

DECEMBER 2018

INTERPRETIVE ACTIVITIES



Saturday, December 1, 2018

7:30 a.m. Walk – Bird Walk

1.5 Hours



Join Volunteer Naturalist Ann Keenan for a walk around the Visitor Center vicinity looking for the common birds of our desert. All birding levels welcome. Meet in the Visitor Center parking lot. Please bring binoculars if you have them. Rain cancels.

2:00 p.m. ♿ – Junior Rangers

1 Hour

Special program for children ages 7-12 only. Discover secrets of the desert environment. Sign up at the Visitor Center as space is limited.

7:00 p.m. Campfire ♿ – The Amazing World of Bats—Nature’s Tiny Fighter Jets

1 Hour

Though poorly understood and often feared, bats are fascinating animals with incredible skills of flight and nighttime navigation. Join Volunteer Naturalist Don Endicott at the Borrego Palm Canyon Campfire Center for a multimedia exploration of these amazing fliers.

Sunday, December 2, 2018

11:00 a.m. Talk ♿ – Bighorn Sheep: Symbol of Desert Wilderness

1 Hour

Join Volunteer Naturalist Tony DeLorenzo to find out about bighorn sheep. Where did they come from? What is their history here in the desert? What are their prospects for the future?

Tuesday, December 4, 2018

8:30 a.m. Hike – Weekly Members Hike

3.5 Hours



Meet at the State Park Store in the Mall. Join ABF for our weekly member hikes. Led by Park Rangers, retired Park Rangers, and various Park enthusiasts, these hikes take you to little-known but easily accessible spots throughout the northern area of the Park as a free perk for ABF members. Not a member? Join at the Visitor Center or State Park Store. For information, call 760-767-0446 ext. 1003 or visit www.theabf.org/2017-member-hikes. No advance registration required.

Wednesday, December 5, 2018

11:45 a.m. Walk ♿ – Those Mysterious Holes – Discovering the Abundant Life of ABDSP

1 Hour

Join State Park Volunteer Naturalist Terry Hunefeld to do some detective sleuthing on a slow, easy “nature-amble” around the Visitor Center gardens to discover signs of what species of seldom-seen life are active in the desert. Along the way we’ll examine different species of desert plants “up-close-and-personal” to find out how they survive drought, intense sun and 122F heat. Meet Terry at the flagpole in front of the Visitor Center at 11:45 a.m. Limited to 10 participants who must have signed-up at the Visitor Center or pre-registered by calling 760-767-4205.

UNLESS NOTED, ALL PROGRAMS ARE FREE OF CHARGE AND HELD AT THE VISITOR CENTER*
(OPEN EVERY DAY 9 AM to 5 PM). ♿ DENOTES PROGRAMS ACCESSIBLE TO DISABLED.

PLEASE CALL AHEAD FOR SPECIAL NEEDS ACCOMMODATION, (760) 767-4205.

DOGS ARE NOT PERMITTED ON TRAILS OR TOURS. *DAY USE FEE \$10 PER CAR FRI-SAT-SUN/HOLIDAYS

DECEMBER 2018

INTERPRETIVE ACTIVITIES



Thursday, December 6, 2018

9:00 a.m. Hike - Badlands Bench with a View

2.5 Hours

Join Volunteer Naturalists Paul Larson and Mary Ekelund for a moderate 2 ½ mile hike up a badlands wash to a memorial bench with a marvelous view. Learn about some interesting plants and geological features along the way. Meet at the intersection of Inspiration Wash and S-22 by driving east on S-22 past mile marker 28 for 1/2 miles.

11:00 a.m. Walk/Talk ♿ - Hardy Desert Survivors

45 Minutes

Join Certified Interpretive Guide Abby Barker for a walk in the Garden or a power point program in the Discovery Lab as she introduces you to some unique and amazing hardy desert survivors- the desert plants and discusses how the ingenious Native Americans used desert plants for their food, clothing, shelter, and medicine.

Friday, December 7, 2018

9:30 a.m. Walk ♿ – Notice and Wonder

1.5 Hours

Join Park Interpretive Specialist Regina Reiter to explore Nature journaling. We'll observe the desert closely and record what we experience with very basic techniques of writing, drawing, and painting to focus on what we notice and what we wonder. No artistic ability required! Bring your own journal or use ours. Be prepared with water, sunhat, and sunscreen.

