

# Friends of Sonoita Creek Invite You to Our 2008 Free Hikes, Walks & Interpretive Programs



As you can see, we have a lot of fun activities waiting for you, all at no charge. But—we would love to have you as a member of the Friends, helping us to protect the irreplaceable natural beauty of Sonoita Creek. Please go to our website at [www.sonoitacreek.org](http://www.sonoitacreek.org) to join, or contact Ron Hummel at 520-394-2532.

For all activities, please call the Guide by Friday at 8 p.m. if you are planning to take part or if have questions about it.

Activities starting at the Sonoita Creek Visitor Center located within Patagonia Lake State Park require no entry fee for registered participants (notify the gatehouse upon entry). Activities starting in Rio Rico will begin at the Rio Rico kiosk, located on Pendleton Drive by the baseball fields west of the entrance to the Country Club. From there we will carpool to the Natural Area with the Guide.

## **Geology**

**Saturday, Feb. 23, 9:00 a.m., meet at Sonoita Creek Visitor Center.**

**Guide, Diana Holmes 520.455-5930.**

Join geologist Sandy Kunzer for an exploration of the geology downstream from the dam at Patagonia Lake. A two-mile hike with a few rocky inclines. Bring water and a snack. A walking stick may be helpful.

## **Sonoita Creek Walk from Rio Rico**

**Saturday, Mar. 1, 9:00 a.m., Meet at Rio Rico kiosk.**

**Guide, Sally Lockwood 520.281-8167**

Lucie Thomas leads a 4-mile round-trip, easy, reflective walk along Sonoita Creek at the west entrance to Sonoita Creek Natural Area. Bring water and a snack.

## **Caminata para las personas de habla español en Sonoita**

**Sabado Marzo 1, 9:00 a.m.**

**Guide, Kathi Soto 520.223-0403**

Nos reunimos en el centro de visitantes, en el parque estatal de Patagonia el sabado a las 9:00 am. Y caminaremos despacio por alrededor de dos horas alrededor de Sonoita Creek. Explore y disfrute la belleza de este lugar tan especial y aprenda el porque tiene tantas plantas y animales y lo que usted puede hacer para ayudar y preservarlos. Su Guia, Kathi Soto una maestra del Distrito escolar de Santa Cruz y nativa de Nogales.

## **Petroglyph Site**

**Saturday, Mar. 8, 9:00 a.m., Meet at Sonoita Creek Visitor Center.**

**Guide, Don McIntosh. 520.394-2998**

Take a five-mile round-trip hike near Patagonia Lake to a rocky point with over 100 petroglyphs with Ranger Jen Parks. Enjoy views of Patagonia Lake, mesquite bosque and desert upland vegetation. Learn about petroglyphs in celebration of Archaeology Week. Relatively flat with two short steep inclines. Bring water and lunch.

## **Red Mountain Hike**

**Saturday, Mar. 8, 9:00 a.m., Meet at the Patagonia Post Office, corner of SR 82 and Harshaw Rd.  
Guide, Ron Hummel 520.394-2532.**

Hike the road to the top of one of the highest peaks in the Patagonia Mts. to view Sonoita Creek, “the ribbon of life,” winding through the valley. The hike is eight miles round-trip, with a steep 2,100 ft. ascent which we will take slowly, and time to eat lunch and rest at the top. Bring water and lunch.

## **Horseback Ride along Sonoita Creek**

**Saturday, Mar. 15, \*Registration required\* 10:00 a.m.  
Guide, Barbara Harsh. 520.344-0617**

Spend part of a day horseback riding along Sonoita Creek starting at the Rio Rico entrance. Call for details.

## **History along Sonoita Creek**

**Saturday, Mar. 15, \*Registration required\* 9:00 a.m.  
Guide, Ron Hummel 520.394-2532.**

Meet at the Sonoita Post Office, intersection of SR 82 and SR 83 in Sonoita. Learn about the rich history of Sonoita Creek by visiting six historical sites, including two old ranches, Ft. Crittenden, railroad station, and Indian markings. This activity involves a drive from Sonoita to Patagonia Lake State Park and several miles of walking. Bring water and lunch. Car pooling required. Limited attendance with priority to new and existing Friends members.

## **Fresno Canyon Hike**

**Saturday, Mar. 29, 9:00 a.m., Meet at the Rio Rico kiosk.  
Guides, Jim & Sally Lockwood. 520.281-8167**

Hike the Railroad Trail along the Sonoita Creek stream bed for two miles. Scramble up into a cave to view Indian pictographs. Learn about the natural history of the area. Bring water & a snack.

## **Overnight Hike to Coal Mine Springs**

**Apr. 5 & 6, Registration required\* 9:00 a.m., Meet at Sonoita Creek Visitor Center.  
Guide, Joan VanDenbos 520.398-2435, cell 520.904-4929**

Twelve-mile round trip hike through the foothills of the Santa Rita Mountains. Camp at undeveloped site near Coal Mine Springs. Bring backpack equipment, shelter, food, water. For experienced backpackers..

## **Butterflies for Young Families**

**Saturday, Apr. 12, 9:00 a.m., Meet at Sonoita Creek Visitor Center.  
Guide, Ron Hummel with Patagonia Montessori School students.520.394-2532**

A special program for young families. Join the Patagonia Montessori Elementary School students who have been studying butterflies and view butterflies nectaring and puddling along Sonoita Creek. Blooming willows should attract 100's of butterflies representing about a dozen species. Ends at noon but bring water and snacks.

## **Sky Watch at Patagonia Lake State Park**

**Saturday, Apr. 12, 7:30 p.m., Meet at Sonoita Creek Visitor Center.  
Guide, Jim Lockwood 520.281-8167**

Join Tom Army, astronomer, to explore the stars and planets and learn about the night sky, one of the important features of the Sonoita Creek natural environment.

## **Canoe/Kayak on Patagonia Lake**

**Saturday, May 17, \*Registration required\*, 9:00 a.m., Meet at the Sonoita Creek Visitor Center.  
Guide, Reed Menke 520.394-2899.**

Bring your own water craft; or rental craft are available at the Park (Call 287-5545 for information and reservations). Launch at the Marina. Explore the shoreline and coves around the Lake. Great exercise and beautiful scenery. This event may be cancelled if it is too windy or cold—please contact the Guide for event status if the weather looks bad.

**For more information and questions:**

**[www.sonoitacreek.org](http://www.sonoitacreek.org)**

***[info@sonoitacreek.org](mailto:info@sonoitacreek.org)***