

Great Outdoors OC/LB chapter presents
Rainbow Lake Backpack Trip
(6 nights)
Aug 5-11, 2018



**High Sierra adventure in
Sierra National Forest
Ansel Adams Wilderness**

Leader: Rob Talbert E-Mail: rob@roberttalbert.com Mobile: 949-395-4169

Rating: Easy on-trail backpacking.
Trip Type: Lollipop Loop plus spurs
Total distance About 22 miles, 3550' gain/loss
Elevations: 7,533 feet to 9,741 feet.

Description: Join the GO Annual Perseid meteor shower backpack. We will start a remote northern corner of the Sierra National Forest just south of Yosemite National Park on the west side of the Sierra. Easy backpacking with two layover days.



Lots of side trips to more lakes for swimming and exploring. Expect lots of time to relax.

Rutherford Lake (9,741')

Drive: Sat Aug 4: Drive up to trailhead on the western side of the Sierra. Minimum of 8 hours from LA basin. Camp at the Fernandez Trailhead. Consider coming up early and spending a day or two acclimatizing nearby. Specific direction given once you sign up. Here are some general directions: From Fresno head north on 41 to Oakhurst and then to Yosemite Forks. From there go to Bass Lake. Then the fun starts. It will be quite a windy drive with many turns to get to the Fernandez Trailhead. Plan to do this in daylight.

Backpack Plan: Sun Aug 5 to Sat Aug 11:

Sunday Aug 5: Starting from Fernandez Trailhead 7,533', backpack to Vanderburg Lake 8,650'. 4.5 miles 1120' gain

Monday Aug 6: Rest day. Day hike to Lady Lake.

Tuesday Aug 7: Vanderburg Lake to Lillian Lake 8868'. 2 miles 493' gain 275' loss. Side Trip to Chittenden Lake.

Wednesday Aug 8: Lillian Lake to Rainbow Lake 9258'. 3.5 miles 639' gain -249' loss

Thursday Aug 9: Rainbow Lake to Rutherford Lake 9741'. 4 miles 820' gain -337' loss

Friday Aug 10: Rest day. Day hike to Ruth Lake, Monument Lake or Fernandez Lakes.

Saturday Aug 11: Backpack from Rutherford Lake to Fernandez trailhead. 7.5 miles 480' gain -2690' loss. This is our longest day with lots of downhill! Car camp overnight at trailhead.

Sunday Aug 12: Drive Home



Maps:

Overview map: Sierra National Forest Map

7.5 maps: Timber Knob and Sing Peak

Quadrangles

Caltopo Downloadable maps:

<https://tinyurl.com/kfj5zg2>

Looking back toward the outlet of Chittenden Lake 9,182',
The Minarets are in the background.

Target pack weight:

Base pack weight 20 lbs + Food 12 lbs = Total pack weight 32 lbs

Other Details:

- Group size is limited to 8 people.
- Probably 2 rest day depending on our speed and where we camp. Many optional side trips on rest days.
- “Food must be stored in bear resistant containers, or counter balanced at least 15' above the ground, and 10' from tree trunk.” I’m bringing my Ursack.
- The [2018 Perseids Meteor Shower](#) will peak on the night of August 12 and early morning hours of August 13. This is actually after the trip is over but shower peaks Aug 9 till 13th. This year there will be good viewing due to the new moon on the 11th.

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

Contact Leader for Registration Form

Rob Talbert

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Mobile: 949-395-4169

Rainbow Lake Backpack Distance Gain - Aug 2018	elevation		Stats to next location		
	meters	Feet	miles	Gain	Loss
Fernandez Trailhead	2296	7,533	0.34	39	0
Trail Jnt - Stay Right. Left goes to Norris TH	2308	7,572	1.30	630	0
Trail Jnt - Stay Right. Left goes to South to Norris TH	2500	8,202	0.20	118	0
Trail Jnt - Lolipop Start Stay left. Right is the return of the loop	2536	8,320	2.54	330	0
Vandeburg Lake	2637	8,650	0.37	146	0
Trail Jnt - Stay right. Left goes to Lady Lakes	2681	8,796	0.56	232	0
High Point	2752	9,028	0.33	0	-226
Trail Jnt - Stay right. Left goes to Chittenden Lake	2683	8,802	0.27	0	-22
Cross Creek	2676	8,780	0.20	0	-27
Low point	2668	8,753	0.30	115	
Lillian Lake	2703	8,868	1.16	0	-249
Trail Jnt- Stay left to Rainbow Lake Jnt. Right is return of the loop.	2627	8,619	0.97	302	
Trail Jnt- Stay left to Rainbow Lake. Right goes to Frenandez Creek Crossing	2719	8,921	1.39	337	
Rainbow Lake	2822	9,258	1.40	0	-337
Trail Jnt - Stay left to Fernandez Creek Crossing	2719	8,921	1.06	55	
Trail Jnt after Fernandez Creek Crossing- Stay left to Rutherford Lk Jnt	2736	8,976	1.00	542	
Trail Jnt - stay right to Rutherford Lk. Left goes to Fernanadez Pass	2901	9,518	0.26	154	
Trail Jnt - stay right to Rutherford Lake. Left goes to Anne Lake	2948	9,672	0.22	69	
Rutherford Lake	2969	9,741	0.22		-69
Trail Jnt - stay left to Rutherford Lake Jnt. right goes to Anne Lake	2948	9,672	0.26		-154
Trail Jnt - stay left to Ferjajdeez Creel crossing. RT goes to Fernanadez Pass	2901	9,518	1.00		-542
Trail Jnt before Fernandez Creek Crossing- Stay rt to Rainbow Lake Jnt	2736	8,976	1.06		-55
Trail Jnt - Stay left to Start the loop back	2719	8,921	1.50		-962
Trail Jnt - stay right on return	2426	7,959	0.18		-118
Trail Jnt - stay right on return 2	2390	7,841	1.35	479	
Trail Jnt - end lolipop - stay left on return	2536	8,320	0.20		-118
Trail Jnt - Stay left. right goes to South to Norris TH	2500	8,202	1.30		-630
Trail Jnt - Stay Left. Right goes to Norris TH	2308	7,572	0.34		-39
Fernandez Trailhead	2296	7,533			
		Total miles	21.28	3548	-3548