3:30 p.m. Walk ♿ – Let's Be Crepuscular

1 Hour

You probably know “Nocturnal”, maybe “Diurnal”. Walk with Regina Reiter, Park Interpretive Specialist, for an easy walk near the Visitor Center at dusk to explore the fascinating and surprisingly active hour between the day and night. Meet in front of the Visitor Center.

Saturday, December 8, 2018

2:00 p.m. ♿ – Junior Rangers

1 Hour



Special program for children ages 7-12 only. Discover secrets of the desert environment. Sign up at the Visitor Center as space is limited.

7:00 p.m. Campfire ♿ - Mystery Cat: Anza-Borrego's Elusive Mountain Lion

45 Minutes

Join volunteer naturalist Don Endicott for a 45-minute multi-media introduction to the natural history of the Park's seldom seen apex predator. Don's talk will describe the amazing attributes and signature behaviors of our big cats, show how relationships between Mountain Lions and people changed over time, and outline their key contributions to a healthy wilderness environment. Meet at the Borrego Palm Canyon Campfire Center.

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INTERPRETIVE ACTIVITIES



Sunday, December 9, 2018

9:00 a.m. Social Hike – Hikes & Hops at Torote Canyon

4 hours



Scott Turner, co-author of Afoot & Afield in San Diego County, will be leading us into and through a canyon filled with beautiful vistas and many prime examples of the Elephant Tree. This hike will be approximately four miles. \$20 Public/\$15 ABF Members. Visit www.theabf.org/events or call Ashley for more details and to register: 760-767-0446 ext 1003.

9:30 a.m. Hike – Roving Naturalist in Borrego Palm Canyon

3 Hours

Volunteer Naturalist Bonnie Clapp will be roaming the Borrego Palm Canyon Trail searching for bighorn sheep and other interesting features along the trail. Look for her in her volunteer vest as you hike to the palm oasis. This is not a guided hike.

10:00 a.m. Talk ♿ – Bighorn Sheep: Symbol of Desert Wilderness

1 Hour

Join Volunteer Naturalist Tony DeLorenzo to find out about bighorn sheep. Where did they come from? What is their history here in the desert? What are their prospects for the future? Meet in the Discovery Lab.

1:00 p.m. Walk ♿ – Those Amazing Cacti!

45 Minutes

Explore the Visitor Center garden with Park Interpreter Sally Theriault and discover some of the unique strategies that help cacti survive here. Meet in front of the Visitor Center.

3:00 p.m. Walk ♿ – Desert Inspiration

1 Hour

Join Regina Reiter, Park Interpretive Specialist, for a sensory exploration of the desert in word and color that will nourish your connection with the rugged beauty of the desert. You will be surprised how much keener and richer your desert observations are after this hands-on experience. Meet in front of the Visitor Center for this gentle walk.

Monday, December 10, 2018

9:00 a.m. Bike Ride – Bikes & Brews in Inspiration Wash

4 hours



Leaders: Jim Roller, Gary Haldeman. Inspiration Wash is a very unique area at the Western edge of the Borrego Badlands. This 12 mile, Fat-Tires-Only ride starts at the parking area near the weather station east of Rockhouse Canyon Road and goes through Park land before looping back to the start. Good conditioning and a fat tire bike are required for this ride. \$20 Public/\$15 ABF Members. Visit www.theabf.org/events or call Ashley for more details and to register: 760-767-0446 ext 1003.

10:00 a.m. Lecture ♿ – Anza-Borrego Desert Botany Society Monthly Lecture

1 Hour

Meet in the Discovery Lab for the Botany Society's monthly lecture. The public is welcome. Chris McDonald will speak about invasive plants in our area.

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INTERPRETIVE ACTIVITIES



Tuesday, December 11, 2018

8:30 a.m. Hike – Weekly Members Hike

3.5 Hours



Meet at the State Park Store in the Mall. Join ABF for our weekly member hikes. Led by Park Rangers, retired Park Rangers, and various Park enthusiasts, these hikes take you to little-known but easily accessible spots throughout the northern area of the Park as a free perk for ABF members. Not a member? Join at the Visitor Center or State Park Store. For information, call 760-767-0446 ext. 1003 or visit www.theabf.org/2017-member-hikes. No advance registration required.

Thursday, December 13, 2018

9:00 a.m. Hike – Pictographs: What Were They Trying to Say?

3 Hours

Join Volunteer Naturalists Paul Larson and Mary Ekelund on a moderate 3-mile roundtrip hike through a beautiful desert valley to a panoramic overlook. Along the way, we will look at some interesting plants, morteros and rock art. Meet at the entrance to Blair Valley, about a 45 minute drive from the visitor center (turn in near milepost 23 on Highway S2).



9:30 a.m. Walk ♿ – Notice and Wonder

1.5 Hours

Join Park Interpretive Specialist Regina Reiter to explore Nature journaling. We'll observe the desert closely and record what we experience with very basic techniques of writing, drawing, and painting to focus on what we notice and what we wonder. No artistic ability required! Bring your own journal or use ours. Be prepared with water, sunhat, and sunscreen.

Friday, December 14, 2018

7:30 a.m. Walk – Bird Walk

1.5 Hours



Join Volunteer Naturalist Ann Keenan for a walk around the Visitor Center vicinity looking for the common birds of our desert. All birding levels welcome. Meet in the Visitor Center parking lot. Please bring binoculars if you have them. Rain cancels.

11:00 a.m. Walk ♿ – Desert Mart

45 Minutes

Come stroll down the aisles of Desert-Mart with Certified Interpretive Guide Abby Barker to discover how the ingenious Native Americans used desert plants for their food, clothing, shelter, and medicine. Focus is on the three most important plants: Agave, Creosote, and Mesquite. Meet in front of the Visitor Center.



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INTERPRETIVE ACTIVITIES



Friday, December 14, 2018 (*continued*)

2:00 p.m. Lecture – The Island of California: 17th Century Myth **2 Hours**

Join the Anza-Borrego Desert Paleontology Society for their monthly lecture. Throughout the 1600s European cartographers mistakenly depicted California as an enormous island lying off the west coast of North America, despite the fact that during the 1500s it was widely known to be a peninsula and had been mapped correctly. Join Jenny E. Ross as she describes how she developed an interdisciplinary explanation for this 400-year-old mystery using historic maps and first-person accounts written by 17th-century explorers, combined with recent scientific evidence from hydrology, climatology, and volcanology. Lecture held at the Steele/Burnand Anza-Borrego Desert Research Center, 401 Tilting T Drive, Borrego Springs. For information about joining the Paleontology Certification program, please call Dr. Lyndon Murray at 760-767-4974.

3:30 p.m. Walk ♿ – Let's Be Crepuscular **1 Hour**

You probably know “Nocturnal”, maybe “Diurnal”. Walk with Regina Reiter, Park Interpretive Specialist, for an easy walk near the Visitor Center at dusk to explore the fascinating and surprisingly active hour between the day and night. Meet in front of the Visitor Center.

Saturday, December 15, 2018

10:00 a.m. Talk ♿ – Bighorn Sheep: Symbol of Desert Wilderness **1 Hour**

Join Volunteer Naturalist Tony DeLorenzo to find out about bighorn sheep. Where did they come from? What is their history here in the desert? What are their prospects for the future?

12:00 p.m. Hike – Discovering the Archaeological History of the ‘Ehmuu Morteros **2 Hours**

Discover the hidden secrets of an ancient Kumeyaay Native American village site. Join Volunteer Archaeologist and Naturalist Sam Webb to explore both rock art and historic milling features. This 1.5 mile hike is over uneven terrain. Be sure to bring the usual water, hat, and sturdy footwear. Meet at the Morteros trailhead in Blair Valley, about 3 miles off Highway S-2 on a dirt road (turn into Blair Valley near mile marker 23).

2:00 p.m. ♿ – Junior Rangers **1 Hour**

Special program for children ages 7-12 only. Discover secrets of the desert environment. Sign up at the Visitor Center as space is limited.



7:00 p.m. Campfire ♿ – Animal Songs **1 Hour**

Join Park Interpretive Specialist Regina Reiter for a lighthearted look at the sounds some of the Park animals make. You'll leave this 45-minute program with new appreciation for some of the Park animals and a song in your heart! Meet at the Borrego Palm Canyon Campfire Center.

