

Rowton Peak Trail/ Razorback Ridge – Donner Summit

Monday, July 22, 2024

DIFFICULTY: Moderate / Strenuous at moderate pace. Trailhead is at 6,821' and the hike will include a mixture of dirt and rock trail, with some relatively steep climbs and descents.

ELEVATION GAIN: 1,056 feet

HIKE DISTANCE: 6 miles.

GENERAL LOCATION: Serene Lakes basin, Soda Springs, CA

DESCRIPTION: The hike will utilize the Royal Gorge and Walter & Esther Hewlett Rim trails to climb to Rowton Peak, Razorback Ridge, and continue on multiple trails before returning to the trailhead. The lower portions of the trail are in a mixed conifer forest, with seasonal wildflowers. Upper portions of the trail will be primarily granite. Views along the way will include Serene Lakes, Royal Gorge, Granite Chief Wilderness, and various volcanic rock formations. Mosquitos are active in shaded areas and the portion of the hike in the area of Rowton Peak and Razorback Ridge is exposed to sun.

TRAVEL TIME: 1 hour 15 minutes each way, approximately 70 miles. \$ 10 donation suggested for driver.

SPECIAL NOTES:

PACE: This hike is intended for those comfortable with a moderate pace, at altitude, over mostly moderate and occasionally strenuous grades.

LUNCH: We will drive from the trailhead to Serene Lakes. Please bring your

own lunch to join the group near the beach area after the hike.

RESTROOMS: No restrooms at the trailhead or on the trail. We will plan a stop at Gould Park (Cisco Grove Exit), on the north side of I-80, on the way up and there are restrooms at the lunch location.

PREPARATIONS FOR HIKE:

1. Bring drivers license, Health ID card, and emergency contact/phone number on hike.
2. Change of shoes- one for car, one for hike.
3. Hiking sticks, sunscreen, insect repellant, and water (50 oz./ 1.4 L) for hike.
4. Pack a snack for the trail, a lunch for afterwards.

HIKE LEADER/SWEEP: Tom Denzler (lead), Debbie Knowles (sweep)

RETURN TIME: Approximately 4:00pm arrival at OC, depending on I-80 road work.

MEETING TIME: 6:30 am at Orchard Creek near gym, departure by 6:45am

QUESTIONS: Call Tom Denzler

DRIVING DIRECTIONS: I-80 east from Lincoln to Soda Springs (Exit 174). Right turn on Donner Pass Road. Speed limit 25 mph through town. At blinking light (corner of Donner Pass and Soda Springs Road), make right turn on Soda Springs Road. Continue up hill, watching speed through residential area. Pass Hoelter-Hall Trailhead and continue straight on gravel road to trailhead parking on right (look for Silverado Trail sign on left).