

SHOSHONE HILLS HIKE



The mission of the Amargosa Conservancy is to protect the land, water, and beauty of the Amargosa

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Overview: This hike goes to an old clay mine, through a wilderness area, and ends at the Dublin Caves/Shoshone cemetery historic area. A Shoshone Walking Tour map and a cemetery guide are available in the Shoshone Museum. (proceeds benefit the museum).

Hike rating: The 3-mile (4.8 km) hike is rated easy to moderate with some steep grades and one 3-foot (1 m) dry waterfall. The hike takes about 1-1/2 hours and has about 300 feet (90 m) elevation gain and loss. There is no potable water or cell phone reception.

Hike description: From Shoshone, walk north on the Old State Highway about 0.2 miles (320 m) (A: 0565.750; 0381.520). Turn west on a dirt road marked by cairn (passing between some residences) to an open area south of the high school (do not go onto school property). Continue 0.15 miles (240 m) west through the open area. Just before the marsh, the trail turns north into a small shallow gully and winds up a small hill (B: 0565.520; 3981.450).

If you have enjoyed this hike, consider a donation to or a membership in the Amargosa Conservancy. We depend upon your support.

1. About 10 yards/meters west of the turn, a few pilings remain from the spur line of the T & T RR to the Fairbanks Clay mine.

2. As the trail winds through a small wash, a depression can be seen on the south side of a small bluff to the east of the trail (C: 0565.4830; 3981.520). This was the site of a tunnel for the tracks of the spur line to the spring. The trail continues up onto a low bluff that overlooks the high school and the Shoshone spring area. Soon the trail turns west again following an old footpath.

3. Shortly the trail makes a sharp turn north and descends steeply into the clay mine area (D: 0565.280; 3981.530). It then heads south toward a broad wash. South and east of the trail, piles of clay and some remnants of the old mining structures can be seen. Entering the wash, the trail winds westerly. Cairns mark the way through the wash. In about 0.15 miles (240 m) it comes to the bottom of small gully (E: 0564.854; 3981.295). Midway up the gully, go up the north fork and then climb a 3-foot (1 m) dry waterfall that is fairly easy to negotiate.

4. Upon reaching the top of the gully (F: 0564.765; 3981.250), the path slopes gently upward and west. Spectacular views of the Dublin Hills to the west and the Tecopa Basin to east and south characterize this section. In 0.6 miles (1 km) (G: 0564.045; 3980.910), the trail turns sharply south descending into the wash and ending at a dirt road. Shoshone is just over one mile to the east.

5. As the road nears Shoshone, the historic Dublin Cave dwellings can be seen on both sides of the road (H: 0565.540; 3981.060).

6. Just past the cave dwellings, the road passes south of the cemetery nestled on the hillside.

At the trail's end, snacks and drinks are available at the Crowbar Café, the Charles Brown General Store, and Café C'est si Bon. The Wannasee Antique Store has many treasures, and the Shoshone Museum features interesting exhibits.

Desert Etiquette & Safety

Carry a minimum of one gallon of water per person, per day and drink freely. In case of an accident, help may be a long time arriving. Sturdy shoes or boots, sun block, hat, sunglasses, long-sleeve shirt, and long pants are suggested. Be prepared for sudden weather changes. Goggles and a mask are useful in a dust storm. Respect private property, and the natural features. It is unlawful to remove historic objects. Stay on trails and roads where they exist. Satellite and cell phone reception is very spotty. Personal locator beacons and satellite tracking devices are becoming popular in these remote regions. Cell phone 911 calls and SMS text *may* be successful where reception is marginal. Bring a first aid kit and any personal medications you may need. Be alert for poisonous rattlesnakes and spiders. Be wary of where you put your hands and feet. If bitten, remain calm and seek medical help. Avoid military or mining explosives. Stay away from mines and open pits. Also avoid anything that could be a drug lab or a marijuana farm. To report hazards or suspicious locations, call 911. Pack out all trash, including toilet tissue. Bury human waste at least 6 inches (15 cm) deep and 220 feet (60 m) from the trail or water. During a rain, do not walk or drive through flowing water. Stay on high ground out of canyons and washes. Deadly flooding can occur even if the rain is miles away. If your vehicle breaks down or you get lost, stay where you are and with your vehicle. Tell someone of your travel plans and give them an accurate map of your route. Keep your gas tank full. Check your tire pressure and carry at least one spare. Drive only on designated, open routes.