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DECEMBER 2018

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Sunday, December 16, 2018

1:00 p.m. Walk ♿ – **Those Amazing Desert Plants!** **1 Hour**

Explore the Visitor Center garden with Park Interpreter Sally Theriault and discover some of the unique strategies that help plants survive here. Meet in front of the Visitor Center.

3:00 p.m. Walk ♿ – **Desert Inspiration** **1 Hour**

Join Regina Reiter, Park Interpretive Specialist, for a sensory exploration of the desert in word and color that will nourish your connection with the rugged beauty of the desert. You will be surprised how much keener and richer your desert observations are after this hands-on experience. Meet in front of the Visitor Center for this gentle walk to wrap up the year.

Tuesday, December 18, 2018

8:30 a.m. Hike – **Weekly Members Hike** **3.5 Hours**



Meet at the State Park Store in the Mall. Join ABF for our weekly member hikes. Led by Park Rangers, retired Park Rangers, and various Park enthusiasts, these hikes take you to little-known but easily accessible spots throughout the northern area of the Park as a free perk for ABF members. Not a member? Join at the Visitor Center or State Park Store. For information, call 760-767-0446 ext. 1003 or visit www.theabf.org/2017-member-hikes. No advance registration required.

Thursday, December 20, 2018

9:30 a.m. Walk ♿ – **Notice and Wonder** **1.5 Hours**

Join Park Interpretive Specialist Regina Reiter to explore Nature journaling. We'll observe the desert closely and record what we experience with very basic techniques of writing, drawing, and painting to focus on what we notice and what we wonder. No artistic ability required! Bring your own journal or use ours. Be prepared with water, sunhat, and sunscreen.

Friday, December 21, 2018

9:00 a.m. Walk ♿ -- **Gifts Under the Trees** **1 Hour**

Join Regina Reiter, Park Interpretive Specialist, for a free-spirited search for many delightful surprises that Nature has left under the desert trees in the Visitor Center garden. Awaken your sense of wonder in some holiday fun! Meet outside the Visitor Center.

11:00 a.m. Lecture – **Pre and Post History of the Kumeyaay Nation** **1 Hour**

Join the Colorado Desert District Archaeology Society for their monthly lecture. Guest speaker is Mallory Genauer, Education Coordinator at the Barona Cultural Center and Museum in Lakeside, CA. She will speak about the pre- and post-history of the Kumeyaay Nation in this area.

1:00 p.m. Walk ♿ – **Desert Mart** **45 Minutes**

Come stroll down the aisles of Desert-Mart with Certified Interpretive Guide Abby Barker to discover how the ingenious Native Americans used desert plants for their food, clothing, shelter, and medicine. Focus is on the three most important plants: Agave, Creosote, and Mesquite. Meet in front of the Visitor Center.

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DECEMBER 2018

INTERPRETIVE ACTIVITIES



Friday, December 21, 2018 (*continued*)

3:30 p.m. Walk ♿ – **Let's Be Crepuscular**

1 Hour

You probably know “Nocturnal”, maybe “Diurnal”. Walk with Regina Reiter, Park Interpretive Specialist, for an easy walk near the Visitor Center at dusk to explore the fascinating and surprisingly active hour between the day and night. Meet in front of the Visitor Center.

7:30 p.m. Lecture – Anza-Borrego: In Focus- The Salton Sea: Past, Present, & Future

2 hours

There are many conflicting narratives about the Salton Sea. Is it an engineering mistake, or is it a recurrence of a natural phenomenon tens of thousands of years old? Is it a stinking, polluted sump, or is it the most important feeding site for birds on the Pacific Flyway? Will it be a source of toxic dust for decades to come, or can measures be put in place to protect the environment and public health? We will address these and many other questions about the Salton Sea with Dr. Tim Bradley. Lecture is at the UCI Steele/Burnand Anza-Borrego Desert Research Center (401 Tilting T Dr., Borrego Springs). \$5 at the door, no advance registration needed.



Saturday, December 22, 2018

Field Class – Anza-Borrego: In Focus- The Salton Sea: Past, Present, & Future

All Day

There are many conflicting narratives about the Salton Sea. Is it an engineering mistake, or is it a recurrence of a natural phenomenon tens of thousands of years old? Is it a stinking, polluted sump, or is it the most important feeding site for birds on the Pacific Flyway? This will be a driving-heavy field class. \$60/\$50 for ABF Members. Advanced registration is required. For more details or to register, visit www.theabf.org/events or call: 760-767-0446 ext 1003.



