



**Saturday
June 8, 2019**

Los Burros, White Mountains

Approximately 205 Miles and 4 Hours from Central Phoenix "stack",

Type: Day Hike	Max Rtg/Pts: 4/1	Elev. Change: 500 ft.	Length: 13.8 miles
Start Time: 8:00 AM	Duration: 8 hours	Max No of Part: N/A	Last Scouted: Explor

- Major Hike:
- Cross-Country:
- Exploratory:
- Individual Effort:
- Options:
- Pass/Fees Rqd.:

	Coordinator	Alternate
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Required Equipment: **Water, hiking shoes, lunch/snacks, radio**

Recommended Equipment: **Sun screen, hat, hiking poles, rain gear**

Cautions and Special Preparations:

Description: The Los Burros trail is in the White Mountain Trail System (Trail #631) The USFS classifies this trail as a light use trail. It is a popular mountain biking trail in the area and is also open to horses. The trail starts at the Los Burros campground, once the site of the Los Burros Ranger Station. Two of the original buildings still stand. The campground has a nice map of trail on the information board. With a total elevation gain of only 500' it's not a tough trail.

From the Campground we will go a short .2 miles to the gate. After the gate we will be on the power line maintenance road. Since this hike is a loop we can turn either left or right. I'm going to suggest we go right, counter clockwise. The following information is going in that direction.

The trail is very well marked with blue tag and winds through aspen groves and stands of old growth ponderosa pines with a carpet of knee high ferns. After about 3 1/2 miles the trail makes it's only real significant climb it's a steady up for about a mile or so.

Continue on the trail following the blue tags on the trees. At about mile 5 there is a spilt in the trail with markers pointing you in two different directions. Take a left (following the blue tags with yellow dots) and you will cut back to the campground for a total of 8 miles. If you turn right (following the blue tags without dots) you will hike the entire 14 miles. This way takes you up and around Wishbone Mountain.

If we take the long loop and go the entire 14 miles we will cross the power line road once and the main road twice before ending back on the power line road to complete the entire loop. The key is to find the blue tags.

I plan to camp in the campground Friday and Saturday night. The sites are first come/first serve with no fee. The campground has vault toilets and picnic tables but no water or trash cans. Tents and camping trailers are allowed. There are places to stay in Pinetop if you would prefer not to sleep in the great outdoors.

Here is a link to the Los Burros campground should you want more information:

<https://www.fs.usda.gov/recarea/asnf/recarea/?recid=44711>

And a link to an Arizona Highways article:

<https://www.arizonahighways.com/explore/hiking/los-burros-trail>

Driving Directions: You can get to the trailhead either driving through Payson (the 87 to the 260) or Globe (the 60 to the 260). From Pinetop-Lakeside, drive east on State Route 260 for 5.2 miles to Cady Avenue in McNary. Turn left onto Cady Avenue, which becomes Forest Road 224 (also known as country road 52), and continue for 7.1 miles to Forest Road 20 (look for the Los Burros Campground sign). Turn right onto FR 20 and continue 0.5 miles to the trailhead, which is located at the far end of the campground.