

TONTO National Forest



Recreation
Opportunity
Guide

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HIKING

SIPHON DRAW TRAIL 53

RANGER DISTRICT

Mesa Ranger Station
5140 E. Ingram Street
Mesa, AZ 85205
Phone (480) 610-3300 Fax (480) 610-3346

TRAILHEADS (TH)

Lost Dutchman: From the junction of State Highway 88 (Apache Trail) and US Highway 60 in Apache Junction, drive 5.3 miles north on Hwy. 88. Turn right (east) from the highway at the entrance to Lost Dutchman State Park and proceed to the TH in the campground area.

TRAIL INFORMATION

Trail use: Moderate
Trail difficulty: Easiest
Trail length: 1.1 miles
Season of Use: Spring, fall, winter
USGS maps: Goldfield
Elevation:
Highest: 2600 feet
Lowest: 2080 feet

TRAIL NARRATIVE

This is a relatively short trail (2.2 miles round-trip) from the park campground to the Superstition Wilderness boundary. Most of the route follows an old road. The trail starts relatively level and gradually increases until it becomes moderately steep for the last 0.4 mile. At this location is a junction that is the beginning of the Prospectors Trail 57. Almost immediately past this junction is the intersection with Jacob's Trail 58. At Mile 0.8, the old road turns north to the remains of the Palmer Mine. The trail itself continues another 0.3 mile to the Superstition Wilderness boundary. Return to the trailhead via the same route.

ATTRACTIONS

- As the trail ascends in elevation, hikers here a panorama of the Valley of the Sun and surrounding mountains
- Much of the landscape is open with low shrubs, grasses and forbs with occasional taller shrubs. In the spring from late February into April, the annual wildflowers are abundant if the rains and sunshine have been just right. Under optimum conditions, poppies and brittlebush cover the entire hillside with masses of color.

CONSIDERATIONS

- A cross-country travel way continues beyond the maintained trail. This travel way is **steep**, **hazardous** and **difficult to follow**. Only hikers experienced in this type of terrain should proceed beyond the maintained trail.
- This trail is closed to all motor vehicles
- Not recommended for any type of livestock
- Carry an adequate supply of drinking water
- If you PACK IT IN, PACK IT OUT!!**
- Although the trail is essentially all within the Tonto National Forest, the trailhead is in the Lost Dutchman State Park. The trail is maintained by the state under cooperative agreement.
- There have been several serious injuries, as people tried to follow a route that climbs up the side of the mountain. Don't go there.
- Do not drink untreated water. Giardia, a protozoan, is in many water impoundments and streams.