9:00 a.m. Talk/Walk ♿ – **Beaks and Feet**

1 Hour

If you've always wanted to learn about birds but thought it's too complicated and only for birding experts, you'll enjoy this simple way of appreciating the birds! Join Regina Reiter, Park Interpretive Specialist, in the Visitor Center Discovery Lab for this hands-on discovery session and get a close look at birds in and around the Visitor Center. For bird lovers 8 and up with no previous birding experience necessary. Bring binoculars if you have them.

11:00 a.m. Walk ♿ – **Those Amazing Cacti!**

45 Minutes

Explore the Visitor Center garden with Park Interpreter Sally Theriault and discover some of the unique strategies that help cacti survive here. Meet in front of the Visitor Center.

2:00 p.m. Junior Rangers Family Program ♿ – **What Bird is This?**

1 Hour

Our regular Saturday Junior Ranger program for kids 7-12 is open to Park lovers of all ages *today only!* The program will begin with a welcome for Junior Rangers before Park Interpreter Abby Barker shares an interactive program discovering the birds of Anza-Borrego Desert State Park. The public is welcome.

3:45 p.m. Talk ♿ – **Moon Features Come Alive**

1 Hour

Have you wondered what the “Man in the Moon” really is? Join Park Interpretive Specialist Regina Reiter for this interactive program to discern the features of the Moon and see a demonstration of the Moon phases. Meet in the Visitor Center Discovery Lab. Stay for the Moon rise.

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Saturday, December 22, 2018 *(continued)*

4:45 p.m. Talk ♿ – **The Moon Rises**

30 Minutes

Watch the Full Moon rise. Bring out your lawn chair and binoculars and meet on the Visitor Center Roof, the “Bridge”, for star and moon gazing. Dress warmly for welcoming this month’s moon.

Tuesday, December 25, 2018

2:00 p.m. Walk ♿ -- **Gifts Under the Trees**

1 Hour

Join Regina Reiter, Park Interpretive Specialist, for a free-spirited search for many delightful surprises that Nature has left under the desert trees in the Visitor Center garden. Awaken your sense of wonder in some holiday fun! Meet outside the Visitor Center

Come Into the Visitor Center!
We are open 9-5 on Christmas Day and Every Day!



Wednesday, December 26, 2018

2:00 p.m. Walk ♿ -- **Gifts Under the Trees**

1 Hour

Join Regina Reiter, Park Interpretive Specialist, for a free-spirited search for many delightful surprises that Nature has left under the desert trees in the Visitor Center garden. Awaken your sense of wonder in some holiday fun! Meet outside the Visitor Center.

Thursday, December 27, 2018

11:00 a.m. Walk/Talk ♿ - **Hardy Desert Survivors**

45 Minutes

Join Certified Interpretive Guide Abby Barker for a walk in the garden or a power point program in the Discovery Lab as she introduces you to some unique and amazing hardy desert survivors—the desert plants—and discusses how the ingenious Native Americans used desert plants for their food, clothing, shelter, and medicine.

2:00 p.m. Walk ♿ -- **Gifts Under the Trees**

1 Hour

Join Regina Reiter, Park Interpretive Specialist, for a free-spirited search for many delightful surprises that Nature has left under the desert trees in the Visitor Center garden. Awaken your sense of wonder in some holiday fun! Meet outside the Visitor Center.

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DECEMBER 2018

INTERPRETIVE ACTIVITIES



BEHIND THE SCENES TOURS

Archaeology and Paleontology Laboratories

December 28-31, 2018: 9:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m., 2:00 p.m.
(2019 Dates TBA)

Ever wonder about the rich discoveries being made in Anza-Borrego Desert State Park? The Colorado Desert District will be offering a limited number of Behind-the-Scenes tours of our outstanding archaeology and paleontology labs. You'll be able to see some of the amazing collections and ongoing research not seen by other visitors. Each tour is limited to ten participants so reservations are highly recommended.

Tours are approximately 90 minutes, starting and ending at the Visitor Center Plaza, and entail considerable walking and standing.

Cost of tour is \$25 per person, nonrefundable, with advance reservation. For reservations, payment must be received at least 3 days in advance of tour. Remaining spots on tours will be \$35 per person at time of tour, first-come, first served. Each tour is limited to ten participants, so reservations are highly recommended.

