



PHANTOM SPIRES ADVENTURE

Phantom Spires is located 20 miles west of South Lake Tahoe and is known for excellent granite outcroppings 1-2 pitches in length. Special features of the area include giant knobs (aka - "chickenheads") which are often the only protection when slung on lead and steep well protected cracks. A wide range of routes from 5.7 to 5.12 are highly concentrated and therefore allow many pitches to be completed in a day. One popular goal is to climb all three main spires in a day (requires 5.9 climbing ability).

Course participants meet their guides at the Strawberry Lodge in the morning before carpooling to the crag (about 15 minutes). Once at Phantom Spires groups will be divided based on climbing goals and desires. The main emphasis of the day is gaining quality outdoor climbing experiences.

PREREQUISITES:

- good physical condition
- strong belay skills (indoor gym belay cards accepted)
- lead climbing belay experience preferred
- comfortable climbing at least 5.7 face and crack climbs

MEETING TIME & PLACE:

Meet your MAS Guide at the Strawberry Lodge at 8:30 AM ready to climb (direction on the back). Carpooling is preferred for the 15 minute drive to the climbing site.

COURSE CURRICULUM:

- review rock climbing commands, safety procedures, and knots
- refresh lead belaying techniques
- practice good outdoor climbing techniques such as cracks and steep faces
- observe lead climbing, anchor placement and "bombproof" belay anchors
- Climb, climb, climb

WHAT TO BRING:

- comfortable walking or hiking shoes (sandals not appropriate)
- shorts, t-shirt, sunglasses, sunscreen & sun hat
- sweatshirt, pants, jacket & warm hat (just in case)
- wind breaker/rain jacket if the weather is unsettled
- day backpack to carry lunch, water, and personal rock climbing gear
- harness, helmet, rock shoes
- locking carabiner and belay device
- lunch, snacks & 2 quarts of water

MAS PROVIDES:

- climbing ropes and anchors
- first aid kit
- professional and personable climbing guides

COURSE REGISTRATION:

Preregistration is required and full payment reserves your spot. Secure online registration is available through the MAS web site (<http://www.mtadventure.com>). Participants can also call or email the MAS office at (209) 753 6556 ext. 1 or mail@mtadventure.com. All course participants must fill-out and sign MAS Course Registration Form.

*** DIRECTIONS TO MEETING PLACE & CLIMBING SITE ON THE BACKSIDE ***

DIRECTIONS TO MEETING PLACE: STRAWBERRY LODGE

From San Francisco or Sacramento

- From Sacramento head East on Highway 50 towards Placerville.
- From Placerville continue East on Highway 50 (approximately 40 miles left to go)
- When you pass the small town of Kyburz you are about 9 miles away.
- As you enter the small town of Strawberry you will see the Strawberry Lodge on your right.
- Exit right into the Strawberry Lodge parking lot. Your guide should be in the parking lot by 7:45 AM.
- Breakfast is also served in the Strawberry Lodge starting at 7 AM.

For more information about the Strawberry Lodge please visit:

www.strawberry-lodge.com

DIRECTIONS TO PHANTOM SPIRES

- From Strawberry Lodge head West on Highway 50 for 4.2 miles
- Take a right onto Wrights Lake Road
- Drive 2.2 miles and turn left onto a dirt logging road.
- Continue down for about a 0.5 miles to the dirt parking lot (the downhill section of this road is rough and may be difficult to navigate in a low clearance vehicle). To avoid car damage you can always park on the Wrights Lake Road and walk the dirt road.
- From the parking lot find a climbers trail heading west. About 5 minutes should bring you to the Middle Spire.

