

Hike: Mummy Mountain – trail and route

Trailhead: Trail Canyon - marked

Distance: 8.5 miles – up and back

Elevation gain: 3,732 feet

Elevation of peak: 11,542 feet

Time: 5 to 7 hours – up and back

Difficulty: 4

Danger level: 2

Class: 2

How easy to follow: 3

Children: no

Waypoints (WGS84): See Page 4

Fees: None

Best season to hike: Summer

Driving directions: From Las Vegas, NV, head north on US 95 to State Route 157. Turn left on 157, drive 20 miles and veer onto Echo Drive at the hairpin curve. Drive a half-mile to the trailhead sign for Trail Canyon ([Waypoint: 1](#)).

Comments: Mummy Mountain is the second highest peak in Mt. Charleston. This is the perfect beginner's mountaineering route. It will give you a feel for real mountaineering. If you like this hike, you can shoot for hikes in the High Sierra. From the summit of Mummy Mountain you can see Red Rock Canyon, Las Vegas, and Lake Mead.

The hike: The trail starts in a northerly direction at a leisurely pace, paralleling a dry creekbed that lies to the west. It winds through thick groves of aspens as it heads toward the North Loop Trail junction. To the east lie the rocky cliffs of Cockscomb Ridge. About half a mile into the hike the North Rim Ridge can be seen by looking to the NW. To the north lies Mummy Mountain.

The grade becomes moderate as the trail switches back through pinion pines. Just past this point Charleston Peak can be seen by looking to the west (left). The trail flattens out briefly, and then climbs a small hill as it heads due east toward Cockscomb Ridge. Continue a short distance to the junction of North Loop Trail ([Waypoint: 2](#)).

From the junction, the North Loop Trail heads NW (left). In a half-mile from the junction, you'll



Photo 1

pass Cave Springs, a year-round source of water. A pipe carries water into a horse trough. Continue on the trail as it weaves through the aspens. The trail leaves the aspens and switchbacks across a scree slope. About 60 yards along the second switchback (about 1.25 miles from the junction), you'll leave the trail and head north up the scree slope. ([Waypoint: 3](#) - **Photo 1**.) The scramble up the scree slope gains almost 600 feet in elevation. At the top of the slope, numerous logs and a large cairn mark this spot for your descent route. ([Waypoint: 4](#))

A path heads east (right) toward the west side of Mummy Mountain. In 25 yards the path temporarily disappears and you'll scramble up a low-angled rock face. Follow the path and cairns as you continue east toward Mummy Mountain. The

