

## **SaddleBrooke Hiking Club - Death Valley National Park Hiking Trip January 28 -30 (Tuesday – Thursday) , 2020**

Mark your calendars now. The SaddleBrooke Hiking Club is planning a hiking trip to Death Valley National Park (DVNP) the last week in January next year (2020). Club guides will offer a variety of hikes over three days as is common with our regional hiking trips. DVNP is in California, west-northwest of Las Vegas, just across the California-Nevada border. The Furnace Creek Visitors Center in DVNP is approximately ~521 miles from Saddlebrooke (via Las Vegas). Club members planning to hike all three days will need to arrive on Monday, January 27, 2020.

All travelers must make their own lodging, transportation and food arrangements. Members can choose to hike all three days or only one or two days as their schedule permits.

**Directions:** Death Valley National Park, CA is west of Las Vegas and can be accessed via Nevada state highways. Please consult Nevada and California maps. Most navigation devices/software “should” guide you on this route. Suggested route to DVNP through Las Vegas, NV:

Once you reach HENDERSON, NV (a suburb on the SE side of Las Vegas) go WEST on I-215 to I-15. Go SOUTH on I-15 for approximately ONE MILE to NV-160. Go WEST on NV-160 & then NW ~57 miles through PAHRUMP, NV to BELLA VISTA Rd. Go WEST (LEFT) on BELLA VISTA Rd. for ~28 miles to CA-127. Go NORTH (RIGHT) on CA-127 for 0.2 miles (two tenths) to CA-190. Go WEST (LEFT) on CA-190 for ~26 miles to FURNACE CREEK.

**Park Entrance:** A National Parks Golden Age Pass (62+ senior lifetime pass) or Annual National Park Pass (purchased each year) can be used to enter the park. Alternatively the entrance fee is \$30.00 for a seven day pass and allows all persons traveling with the permit holder (car/truck/van) to leave and re-enter the part as many times as they wish during the seven day period.

**Trip Registrar:** **Frank Earnest, Email: [fearnestiv@gmail.com](mailto:fearnestiv@gmail.com)** Please contact Frank Earnest to register for the trip indicating member names and contact information (cell phone & email). Trip leaders are Rob Simms, Frank Earnest (registrar) and Randy Park (hike organizer). The hike schedule, when finalized, will be distributed to all persons signed up for the trip. It is important that trip leaders know how many members plan to attend which assists the hike organizer and guides in selecting the number of outings.

**Lodging:** You should make lodging reservations as soon as possible since the demand for lodging at the Death Valley is always high. Always verify the cancellation policy of your lodging choice. There are three main options for Lodging in or near Death Valley National Park. Lodging in the park is expensive. Direct booking or third party booking (various internet sources) may offer more competitive rates. Please find the best option to suit your preferences. DVNP is a very unique and popular destination.

**Inside the Park: The Ranch at Death Valley** has a limited number of rooms on reserve for the SBHC. The Ranch Standard Two Queen Beds **REVISED RATE IS 187.04** ~~\$209.44/night~~ (rate includes room, \$12 resort fee and 12% taxes); The Ranch Deluxe One King Bed **REVISED RATE IS \$209.44** ~~\$231.84/night~~ (rate includes room, \$12 resort fee and 12% taxes). This is the approximate central area of the park. Xanterra Parks & Resorts oversees this location. **To make reservations please call 760-786-2345 and use Saddlebrooke Hiking Club Group Code 845221.** Their website: [oasisatdeathvalley.com](http://oasisatdeathvalley.com) group code. NOTE: Individuals making internet or third party lodging arrangements will not use the SBHC Group Code.

The **Oasis at Death Valley/The Inn** offers luxury accommodations at substantially increased prices.

**Inside the Park: Stove Pipe Wells** is on the western side of the park ~30 minutes from the Furnace Creek area. Lodging rates quoted for this location were greater than the Ranch, hence no rooms are reserved. It appears however that various internet rates are more competitive than **The Oasis/Ranch**. Please review the information online for this location and through third-party internet options.

**Outside the Park: Longstreet Inn & Casino**, 4400 S. Highway 373, Amargosa Valley, Nevada 89020. This is located just across the CA-NV border on the east side of the park. It is about ~40 minutes from the Furnace Creek area. Room rates quoted (which appear to be their standard website internet amounts) were: Regular Room two queen beds \$85 before taxes; Lake View Room two queen beds \$95 before taxes and Lake View King room \$105 before taxes. . To make reservations please call 775-372-1777 and use Group No. 597754. Their website: [longstreetcasino.com](http://longstreetcasino.com)

**There are various RV and camping options within Death Valley NP and at the Longstreet Inn & Casio:**

**Inside the Park:**

DVNP Campsites - Furnace Creek Area (<https://www.nps.gov/deva/planyourvisit/camping.htm>)

**Furnace Creek** - Some electric hookups, Individual Reservations can be made starting July 27th for January 27. Use Recreation.gov web site. **NOTE:** SBHC member Ray Peale will reserve a SBHC "Group Tent Site" at Furnace Creek. Please contact Ray to be included in the group tent site: [ray.peale@gmail.com](mailto:ray.peale@gmail.com)

**Texas Spring** - No reservations, \$16/\$8, individual campsites, water, picnic tables

**Sunset** - No reservations, \$14/\$7, no picnic tables, no fire pits, community water, rarely fills up, looks like parking lot

**Stovepipe Wells** - 30 miles away, no reservations, \$14/\$7, rarely fills up, big gravel parking lot

Concessions - Furnace Creek and Stovepipe Wells

**Fiddlers Campground** - Full hookups \$38 and dry camping \$24, showers, no picnic tables  
<http://www.furnacecreekresort.com/lodging/fiddlers-campground/>

**Stovepipe Wells**, 30 miles away, some hookups, \$40  
<https://deathvalleyhotels.com/our-hotel/rv-park-and-camping/>

**Outside the park:**

Longstreet Casino, 37 miles away at Nevada state line in Amargosa Valley, full hookups, \$30  
<https://www.longstreetcasino.com/rv-park-resort-camp.htm>

**Multiple Hikes** will be offered each day. A list of the hikes will be provided ~3 months before the trip. Please contact the hike leader to sign-up for the hikes. Know where the Hiking Guide plans to meet for the hike.

**Pre-trip pot luck and Group Dinner on the trip:** Further information will be forthcoming. The DVNP location may not be conducive to a single group event. Given this trip occurs in January it may not be feasible to have a pre-trip potluck.

**Contacting members of the hiking club while there:** Cell phone numbers for the hiking guides will be provided with the list of hikes. Unlike the current hiking sign-up sheet, the sign-up sheets for these hike will request the hikers cell phone (if available) and lodging/camping area. This way, the hiking guides can contact hikers in an emergency.

**Death Valley Average Weather:** January average high/low is 67/40 w/ one day of rain. February average high/low is 74/46, again with one day of rain (on average per month). Hopefully we'll see weather in this range.