To make a tour reservation, email Anza-Borrego.Tours@parks.ca.gov or call (760) 767-4037, 711 TTY Relay Service.

California State Parks supports equal access. Prior to arrival, visitors with disabilities who need assistance should contact (760) 767-4037.

Friday, December 28, 2018

9:00 a.m. Talk/Walk ♿ – Beaks and Feet

1 Hour

If you've always wanted to learn about birds but thought it's too complicated and only for birding experts, you'll enjoy this simple way of appreciating the birds! Join Regina Reiter, Park Interpretive Specialist, in the Visitor Center Discovery Lab for this hands-on discovery session and get a close look at birds in and around the Visitor Center. For bird lovers 8 and up with no previous birding experience necessary. Bring binoculars if you have them.

11:00 a.m. Walk ♿ -- Gifts Under the Trees

1 Hour

Join Regina Reiter, Park Interpretive Specialist, for a free-spirited search for many delightful surprises that Nature has left under the desert trees in the Visitor Center garden. Awaken your sense of wonder in some holiday fun! Meet outside the Visitor Center.

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Friday, December 28, 2018 (*continued*)

1:00 p.m. Walk ♿ – Garden Walk

45 Minutes

Join Certified Interpretive Guide Abby Barker as she takes you on a stroll through the Visitor Center Garden to discover some of our special desert plants.

3:00 p.m. Walk ♿ – Rainbow Any Day

1 Hour

Even when it's not raining, you can discover a rainbow of color in the desert. Join Park Interpretive Specialist Regina Reiter for a unique view of the desert near the Visitor Center, exploring how color occurs and reveals the details of the desert we may only glimpse. Meet in front of the Visitor Center.

Saturday, December 29, 2018

11:00 a.m. Talk ♿ – Bighorn Sheep: Symbol of Desert Wilderness

1 Hour

Join Volunteer Naturalist Tony DeLorenzo to find out about bighorn sheep. Where did they come from? What is their history here in the desert? What are their prospects for the future?

2:00 p.m. Junior Rangers Family Program ♿ – The Anza Expedition

1 Hour

Our regular Saturday Junior Ranger program for kids 7-12 is open to Park lovers of all ages *today only!* The program will begin with a welcome for Junior Rangers before Park Interpreter Regina Reiter shares an interactive program experiencing highlights of the 1775 Juan Baptista de Anza Expedition that travelled through what is now Anza-Borrego Desert State Park. All are welcome.

7:00 p.m. Talk ♿ – Enjoy Anza-Borrego's Dark Night Sky!

1 Hour

Winter nights are perfect for Stargazing. Explore constellations and learn about the importance of dark skies everywhere. Bring binoculars if you have them, flashlight (red lens is preferable) and your imagination! Look for Interpreter Sally Theriault at the Borrego Palm Canyon Campfire Center.

Sunday, December 30, 2018

9:00 a.m. Talk/Walk ♿ – Beaks and Feet

1 Hour

If you've always wanted to learn about birds but thought it's too complicated and only for birding experts, you'll enjoy this simple way of appreciating the birds! Join Regina Reiter, Park Interpretive Specialist, in the Visitor Center Discovery Lab for this hands-on discovery session and get a close look at birds in and around the Visitor Center. For bird lovers 8 and up; no previous birding experience necessary. Bring binoculars if you have them.



1:00 p.m. Walk ♿ – Those Amazing Cacti!

45 Minutes

Explore the Visitor Center garden with Park Interpreter Sally Theriault and discover some of the unique strategies that help cacti survive here. Meet in front of the Visitor Center.

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Sunday, December 30, 2018 (*continued*)

3:00 p.m. Walk – Rainbow Any Day

1 Hour

Even without rain, you can discover a rainbow of color in the desert. Join Park Interpretive Specialist, Regina Reiter, for a unique view of the desert nearby the Visitor Center, exploring how color occurs and reveals the details of the desert that we often only glimpse. Meet in front of the Visitor Center.