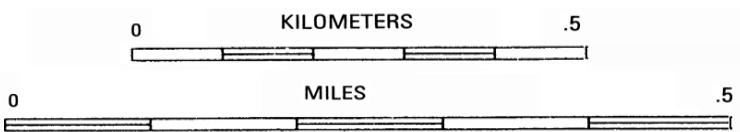
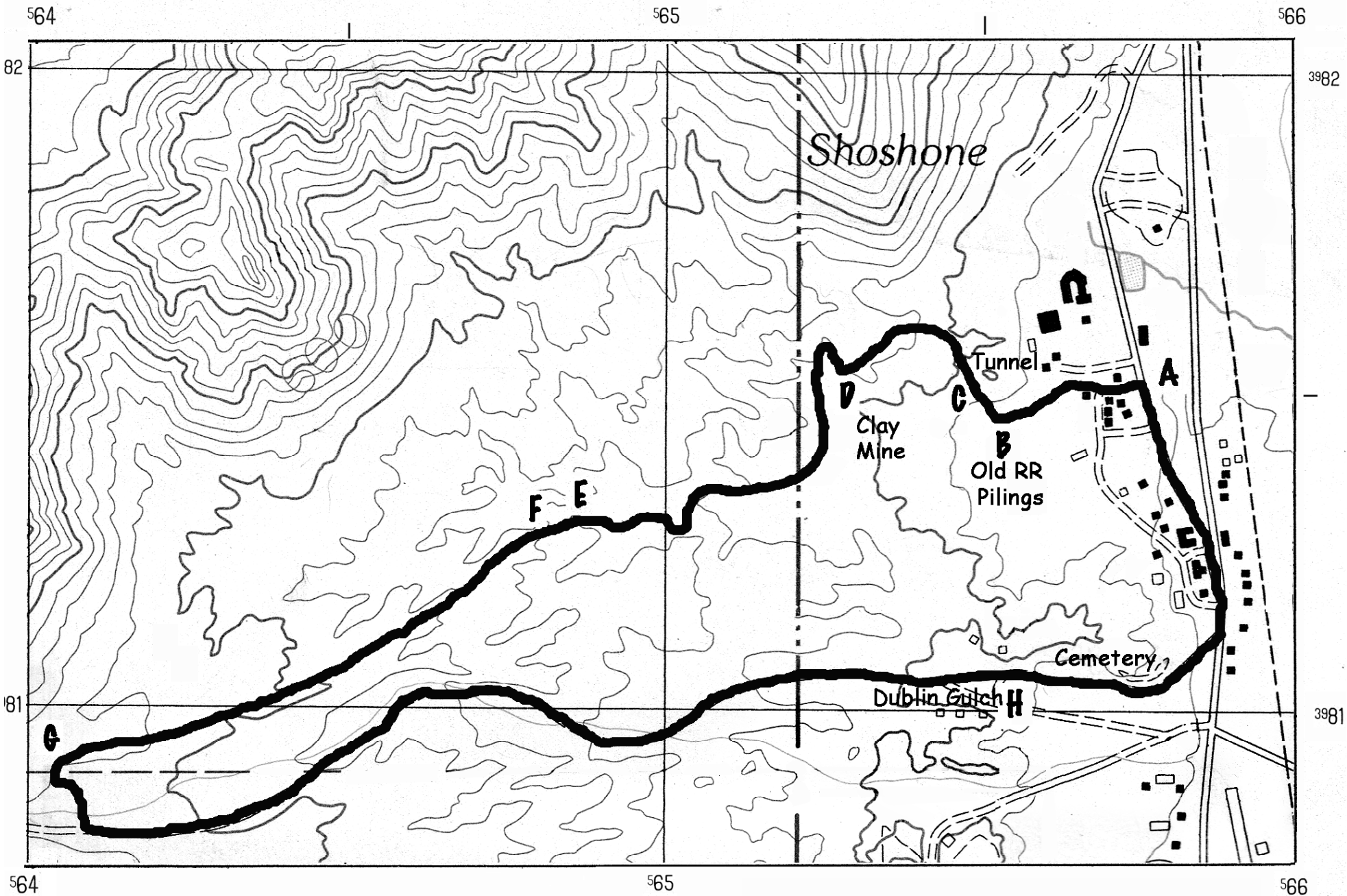
Hike Ratings

Easy: gentle grades, maintained trails, mostly solid, even footing, and no obstacles to climb

Moderate: steeper grades, some off trail walking, uneven footing, and some low obstacles to climb

Strenuous: steep grades, mostly cross-country, some unstable footing, and obstacles to climb





SHOSHONE HILLS HIKE
 vertical datum 1929- horizontal datum NAD 27
 Magnetic declination about 15 degrees
 based on USGS 7.5 min map Shoshone, California
 Scale 1:24,000 - contour interval 10 meters

Every effort has been made to insure the accuracy of the information in this guide at the time of publication. However, desert conditions can change rapidly and the user is responsible for following safe hiking practices to ensure his or her own safety.