

A CANYON AT THE TOP OF TOWNE'S PASS

On our way into Death Valley this trip, we stopped near the top of Towne's Pass to check out one of the short canyons in this area. My thanks to Gowergulch42 from the death-valley.net forums for first exploring this area.

Google Earth map of this area:



There are only a few good parking areas along this road; we parked at the rightmost of the ones marked on the map above. Heading towards the canyon marked "Top of Townes Canyon" on the Google Earth map above; we hiked the "More Townes Slots" last April and we checked out the two canyons in between later on this trip:



Approaching the canyon (to the right in the photo):



Another view of this canyon (this time the canyon is on the left in the photo); this is certainly an interesting area:



Looking down towards Death Valley and the Niter Beds from here:



Finally reaching the mouth of this canyon:



There is a small dryfall at the beginning of the canyon which can either be climbed or bypassed on either side:



Nice hoodoo like shapes in the rock around here:



The amazing colors in this canyon were captured in this HDR:



Short boulder jam:



Looking back out of the canyon:



Up ahead the canyon looks like it will reach an impasse, which is not surprising considering the steepness of the area:



More interesting rock formations:



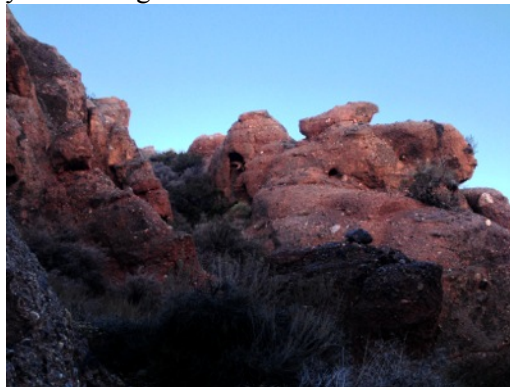
This is the impasse, which appears too tall for us to climb; there likely is some sort of a bypass of it, but we decided to head back down-canyon as it was getting late:



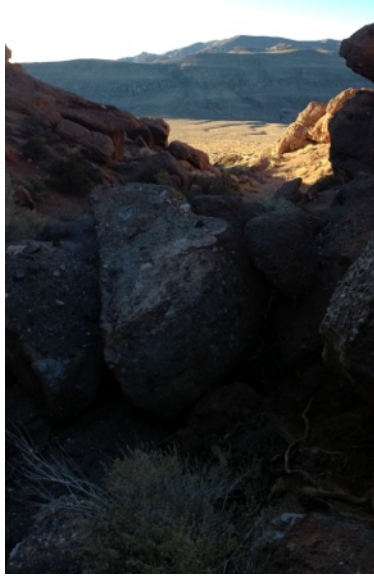
HDR looking out of the canyon:



The rock formations in this area are very interesting:



View of the boulder jam from the other side:



Notice the arch in the center of the photo:

