

at Joshua Tree National Park

74485 National Park Dr. Twentynine Palms, CA 92277

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Hike to Samuelson's Rocks

Information

Date/ Time: Saturday, November 2, 8:00AM – Late Afternoon
Meet at: [Joshua Tree Visitor Center](#) (click on the link for a map)
6554 Park Blvd., Joshua Tree, CA 92252
Instructor: Lew Kingman, Archaeology Site Steward

Overview

Samuelson's Rocks: chances are good that most visitors to Joshua Tree National Park have never seen them, let alone even know they exist. Inspired by religion, politics, nature and solitude, John Samuelson, a homesteader, set about to use the ancient rocks as a canvas to express his "eternal verities of existence," as he referred to them, along with his views on the Great Depression. His words are still quite visible today, looking much like they did when he carved them over 88 years ago.

Itinerary

Saturday, November 2, 8:00AM – Late Afternoon

Joshua Tree Visitor Center

- Introduction
- Caravan into the park
- Field class
- Lunch/snack break, **bring your own food**
- Field class

What to Bring to the Course

Optional Class Materials

- 7.5" USGS Indian Cove quad
- Compass
- Camera
- Binoculars
- Field guides
- Hiking poles

The 10 Essentials: Everyday in the Desert

- Day pack
- 4 quarts of water
- Hiking boots with traction soles
- Lunch and snacks

- Clothing layers
- Hat
- Sunglasses
- Sunscreen
- Notebook and pencil/pen
- Whistle

Fitness Requirements

Participants must be in good physical condition for courses/activities in a desert that may be hot, dry, windy, and sometimes surprisingly cold

Hike Level

MODERATE - Moderate steady pace up to 4 miles round trip over some loose, rocky or uneven terrain.

Guidelines

- You are responsible for your safety.
- Park your car in designated areas only. Parking along the side of the road is dangerous to you and the environment.
- Rattlesnakes are present in the desert. Avoid contact with wildlife. Put your hands and feet only where you can see them.
- Only you know your limits, please let the instructor or Desert Institute Representative know if you do not want to continue. This is a long hike; only go if you are confident in your balance and scrambling skills.
- Stay with the group. If you get lost, stay put.
- Drink plenty of water. If you run out, notify the instructor or the Desert Institute Representative.
- Before leaving the class, check out with the Desert Institute Representative.

Instructor Biography

LEW KINGMAN is a retired fire fighter and worked for the Palm Springs Desert Museum as a hike leader for 8 years. He volunteers with the Riverside County Sheriff's Search and Rescue for 25 years and Joshua Tree National Park as an archaeological site steward and a lead field class leader for the Desert Institute.

* The Desert Institute staff/instructors will attempt to accommodate participant's needs, however we reserve the right to deny a student participation in the course due to concerns regarding health and safety issues.