

## FOUNTAIN HILLS 2024 HIKING CHALLENGE

COMPLETE ANY 6 HIKES OR HIKES TOTALING AT LEAST 35 MILES

FOR ALL HIKES WEAR STURDY BOOTS OR SHOES WITH GRIPPY SOLES & HAT,  
BRING AT LEAST 2 LITERS OF WATER, SNACKS, CHARGED CELL PHONE  
CONSIDER BRINGING HIKING POLES AS TRAIL SURFACES CAN BE UNEVEN AND SLIPPERY  
**TAKE A PHOTO OF THE MAP AT THE TRAILHEAD**

THE SONORAN CONSERVANCY OF FOUNTAIN HILLS (SCFH.ORG)  
PROVIDES TRAILHEAD HOSTS WEEKEND MORNINGS AT THE ADERO CANYON TRAILHEAD TO  
ANSWER QUESTIONS ABOUT HIKES  
SEE [SCFH.ORG/EVENTS](https://scfh.org/events) FOR INFORMATION ON SCFH GUIDED HIKES

HIKE	TRAILHEAD	LENGTH (Miles)	DIFFICULTY	DESCRIPTION
<b>Fountain Hills Desert Botanical Garden</b>	11300 N Fountain Hills Blvd, Fountain Hills	1.2	Easy	The Fountain Hills Desert Botanical Garden is a natural desert oasis. Interpretive signs explain much about the indigenous plants in the Sonoran Desert. You may wish to stop for a snack at the dam built in 1941 as a watering hole for cattle.
<b>Promenade Trail</b>	Adero Canyon Trailhead, 14800 N Eagle Ridge Dr., Fountain Hills	1.7	Easy	The Promenade Trail begins at the Adero Canyon Trailhead and leads to many other trailheads in the Preserve. The trail is an old jeep road, slightly rocky but relatively flat. Follow the trail until you reach the Sonoran Trail sign then return.
<b>Lake Overlook Trail</b>	Fountain Park	1.8/3.0	Easy	The Lake Overlook trail winds above the north side of Fountain Park. There are stunning views of the park and the mountains to the east of Fountain Hills. The trail can be accessed either close to the intersection of Palisades and Saguaro or at the east end of Fountain Park. This hike can be extended to 3 miles by walking around Fountain Park.
<b>Overlook Trail</b>	Adero Canyon Trailhead, 14800 N Eagle Ridge Dr, Fountain Hills	1.0	Easy to Moderate	This trail was one of the first built in the Fountain Hills McDowell Mountain Preserve. To access, look for a sign on your right just past the gate into the Preserve. This trail is now a lollipop loop. Turn left at about .5 miles to complete in a clockwise direction. The trail climbs to a scenic view of Fountain Hills and the mountains to the east. A diorama at the top shows various points of interest.
<b>Andrews-Kinsey to Scottsdale Border</b>	Adero Canyon Trailhead, 14800 N Eagle Ridge Dr., Fountain Hills	2.2	Moderate	The Andrews-Kinsey Trail is the first trail on your left as you enter the Fountain Hills McDowell Mountain Preserve. Follow the trail to the McDowell Sonoran Conservancy Preserve sign and return the same way.
<b>North Leg Trail</b>	Adero Canyon Trailhead, 14800 N Eagle Ridge Dr, Fountain Hills	2.6	Moderate	This is the newest trail in the Fountain Hills McDowell Mountain Preserve. To access follow the Promenade about 1/2 mile to the signposted turn to the North Leg trail. The trail follows a ridge about 1 mile, descending almost the entire way. So even though this hike is short, be prepared for an uphill hike on the return!

