

TONTO National Forest



Recreation
Opportunity
Guide

www.fs.fed.us/r3/tonto



HIKING AND TRAIL RIDING

TREASURE LOOP TRAIL 56

RANGER DISTRICTS

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

TRAILHEAD (TH)

Lost Dutchman TH: Drive east from Phoenix on U.S. Highway 60. At Exit 196, drive north 1 mile on Idaho Road to State Highway 88. Turn right on Hwy. 88; and drive approximately 3 miles to the entry of the Lost Dutchman State Park; (entrance fees are charged). The TH is a parking lot near the east side of the park (either at the Cholla or Saguaro day-use areas).

TRAILS ACCESSED:

Treasure Loop 56
Jacob's Trail 58

TERMINI

South leg of loop: 2,080 feet elevation at Lost Dutchman State Park's Cholla day-use area

North leg of loop: 2,080 feet elevation at Lost Dutchman State Park's Saguaro day-use area

TRAIL INFORMATION

Trail use: Heavy
Trail difficulty: Easiest
Trail length: 2.4 miles
Season Of Use: Spring - fall
USGS maps: Goldfield
Elevation change: 500 feet

FEES

Lost Dutchman State Park requires an entry fee. For further information: (480) 982-4485

ATTRACTIONS

- About 1 mile into the hike, many wonderful rock formations can be found.
- 5 benches are installed along the trail.
- After a fire swept through this area some time ago, the land has recovered with low sparse vegetation; taller plants such as Saguaro, Cholla, Barrel Cactus, Palo Verde and Mesquite continue to survive.
- With appropriate rainfall, the slopes of the

Superstitions Mountains showcase many colorful spring wildflowers.

TRAIL NARRATIVE

From the Cholla day-use area at the Lost Dutchman State Park, trail users can find a sign depicting a hiker. This is the trail's beginning. The trail passes through a gate; the grade is moderate to the junction with Jacob's Trail 58 (at Mile 0.4). The grade gradually becomes steeper and follows a ridge overlooking two deep washes. At Mile 1.3 the Treasure Loop Trail junctions with Prospector's Trail 57. The trail then starts down a series of steps and switchbacks around very large boulders. It then quickly descends to intersect again with Jacob's Trail. Once back at the Lost Dutchman State Park (near trail's end), there are two trails that lead to the Saguaro day-use Area -- or bypass these short trails and bear to the right and return to Cholla day-use area. Livestock and bicycles are prohibited on this trail above the junction with Jacob's Trail 58.

CONSIDERATIONS

- **Livestock and bicycles are only allowed on the lower part of the trail** (that portion which is below its junction with Jacob's Trail 58).
- After a rain, travel can be difficult.
- Practice "Leave No Trace" ethics including: **If you PACK IT IN, PACK IT OUT!!**
- Hot summer temperatures require trail users to take precautions.
- One gallon of water per/person, per/day.
- Although this trail is essentially within the Tonto National Forest, trailheads are in Lost Dutchman State Park. The trail is maintained by the state under a cooperative agreement.
- Do not drink untreated water