Monday, December 31, 2018

5:45 a.m. Hike -- Fonts Point Old Year's Day Sunrise Rim Walk

3.5 Hours

Join State Park Volunteer Naturalist Terry Hunefeld for a slow 3-4 hour nature & geology amble along the Fonts Point escarpment to watch the sun rise over the Borrego Badlands as we peer down into 2 million years of pre-history. This is a moderate 3 - 4 mile walk, much of it off-trail through cactus over rolling terrain - with stops to enjoy the views and talk about what we're seeing. Pre-registration, water & hats are mandatory (no exceptions). 4WD or high-clearance AWD required (Terry has room for 4 passengers – specify when registering if you would like to ride with him). Meet Terry at 5:45 a.m. at the entrance to Font's Point Wash (mile marker 29.3 on Hwy S-22). Limited to 10 participants who must have signed-up at the Visitor Center or pre-registered by calling 760-767-4205.

7:30 a.m. Walk – Bird Walk

1.5 Hours



Join Volunteer Naturalist Ann Keenan for a walk around the Visitor Center vicinity looking for the common birds of our desert. All birding levels welcome. Meet in the Visitor Center parking lot. Please bring binoculars if you have them. Rain cancels.

10:00 a.m. Walk – Desert Inspiration


1 Hour

Join Regina Reiter, Park Interpretive Specialist, for a sensory exploration of the desert in word and color that will nourish your connection with the rugged beauty of the desert. You will be surprised how much keener and richer your desert observations are after this hands-on experience. Meet in front of the Visitor Center for this gentle walk to wrap up the year.

2:00 p.m. Walk – Panorama Overlook

2.5 Hours

Meet Park Interpretive Specialist Regina Reiter at the Visitor Center to walk across the desert and up the Panorama Overlook Trail for good views of the Borrego Valley and Fonts Point. Wear sturdy shoes and bring at least one liter of water and a flashlight.

UNLESS NOTED, ALL PROGRAMS ARE FREE OF CHARGE AND HELD AT THE VISITOR CENTER*
(OPEN EVERY DAY 9 AM to 5 PM).  DENOTES PROGRAMS ACCESSIBLE TO DISABLED.

PLEASE CALL AHEAD FOR SPECIAL NEEDS ACCOMMODATION, (760) 767-4205.

DOGS ARE NOT PERMITTED ON TRAILS OR TOURS. *DAY USE FEE \$10 PER CAR FRI-SAT-SUN/HOLIDAYS

DECEMBER 2018

INTERPRETIVE ACTIVITIES



Tuesday, January 1, 2018

9:00 a.m. New Year's Day Resolution Hike – Hike Alcoholic Pass!

4 Hours



Join Volunteer Naturalists Ron & Peg Poitras to experience and discover the prehistory, history, and present-day journey of those who have used this trail for food, water, work, and fun. This is a 4 hour excursion into the pass. Meet at the north end of DiGiorgio Road. This is a strenuous but relatively short hike, bring water, snacks and wear hiking boots.

For more First Day hikes go to <https://www.parks.ca.gov/Events>

DESERT SAFETY

- ✓ **Carry water AND drink it**
Saving your water for the hike back has led to death in Anza-Borrego. Drink plenty of water before you leave home, while you hike, and on the return route. If you feel thirsty, it is already too late. Drink lots of water and drink often.
- ✓ **Make sure your vehicle is desert-ready.**
Equip your vehicle for the desert. You should always carry extra water, a shade tarp, a shovel, a tire pump, and extra food.
- ✓ **Leave snakes alone.**
Many venomous snakes live in the desert. If you threaten them, they may strike. It is illegal to harass, catch, or kill any snake within Anza-Borrego. If bitten, remain calm and seek immediate medical attention.
- ✓ **Do not split up the group**
Stay together. Never leave anyone behind to rest.
- ✓ **Prepare yourself.**
In addition to carrying water, you should have protective clothing, sunscreen, a hat, a good map, food and a first aid kit which includes a comb and tweezers.
- ✓ **Have a plan.**
Leave all your trip information with a friend. Tell him/her your destination, the route you intend to follow, your expected return time, a description of your vehicle with license plate number, and the time by which he/she should notify park authorities in case you do not return.
- ✓ **When emergencies happen ...**
Stop. Stay calm. Seek shelter. If you are with your vehicle, remain there; do not leave it. Signal with mirrors, white cloth, whistle (three short blasts on a whistle, pause, then three more, repeat frequently), and put your hood up. It is much easier to find a vehicle in the desert than a person!!!

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