<b>Sonoran Trails - Short</b>	Adero Canyon Trailhead, 14800 N Eagle Ridge Dr., Fountain Hills	3.3	Moderate	This hike is a lollipop loop introducing you to the Sonoran Trails. Follow the Promenade to its end. Take the Sonoran Trail to the first crossover to the Lower Sonoran Trail. Follow the Lower Sonoran back to the trailhead.
<b>Dixie Mine Trail</b>	Golden Eagle Trailhead, 14425 E Golden Eagle Blvd, Fountain Hills	5.4	Moderate	The Dixie Mine hike is a long time favorite starting from the Golden Eagle trailhead. From the parking area, follow the signs and marked sidewalk through the gated community for 1/2 mile to the entrance of the McDowell Mountain Regional Park where the Dixie Mine trail begins. A \$2.00 park fee is required. Follow the trail to a road and then turn right. At the bottom of the hill there is an unmarked trail to the left which will take you to the mine entrance. Return to the road the way you came. If on your return, you continue further to your left on the road, you will find a trail to the top of the mine.
<b>Ridgeline Trail to Scenic View</b>	Adero Canyon Trailhead, 14800 N Eagle Ridge Dr, Fountain Hills	3.5	Moderately Difficult	Take the Overlook Trail which is on your right as you enter the Preserve. Stay straight on the Overlook Trail for 1/2 mile to the Ridgeline Trail. Turn right and follow the Ridgeline to its end at the Scenic View. Return the same way.
<b>Ridgeline, Scenic View and Lower Ridgeline Trails</b>	Adero Canyon Trailhead, 14800 N Eagle Ridge Dr, Fountain Hills	4.5	Moderately Difficult	Take the Overlook Trail which is on your right as you enter the Preserve. Stay straight on the Overlook Trail for 1/2 mile to the Ridgeline Trail. Turn right and follow the Ridgeline to its end at the Scenic View. On your return, turn right on the Lower Ridgeline Trail. Take the Lower Ridgeline Trail for 1 mile to its end at the Ridgeline Trail. Follow the Ridgeline and Overlook Trail back to the Trailhead.
<b>Adero Canyon Trailhead to Golden Eagle Trailhead</b>	Adero Canyon Trailhead, 14800 N Eagle Ridge Dr, Fountain Hills	4.8/5.1	Moderately Difficult	This is a one way hike requiring a car drop or pickup from the Golden Eagle Trailhead, 14425 E Golden Eagle Blvd, Fountain Hills. From the Adero Canyon Trailhead, follow the Promenade Trail to its end. Take either the Sonoran Trail (a bit shorter but steeper) or the Lower Sonoran Trail to the signed entrance to the McDowell Mountain Regional Park. Continue straight on the Sonoran Trail until it intersects the Dixie Mine Trail. Turn right and follow the trail until it ends in a gated community. Follow the marked sidewalks to Golden Eagle Trailhead.
<b>Adero Canyon Trailhead to Sunrise Trailhead</b>	Adero Canyon Trailhead, 14800 N Eagle Ridge Dr, Fountain Hills	5.3	Moderately Difficult	This is a one way hike requiring a car drop or pickup from the Sunrise Trailhead, 12101 N. 145th Way, Scottsdale in Scottsdale's McDowell Sonoran Preserve. After you enter the Fountain Hills McDowell Mountain Preserve, take the Andrews-Kinsey Trail on your left. Follow the Andrews-Kinsey Trail to its intersection with the Sunrise Trail and take it to the Sunrise Trailhead. Be sure to stay left/east on the Sunrise Trail. If you take it right/west, you will end up at the Lost Dog Trailhead!