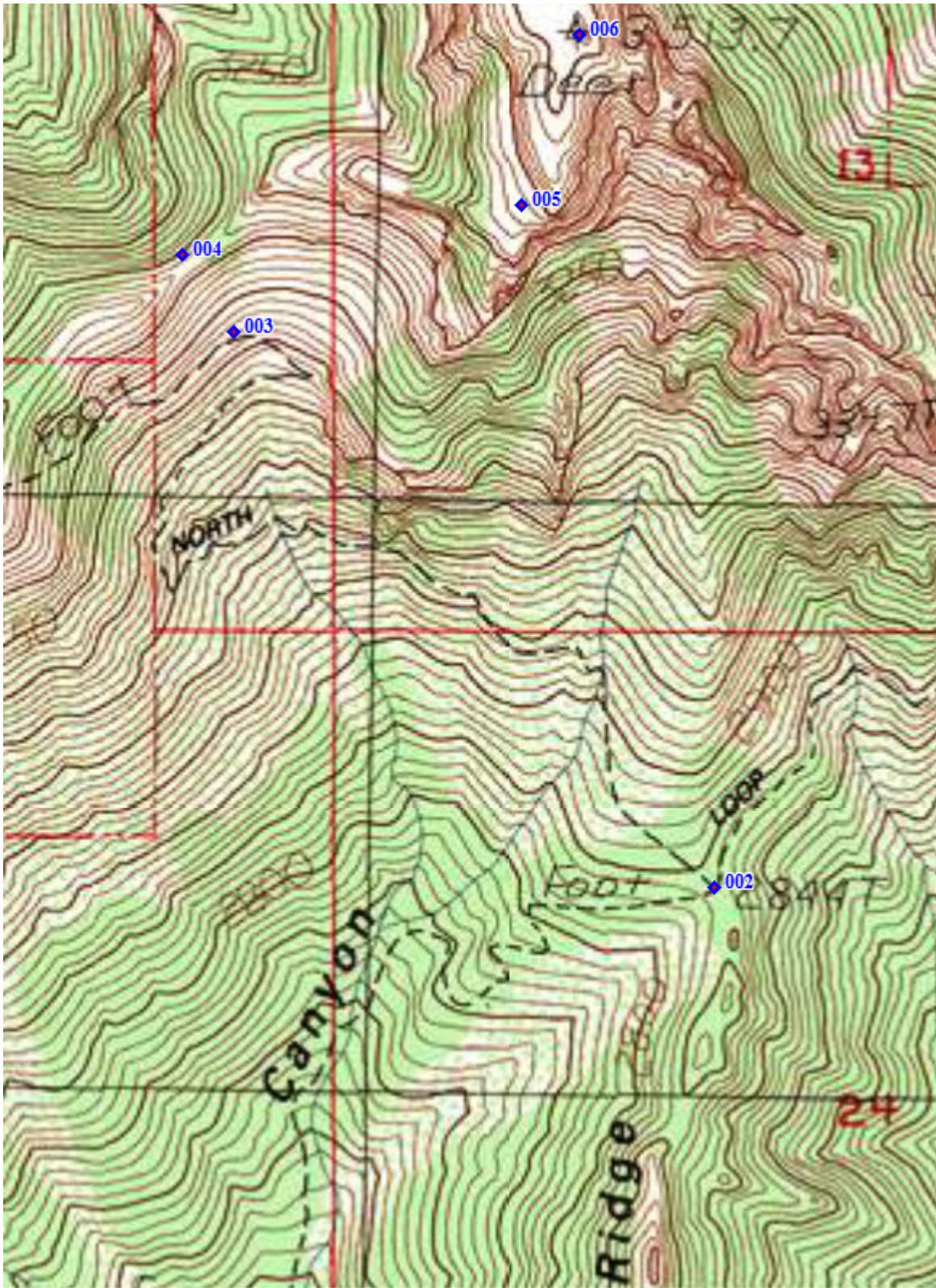
path becomes easy to follow as it climbs up a slope. At the top of the slope the path again disappears. Head ENE about 30 yards and you'll pick up the path. ([Waypoint: 5](#)) Head north on the path about 300 yards to the chute in **Photo 2**. Climb the chute and head east about 100 yards to the high point on Mummy Mountain. ([Waypoint: 6](#))



Photo 2

Congratulations, you made it to the second highest peak in Mt. Charleston. Look for an army box containing a register at the peak. A three-foot high shelter made out of logs lies about 60 yards to the west of the high point. This is a perfect place to escape the wind and have lunch. To the SW towers Charleston Peak; to the SE stands Griffith Peak and Red Rock Canyon; a little further to the east is Las Vegas and Lake Mead.

To Descend: Retrace your steps by hiking to the chute. It lies 40 yards **west** of a shelter made out of logs. Follow the path down the class 2 chute. At the bottom of the chute go south (left) onto the well-defined path. It parallels Mummy Mountain until it turns SW toward the ridgeline. Once on the ridgeline the path heads west and descends about 70 yards down the north (right) side of the ridgeline. This is where people lose the path. Look for cairns. Follow the path down to where it goes across limestone. Climb down the far side of the limestone (class 1 or 2). The path resumes and heads west along the ridgeline. At the logs and cairn, follow the path south (left) down the scree slope to the North Loop Trail. Be careful on the scree slope. Go east (left) onto the North Loop Trail and follow it back to the signed junction with Trail Canyon Trail. Take Trail Canyon Trail two miles to the trailhead.



Name	Latitude	Longitude	Elevation	Message
◆ 001	36.26751° N	115.65773° W	7826 ft.	Trailhead
◆ 002	36.28625° N	115.64699° W	9320 ft.	Junction with North Loop Trail
◆ 003	36.29469° N	115.65605° W	10428 ft.	Scree Slope - Photo 1
◆ 004	36.29586° N	115.65702° W	10672 ft.	Top of scree slope
◆ 005	36.29663° N	115.65063° W	11305 ft.	Trail resumes
◆ 006	36.29921° N	115.64955° W	11504 ft.	Summit