

Cass Commentary Philmont Treks 2005

Rev. 10Jan06

The following commentary represents the personal opinions of High Adventure Committee Chairman Bill Cass and should not be taken for anything other than such.

Typical Treks

1. No big mountain, no Tooth. Does Rayado Canyon the scenic way but has an anti-climactic last day.
2. Deer Lake is stunning (except in a dry year). Has a super finish, but no big mountain.
3. OK north country trek. Does Baldy but has a weak ending.
4. Great South Country trek. Super finish.
5. Another South Country favorite that ends well.
6. Good central to south trek. Hard last day but a nice finale.
7. Valle Vidal trek. No Baldy. Winds down badly.
8. North Country trek includes Baldy, but the finish is weak.
9. " " " " " " " " " " "
10. Nice South Country tour. Closes on a weak note.
11. Nice South Country trek with a wonderful, but hard close.
12. Similar to above, but no big mountain.
13. " " " " WITH a big mountain.

NOTE: 11, 12, and 13 do Rayado Canyon the hard, less scenic way.

Rugged Treks

14. Good South Country trek. Difficult but scenic last day.
15. Blah. No big mountain. Poor finish.
16. Nice south to central trek. Hard, but exciting last day.
17. Does Valle and Baldy but ends poorly.
18. Central to south. No big mountain unless sidehiking Phillips. No Tooth. A non-finish.
19. This is what you get if you send in your itinerary postcard late.
20. Outstanding South Country trek. Hard last day, but well worth it.
21. Best of the North. Does Baldy and includes a tough march in over the Tooth.
22. Possibly the best of all itineraries. Central to south includes a long last day on the Tooth.

Strenuous Treks

23. A southern to central trek with a nasty 11th day and a dull finish.
24. North to central. Rivals # 22 as one of the best. Last day over the Tooth is hard
25. Weak final day on an otherwise strong central to south trek.
26. Excellent south to central trek includes a super finish
27. Valle trek. Ends badly.
28. Side hikes the Tooth early making for a long 5th day. Includes Baldy and a weak last day.
29. " " " " " " " " " 4th " " " " " " " " "

30-35. Suner Strenuous. Inappropriate-for~first time crews and/or crews with younger youth and older advisors.