

**May 30, 2023, Hard Hike: Shell Ridge Twin Pond Loop from Whitecliff Trailhead – 10:00 AM**

**Hike Description:** Shell Ridge is always a great place to hike in the springtime. This is a 5.0 mile route with 870 feet of elevation gain. From the trailhead at the end of Whitecliff Way, we hike southeast on the Twin Pond Loop Trail, transferring to the Sugarloaf/Shell Ridge Trail, left on the Ridge Top Trail, South through Grinder Gap to Coyote Pond and returning south on Joaquin Ranch Trail to the Whitecliff trailhead. This is mostly a single-track trail with ample shade in most parts.

**Bring:** Good hiking boots, water, sunblock and trekking poles.

**Directions to the hike:** From Walnut Creek head south on highway 680 to South Main exit, traveling further south to Rudgear Road, turning left (east) toward Mt. Diablo for about 1.5 miles. turning left onto Whitecliff Way. Go the end of Whitecliff Way and park at the trailhead. No facilities, plenty of trees en route.

**Ride Sharing:** Meet at the "movie theater parking garage" in Walnut Creek, enter either on California Ave or Locust Street (between Olympic and Mount Diablo). Park on the third floor and meet in the middle. Departure is at **9:15** to get to the trailhead by 10 a.m.

**Optional Lunch:** After the hike, our hike leader, Roger Lamm, graciously opens his back yard for us to picknick and recoup our strength. *Pack a bag lunch for yourself*. Roger will make his grill available for those of you who wish to throw some meat on the fire. I will have a cooler full of beer, available to everyone. Roger's house is very close by at 1440 Whitecliff Way.

**Hike Leader:** Roger Lamm, 925.212.1001, [rogerlamm@gmail.com](mailto:rogerlamm@gmail.com)

**Hike Coordinator and Chairman:** Carl Ludwig, 415.350.7372, [cludwig171@gmail.com](mailto:cludwig171@gmail.com)

**Link to map, hike profile and photos:**

<https://www.alltrails.com/explore/recording/afternoon-hike-1271a70--412?p=-1&sh=ls05uy>