

at Joshua Tree National Park

74485 National Park Dr. Twentynine Palms, CA 92277
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Crown Prince Lookout

Information

Date/ Time: Saturday, November 9, 8 am – Noon
Meet at: [Oasis Visitor Center](#)
74485 National Park Dr Twentynine Palms, CA
Instructor: Kevin Powell, Joshua Tree Hiking Guidebook Author

Overview

Clamber to the top of an old military lookout via an easy cross-country ramble and a very short section of **technical rock scrambling**. Once on top, there will be a short discussion on the history of this long forgotten, and little known World War II artifact.

As well, the views from the top down in to the Pinto Basin to the east and back to the west of Queen Valley and its surrounding peaks are especially memorable from this high, but infrequently visited mesa like feature situated near the Jumbo Rocks Campground. Roundtrip distance is 2.6 miles with a total elevation gain of 200 feet.

Please note: some technical rock scrambling will be required to reach the location where the old lookout once stood.

Itinerary

Saturday, November 9, 8 am – noon

Oasis Visitor Center

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

What to Bring to the Course

Optional Class Materials

- 7.5" USGS Malapai Hill quad
- Compass/GPS device
- Camera

- Binoculars
- Field guides

Suggested Reading:

- *John Sowell, Desert Ecology, University of Utah Press, 2001*
- *Bruce Pavlik, The California Deserts, University of California Press, 2008*

The 10 Essentials: Every day in the Desert

- Day pack
- 4 quarts of water
- Closed toe hiking shoes - No sandals or equivalent
- 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

The hike to the base of the mesa like formation follows an old roadbed for most of the way and is a relatively easy stroll. Once at the base, a short twenty-foot section of **technical rock scrambling** leads to a use trail that reaches the remains of the old lookout after a few hundred yards.

Please call us at 760-367-5595, if you have questions concerning your rock scrambling/hiking abilities.

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. 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

Kevin Powell has spent forty-five years hiking, rock climbing, photographing and exploring within Joshua Tree National Park. His first book, 40 Classic Day Hikes of Joshua Tree Park is available in the Joshua Tree Visitor Centers.

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