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Wasson Peak via King Canyon Trail

Distance: 7.8 miles / 12.6 kilometers roundtrip

Time: 7 hours, including lunch, breaks, and many pictures taken

Type: Loop

Trail Markings: There are no blazes, but the trail is well defined. You might see a couple cairns, and there are signs at intersections.

Overall Elevation Gain (Every gain): 2,494 feet / 760 meters

Net Elevation Gain (Top minus Bottom): 1,769 feet / 539 meters

Difficulty: Strenuous, not just the trail, but also the heat depending on the season

Crowds: A few groups in mid-April, but we saw maybe 25 people max

Water: No water features, unless you're here during monsoon season (Summer, June 15 -Sept 30)

Directions to Parking on Picture Rocks Road: 32.247243, -111.167126

Trail Directions:

- **Mile 0.0** Continue to the back of the parking lot. Keep right for King Canyon Trail. To the left is the King Canyon Wash Trail which you could also take, if you prefer walking in sand.
- **Mile 0.9** The trails are a bit messy here, but you'll continue on the King Canyon trail. Follow the signs. The King Canyon Wash Trail merges with King Canyon Trail here, and there are side trails as well. We recommend checking out the Mam-A-Gah picnic area while you're here.
- **Mile 2.3** Sweetwater Trail intersects with King Canyon trail. Make a left, and continue climbing on King Canyon Trail.
- Mile 3.2 From here you can see the summit, so head right on Hugh Norris Trail.
- **Mile 3.5** You're at the Wasson Peak Summit! Enjoy the view! Then continue back the way you came.
- **Mile 3.8** Back at the intersection of the King Canyon and Hugh Norris trails. Continue straight onto Hugh Norris Trail.
- Mile 5.7 Take a left turn onto Sendero Esperanza Trail.
- Mile 6.7 Turn right onto Gould Mine Trail.
- **Mile 7.8** Gould Mine Trail runs into King Canyon Wash Trail. Hike up the sloped sandy hill, and you're back at the parking lot!