutes. Fishing early in the season is from good to excellent. This trail would be ideal for a family outing.

Devil's Table: 5 miles RT. Leaving from Mono Hot Springs on the Tule Lake trail, Devil's Table can be easily reached. After reaching Tule Lake, cross country southwest for 3/4 of a mile over rocky terrain and Devil's Table should be in sight. Once on top you will have a complete panoramic view of all the mountains in the area. Sierra Junipers of every size and shape cover the top. These trees are said to rival the redwoods in age. Devil's Table is a lava formation rising above the surrounding area and when viewed from a distance looks like a platform. Volcanic ash covers the surface.

Bear Diversion Dam: 6 miles RT. A leisurely hike on a dirt road out to the Bear Creek Diversion Dam. There is access to the John Muir Wilderness from this point. Land is young glaciated granite with large boulders and slabs. Much evidence of glacial polishing.

Devil's Bathtub: 8 miles RT. Trailhead is located at the northwest end of Lake Edison. It leads through Twin Meadows and is steep in some areas. This trail is in the John Muir Wilderness.

Cold Creek: 1 to 3 miles RT. For a relatively short hike, this trail starts at Vermillion Campground (Devils/Graveyard Trailhead) and is fairly easy. There are many lateral trails down to Lake Edison and if you do desire, you may continue around the Lake for a scenic hike. A very good trail even beyond Cold Creek, but it can be strenuous.

Mono Creek: 10 miles RT. Trailhead is located on the south side of Lake Edison and follows Mono Creek down to Mono Hot Springs. Approximately half way you will come to Mono Dam Diversion, a pretty area to watch for animals and fish. This trail is located in the Ansel Adams Wilderness.

Around Lake Edison: 9 miles RT. Trailhead is located on the northwest side of the lake. The hike is fairly level and gives a good view of the lake and surrounding meadows and forested area.



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