

# Backpack Trip to Mt Whitney 2014

Rev. Jan 26, 2014

Sun July 20	Leave St Francis Xavier School <b>5:00 AM</b> Travel Class A uniform Phoenix to Blythe (I10) 146 miles 2.2 hours Blythe to San Bernardino (I10) 199 miles 3.1 hours <b>Lunch</b> Costco San Bernardino San Bernardino to Lone Pine (I395) 163 miles 3.1 hours  <b>Permits</b> Eastern Sierra Interagency Visitor Center, Lone Pine 8:00 AM to 6:00 PM, 760-876-6200 (rent bear canisters) junction highway 395 and state route 136  Move one car to Cottonwood Lakes Trailhead <b>Dinner</b> Lone Pine Lone Pine to Campground 29 miles 0.8 hour <b>Total</b> 537 miles 9.2 hours <b>Night</b> Onion Valley Campground (has water, toilets)
Mon July 21	Hike Day 1 Hike Class B uniform Onion Valley Campground Trailhead to Kearsage Lake 5.13 miles, up 2701 ft, down 991 ft
Tues July 22	Hike Day 2 – Kearsage Lake to Center Basin (Golden Bear Lake) 7.37 miles, up 1741 ft, down 1739 ft
Wed July 23	Hike Day 3 Center Basin to Tyndall Creek 9.92 miles, up 2681 ft, down 2637 ft
Thru July 24	Hike Day 4 Tyndall Creek to Guitar Lake 11.42 miles, up 2590 ft, down 1996 ft
Fri July 25	Hike Day 5 – Start early, off summit by noon, thunderstorms Mount Whitney summit and back 4.38 miles, up 3465 ft, down 460 ft (times 2)
Sat July 26	Hike Day 6 Guitar Lake to Rock Creek 9.52 miles, up 909 ft, down 2731 ft
Sun July 27	Hike Day 7 Rock Creek to High Lake 8.18 miles, up 2695 ft, down 863 ft
Mon July 28	Hike Day 8, High Lake to Cottonwood Lakes Trailhead 6.64 miles, up 324 ft, down 1750 ft Drive car to Onion Valley Campground to pick up other cars (16 + 29 miles) <b>Lunch</b> McDonald's, Lone Pine <b>Showers</b> Boulder Creek RV Resort <b>Dinner</b> Pizza Factory, Lone Pine, 760-876-4707 <b>Night</b> Boulder Creek RV Resort, 2500 S Hwy 395, Lone Pine, CA 760-876-4243 800-648-8965
Tues July 29	Drive back to Phoenix, return at 7:00 PM Travel Class A uniform

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## Some Facts

79 F - Average max temperature July  
43 F – Average min temperature July  
0.13 inch – Average rain July

## Cost

Food – travel, 2 breakfasts (\$5), 3 lunches (\$6.00), 3 dinners (\$7.00) = \$49 (bring this money with you on the trip)

Food – trail, 8 days (buy this backpacking food before the trip)

Onion Valley Campground fee \$5 per person (pay to Jack Kelly)

Bear-Resistant Food Canisters (rent for trip \$10 per person) (pay at Eastern Sierra Interagency Visitor Center)

Tee-Shirt Troop Mt Whitney \$15 each (pay to Jack Kelly)

Wilderness Permit \$16 per person (pay to Jack Kelly)

Boulder Creek RV Resort camp one night \$15 per person (pay to Jack Kelly)

Transportation \$60.00 per person (pay to Mike Crowley)

$((537 + 45 \text{ miles} \times 2) / 17 \text{ MPG}) \times \$3.50 \text{ per gallon} / 4 \text{ persons per car} = \$60.00$

**Total costs**                      \$170.00

Pay Jack Kelly    \$5 + \$15 + \$16 + \$15 = **\$51 by Jan 14, 2014**

Southern Inyo Healthcare District **Hospital**  
501 East Locust Street  
Lone Pine, CA 93545  
(760) 876-5501

## Reservations (Jack Kelly to do this)

Wilderness Permit reservations

Onion Valley Campground reservations

Boulder Creek RV Resort, 2500 S Hwy 395, Lone Pine, CA  
760-876-4243    800-648-8965  
Camping one night reservations

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Bear-Resistant Food Canisters: (buy or rent)  
Each person will carry one – all smellable in here

Last updated March 9, 2010

## Allowed Canisters

- \* Backpacker Model 812 (Garcia) This is the one for rent (see below for size)  
[www.backpackerscache.com](http://www.backpackerscache.com)
- \* BearVault 110b, 200, 250, 300, 350, 400, 450, and 500  
[www.bearvault.com](http://www.bearvault.com)
- \* Bearikade Weekender MKII  
(1766 and higher) and Expedition MKII (1766 and higher)  
[www.wild-ideas.net](http://www.wild-ideas.net)
- \* The Bear Keg (Counter Assault)  
[www.counterassault.com](http://www.counterassault.com)
- \* The Bare Boxer Contender (101) and Champ (202)  
[www.bareboxer.com](http://www.bareboxer.com)
- \* Purple Mountain Engineering Tahoe  
(This canister is no longer in production or available for purchase)

## How to Use a Bear Canister

The most important part of using a bear canister is what goes inside it. Make sure all food, all trash, all toiletries, and all other scented items are inside the bear canister. This includes but is not limited to all sealed or packaged food, sunscreen, soap, mosquito repellent, lip balm, deodorant, medications, and feminine products. As a general rule, if you put it in your mouth or on your skin, it should probably be stored in a bear canister.

The bear canister only works if it's closed and locked! Be sure to keep it closed and locked, even while you're around your campsite. Place the canister on the ground in a flat, level area 100 feet or more from your campsite. Take care not to place it near a cliff or any water source, as a bear may knock the canister around or roll it down a hill. Do not hang or attach anything to the canister (ropes attached to the canister enable a bear to carry it away). You can place pots and pans on top of the canister as a bear alarm if you like.

Garcia Backpackers' Cache canisters are 12 inches (30 cm) tall, 8.8 inches (22.4 cm) in diameter, have a volume of 615 cubic inches (10 L), and weigh 2 pounds, 11 ounces (1.2 kg). This is the one that you can rent at Eastern Sierra Interagency Visitor Center.

No food or drinks in the parked cars at the trailhead. No coolers or smellables in the parked cars.