



Evolution Basin Backpack Aug 8-15, 2010

An eight day High Sierra adventure into Kings Canyon National Park

Rating: Strenuous **Terrain:** Trail and Cross country **Trip Type:** Lollipop
Total distance 32 miles, 7485' gain/loss **Elevations:** 9273' to 12,900'



Darwin Bench 10,760'

Description: A trail and cross country to the emblematic heart of the Sierra – Evolution Valley. Exact itinerary depend on weather, snow pack and group conditioning and may be modified to suit current conditions.

Trip Plan:

Fri Aug 6 or Sat Aug 7: Drive to trailhead (Hwy 395 to Bishop then head to North Lake. Sleep at North Lake Campground or in the parking lot. If you arrive on Fri, take acclimatization hike on Sat. Acclimatization hike is strongly recommended.

Sun Aug 8: Leave North Lake Trailhead at 8am. Backpack 5.3 miles from Trailhead 9273' to Upper Lamarck Lake then cross country (x-c) up

and over x-c pass Lamarck Col 12,900' to Darwin Canyon Lakes 11,670' (+3625,-2332).

Mon Aug 9: Backpack x-c 2.5 from Darwin Canyon Lakes 11,670' passing through Darwin bench 11,245' and then descending to meet the PCT/JMT above Evolution Valley 10,710'. Descend to East end of Evolution Valley 9900'. Make camp off trail near L shaped lake. (+0',-1770') New Moon today.

Tues Aug 10 Backpack 3 miles x-c from East end of Evolution Valley 9900' up McGee Canyon to McGee Lakes 10,816' (+916', -0')

Weds -Thurs Aug 11-12 layover days or explore area on day excursions. Swim in alpine lakes. Bask in Sierra Bliss! Perseids Meteor Shower peaks 8/12 under dark skys.

Fri Aug 13: Back pack mostly on trail 8 miles from McGee Lakes 10,816' up 744' over McGee Lakes pass 11,560' to PCT/JMT descend to Evolution Lake 10,852' then down to use trail at 10,700' that leads back up 545' to Darwin bench 11,245' (+1289',-860')

Sat Aug 14: Backpack x-c 5 miles from Darwin bench 11,245' past Darwin Canyon Lakes 11,670' up and over x-c pass Lamarck Col 12,900' to Upper Lamarck Lake 10,981' (+1655',-1919')

Sun Aug 15: Backpack on trail 3 miles Upper Lamarck Lake 10,981' to North Lake Trailhead 9273' (+0,-1708') Lunch in Bishop and drive home.

Other Details: Group size is limited to 6 people. Bear Canister NOT required.

Prerequisite: Having been on at least 4-day backpack with leader or equivalent.

Fee: \$40 members, \$45 non-members. Fee includes wilderness permit fees but no campground fees. Last day to register will be July 27. No refund once you sign up.

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