

## Grotto Canyon First Side Canyon

To enter this side canyon, we bypassed the first set of dry-falls in Grotto Canyon on the left, then followed the canyon to just before the next set of falls. We did not enter the side canyon where it meets the main Grotto Canyon since there are a few difficult dry-falls near the start of the side canyon. We then ascended the ridge and followed it up, as if we were planning on dropping back down into Grotto Canyon. However, we were able to find an easy route (which is apparently well visited due to the number of cairns we saw) into the side canyon. From there, we followed the side canyon to where it forks, chose the left fork, and followed it to the overlook above Little Bridge Canyon. During the entire hike, there were only a few easy, short (less than 6 feet) dry falls that we had to climb. It's actually a fairly easy hike for a great view.

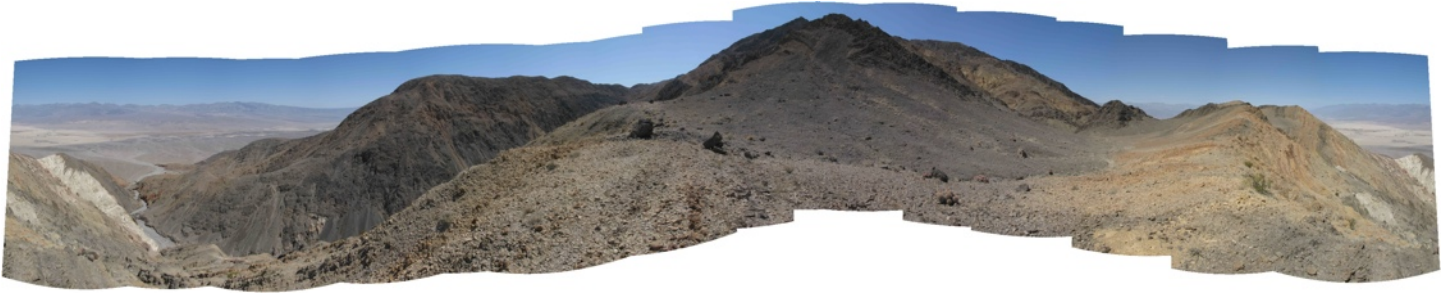
These two photos show the hike up the side canyon. On this day, the temperature reached 100 degrees at Stovepipe Wells, and it felt incredibly hot during the hike up this side canyon.



As we approach the end of the side canyon, the canyon walls start to get less steep and tall:



Uncropped panorama from above Little Bridge Canyon:



Upper Little Bridge Canyon:



The sand dunes:



Heading back down the canyon:

