

Death Valley

Feb 18-21, 2022

A place like Death Valley is like none other. There are several places we think of that are similar to this. Another example that comes to my mind is Moab, Utah. On our trip, we had the chance to see some unique sites in the National Park through having 4 wheel drive vehicles. Through Hunter Mountain Road, we went through some snow and scenery of a forest. As we came back down and through Hidden Valley Road, we transitioned into the desert of Death Valley we all know it as. Taking a stop to see an old mine and take some pictures, we then continued to the famous Tea Kettle Junction where we took pictures at the intersection with the tea kettles hanging. I have seen more kettles hanging and I think the next time I visit I will bring another to hang at the intersection. Continuing onward, we drove the very rough washboard road of Racetrack Valley Road to the Racetrack Playa. There we had lunch and went out on the dry lake bed to look at the rocks that have been known to move across and leave a trail.

With some unfortunate changes in plans, we had to reroute and head to the Grapevine Station that marks the end of Death Valley Road. We camped out on the trail, had an amazing potluck of tri tip, chicken, asparagus, and other good food and drinks. The next day, we cleaned up our hidden camp and made it to pavement but took a great look at the Ubehebe Crater. Handling some things for the Dirt Devil group, part of the group went to Titus Canyon and the other portion headed to the Stovepipe Wells Campground. Additionally, there was a motor cycle incident that I called in for ambulance and the biker was down and his bike caught fire. Many there to help and I had the only phone service. Getting to camp, we continued to handle a situation, the other group returned from Titus Canyon and we all had another great potluck.

The next morning, we enjoyed a good breakfast. Some had plans to stay another day and others headed home. I headed home. Some things I get from this trip are wanting to return, trying to look forward to this once again, and finish the plans of seeing what I missed out seeing. Additionally, always be prepared, make sure all are, and everyone should always make the contributions for having a good trip.