<b>Sonoran Trails - Long</b>	Adero Canyon Trailhead, 14800 N Eagle Ridge Dr, Fountain Hills	5.7	Moderately Difficult	This hike is a lollipop loop beginning at the Adero Canyon Trailhead. Follow the Promenade to its end. Then take the Sonoran trail to the signed entrance to McDowell Mountain Regional Park. Return on the Lower Sonoran Trail. Follow the Promenade Trail back to the Trailhead.
<b>Andrews-Kinsey to Hitching Post</b>	Adero Canyon, 14800 N Eagle Ridge Dr, Fountain Hills	5.8	Moderately Difficult	The Andrews-Kinsey Trail was named for two men that played a key role in the establishment of the Preserves in Fountain Hills and Scottsdale. The trail begins on your left as you enter the Fountain Hills McDowell Mountain Preserve. The trail climbs as it winds through the Adero Canyon to the Sunrise Trail with its hitching post. Those that want an extra challenge may opt to climb to the top of Sunrise Peak about a 1/2 mile further. Return the same way.
<b>Western Trail</b>	Adero Canyon Trailhead, 14800 N Eagle Ridge Dr, Fountain Hills	2.7	Difficult	Despite the short distance, this hike is rated difficult due to the steep rocky climb. Follow the Promenade for about 1/2 mile to access the Western Trail on your left. Then climb up to a scenic view. From there you descend to the Andrews-Kinsey Trail and follow it back to the trailhead. You can also do this hike in reverse.
<b>Andrews-Kinsey to Hitching Post + Western Trail</b>	Adero Canyon Trailhead, 14800 N Eagle Ridge Dr, Fountain Hills	7.3	Difficult	The Andrews-Kinsey Trail begins on your left as you enter the Fountain Hills McDowell Mountain Preserve. The trail climbs as it winds through the Adero Canyon to the Sunrise Trail with its hitching post. Return the same way. However, when you reach the sign for the Western Trail turn left. The trail climbs steeply to a scenic view and then steeply descends to the Panorama Trail. Follow the Panorama Trail back to the Trailhead.
<b>Dixie Mine, Prospector, Bell Pass Trails</b>	Golden Eagle Trailhead, 14425 E Golden Eagle Blvd., Fountain Hills	8.6	Difficult	This is an out and back hike from the Golden Eagle Trailhead. From the parking area, follow the signs and marked sidewalk through the gated community for 1/2 mile to the entrance of the McDowell Mountain Regional Park where the Dixie Mine trail begins. A \$2.00 park fee is required. Follow the trail to a road. Turn left and follow the road a short distance to the Prospector Trail. Turn right and take the Prospector Trail 1.3 miles to its intersection with the Bell Pass Trail. For some extra exercise, turn left and climb .4 miles to the top of Bell Pass. Return the same way.

<p><b>Golden Eagle Trailhead to Adero Canyon Trailhead</b></p>	<p>Golden Eagle, 14425 E Golden Eagle Blvd., Fountain Hills</p>	<p>9.6/10.2</p>	<p>Difficult</p>	<p>From the parking area of the Golden Eagle trailhead, follow the signs and marked sidewalk through the gated community for 1/2 mile to the entrance of the McDowell Mountain Regional Park where the Dixie Mine trail begins. A \$2.00 park fee is required. Follow the Dixie Mine trail just over a 1/2 mile to the signposted turn for the Sonoran Trail. Once you enter the Fountain Hills McDowell Mountain Preserve take either the Sonoran Trail or the Lower Sonoran Trail. Note that the Sonoran Trail is a bit shorter, but steeper than the Lower Sonoran. Once you reach the Promenade Trail it is .8 miles further to the Adero Canyon Trailhead. Return the same way.</p>
<p><b>Adero Canyon Trailhead to Sunrise Trailhead</b></p>	<p>Adero Canyon Trailhead, 14800 N Eagle Ridge Dr, Fountain Hills</p>	<p>10.6</p>	<p>Difficult</p>	<p>This is a challenging out and back hike from the Adero Canyon Trailhead to the Sunrise Trailhead in Scottsdale's McDowell Sonoran Preserve. Just past the entrance to the Fountain Hills' McDowell Mountain Preserve, turn left on the Andrews-Kinsey Trail. The trail climbs as it winds through the Adero Canyon to the Sunrise Trail with its hitching post. Turn left and follow the trail to the Sunrise Trailhead. Be sure to stay left/east on the Sunrise Trail. If you take it right/west, you will end up at the Lost Dog Trailhead! Return the same way. If you prefer, you can start this hike from the Sunrise Trailhead, 12101 N. 145th Way, Scottsdale. Note there are no washrooms or water at the Sunrise Trailhead.</p>