

Hike: Cleopatra's Wash — up and back

Trailhead: 2.6 miles down Boathouse Cove road — not marked

Distance: 6 miles— up and back

Elevation gain: 800 feet (on the return)

Elevation peak: none

Time: 4 hours + time at the beach

Difficulty: 2

Danger level: 2

Class: 2

How easy to follow: 2

Children: no

Map: Middle Point, NV See Page 3

Waypoints (GPS – WGS 84): See Page 3

Fee: \$5:00 per vehicle; annual pass \$20; National Park Pass accepted.

Best Time to Hike: Winter – too hot during summer months

Directions: From the Mirage on Las Vegas Boulevard (the Strip) go north and turn left (west) onto Sahara. In less than one mile, turn right (north) onto I-15. Take I-15 four miles to Lake Mead Boulevard. Turn right (east) onto Lake Mead. Drive approximately 17 miles on Lake Mead until it dead-ends into Northshore Road. Go left and drive 25.7 miles and turn right onto Boathouse Cove road. If you pass mile marker 30, you have gone too far. Drive 2.6 miles and park ([Waypoint 1](#)). This is just before the road makes a hard right. There are no trail signs. A 4WD vehicle is needed to drive the entire 2.6 miles. High clearance vehicles without 4WD might want to park around 2.2 miles and walk.

Note: Your mileage may vary slightly on gravel roads.



Photo 1

Overview: The **route** heads SE through the wash to Cleopatra's Cove.

Comments: This is a must do hike with stunning formations around every corner and a sandy beach at the end of the hike. This route includes the class 2 work around which avoids the class 5 dry fall near the beach.

The Hike: Walk east on the



Photo 2

road about 250 yards and head SE (left) into Cleopatra's Wash. (See Photo 1.) In the first half mile of the wash there are a few class 2 dry falls to downclimb. When you come to an awkward six foot drop-off, go left and follow a path to get around the drop-off. As the wash narrows, spectacular formations appear on the ridges. You can avoid the



Photo 3

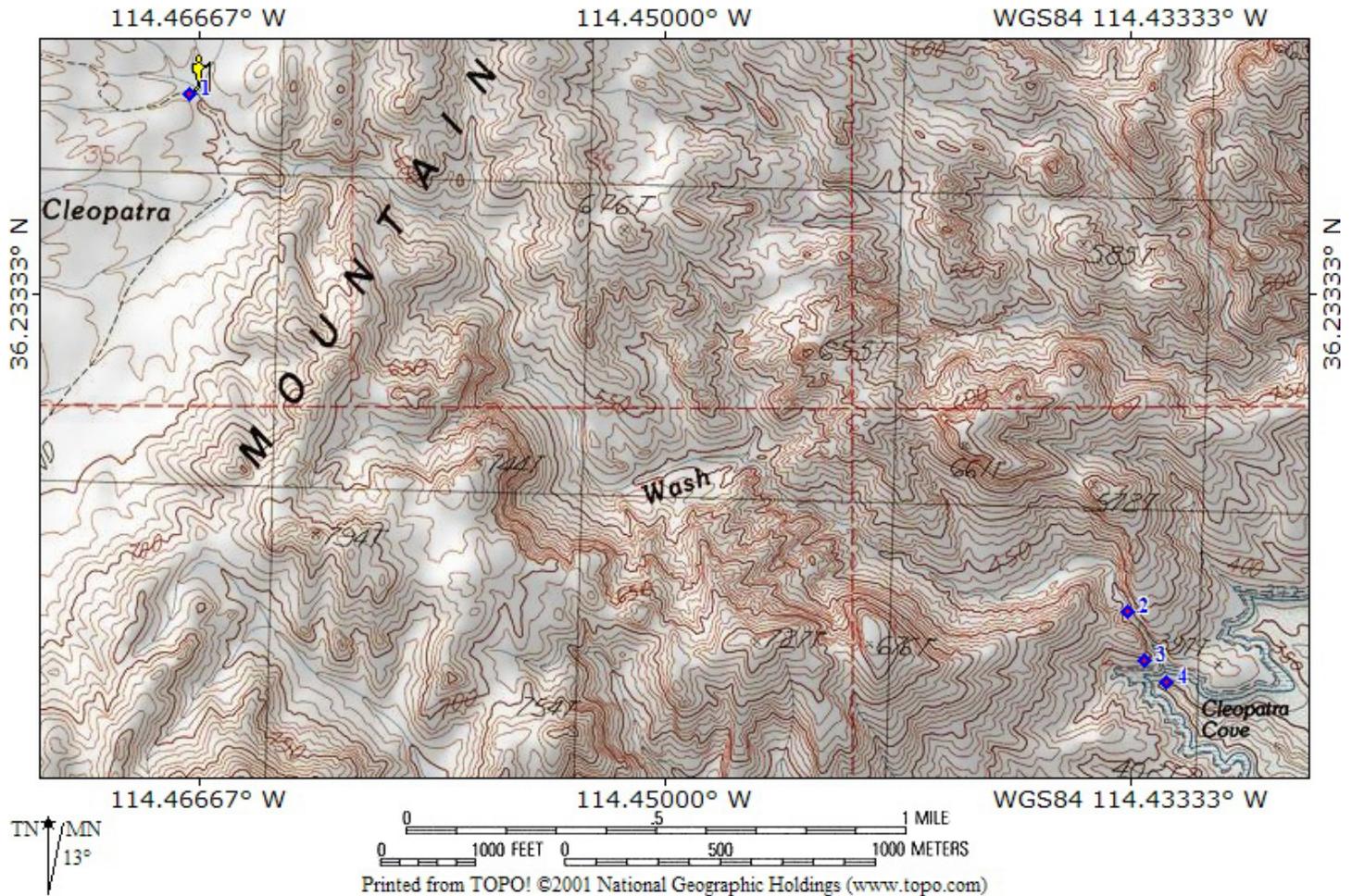
next dry fall by going to the left, although it's not a difficult downclimb. If you send the best climber down first, they can spot the others. Within 100 yards you come to a class 3 dry fall. Although it's a pretty easy downclimb, there's a path to the left that avoids the dry fall.

The wash widens and you'll come to a big drop-off. (It's actually a large boulder blocking the wash.) Going around to the left is the best way to avoid the drop-off. The wash curves and starts to narrow. At this point you get your first view of Lake Mead. Continue less than 100 yards to [Waypoint 2](#) where you ascend the rocky slope to a saddle via a hiker's path. (See Photo 2.) This avoids several dry falls, one being class 5.

From the saddle follow the path as it heads

directly for the lake, which is visible. When the path divides, stay on the higher path; don't be lured down the right side. (See Photo 3.) Follow the path as it skirts along the west side of the ridge ([Waypoint 3](#)). Aim for the whitish rocks below and continue down to the beach. ([Waypoint 4](#).) You are actually at Cleopatra's Cove.

To Return: Retrace your steps. Within 0.25 miles of the trailhead you come to a divide. Take the right fork and continue to the trailhead.



Waypoints:

◆ 1	36.23918° N	114.46709° W
◆ 2	36.22413° N	114.43346° W
◆ 3	36.22274° N	114.43289° W
◆ 4	36.22210° N	114.43211° W