

MT. EIFFEL ATTEMPT

There is no "official" trail to the top of Mt. Eiffel, but there is a well-worn use trail. We started on this hike from Moraine Lake, and headed towards Sentinel Pass. This photo was taken in the Larch Valley, with the Ten Peaks of the Valley of the Ten Peaks in the background (Mt. Eiffel can be seen to the right in this photo):



Approaching Mt. Eiffel after turning off on the Sentinel Pass trail (the Larch Valley trail forks, and the other fork heads off to Wenkchemna Pass). We left the main Sentinel Pass trail and headed over to the ridge leading up to Mt. Eiffel at the point where the two routes seemed to be closest; this didn't turn out to be where the use trail took off, as we discovered on our return trip when we followed the use trail back:



Looking back towards Sentinel Pass (center of photo, with Mt. Temple on the right) after reaching the base of the ridge heading up to Mt. Eiffel:



Looking over at Mt. Temple, which is another peak I'd like to hike someday (after I successfully hike Mt. Eiffel):



We hiked up the ridge here; it's a bit steeper than where the use trail gains the ridge further down. Notice that the Tower of Babel, near Moraine Lake, can be seen just above center in the photo:



After reaching the top of the ridge, we encountered the use trail to the top of Mt. Eiffel, which is a much more well-defined trail than I'd expected to encounter:



Looking down from the ridge; Sentinel Pass is to the right of this photo:



Looking down the use trail, which is the route we'll take back:



Continuing up the trail towards Mt. Eiffel:



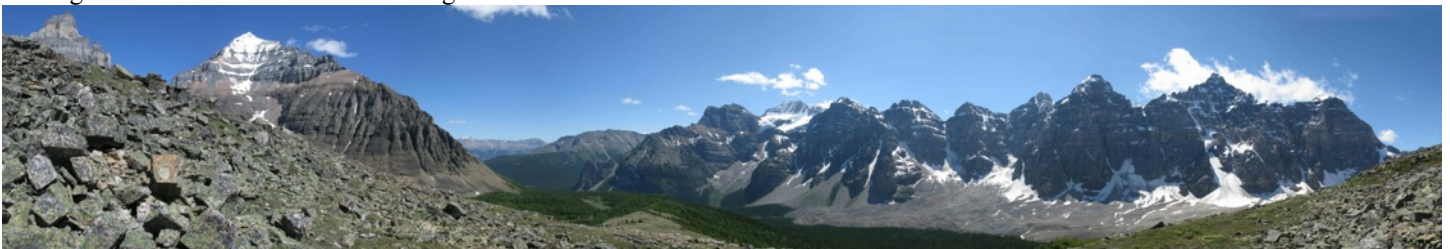
As we left the trees and gained elevation we encountered a lot of wind, which made hiking difficult:



Looking down the ridge and towards the Valley of the Ten Peaks, with Mt. Temple left of center:



Another panorama from further up the ridge (this photo became the desktop picture on my computer after this hike); it can be seen that we've gained a lot of elevation on this ridge:



Another view of Mt. Temple, with Sentinel Pass just out of sight, from this spot on the ridge:



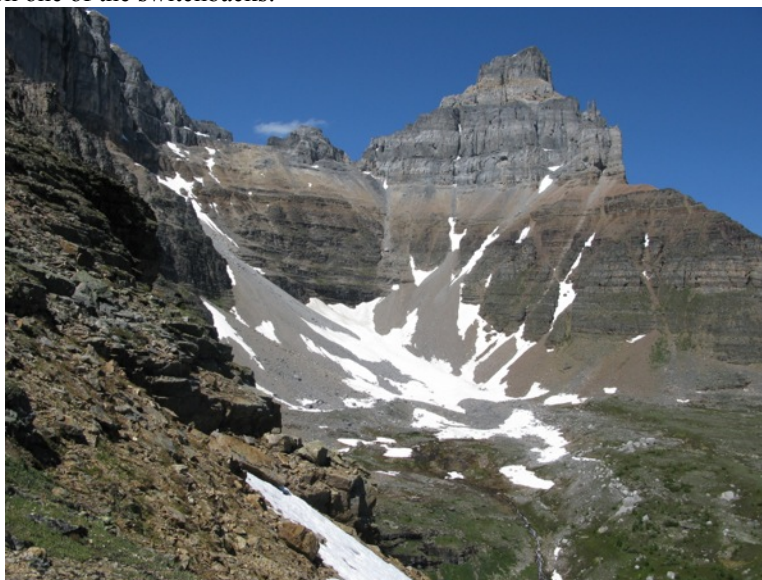
The trail switchbacks up through here:



There were lots of these little flowers along the trail:



Looking down from the ridge on one of the switchbacks:



At this point we were battling severe wind, so we ended up deciding to turn back rather than continue to where the wind would likely get worse:



From what I've read, the hike to the top of Mt. Eiffel isn't technically difficult, but extreme care is required because there are many places where one could slip and have a dangerous fall:



Zooming in at the last stretch of the hike to the top, where it is the most difficult:



From here, we headed back down the use trail:



Where the use trail takes off from the main trail could be difficult to spot because it is where the main trail passes near a creek (so the well-worn trail heading off the main trail may be hard to see):



We stopped here out of the wind and took a bunch of photos of the western anemone flowers which seem to be so common around here:



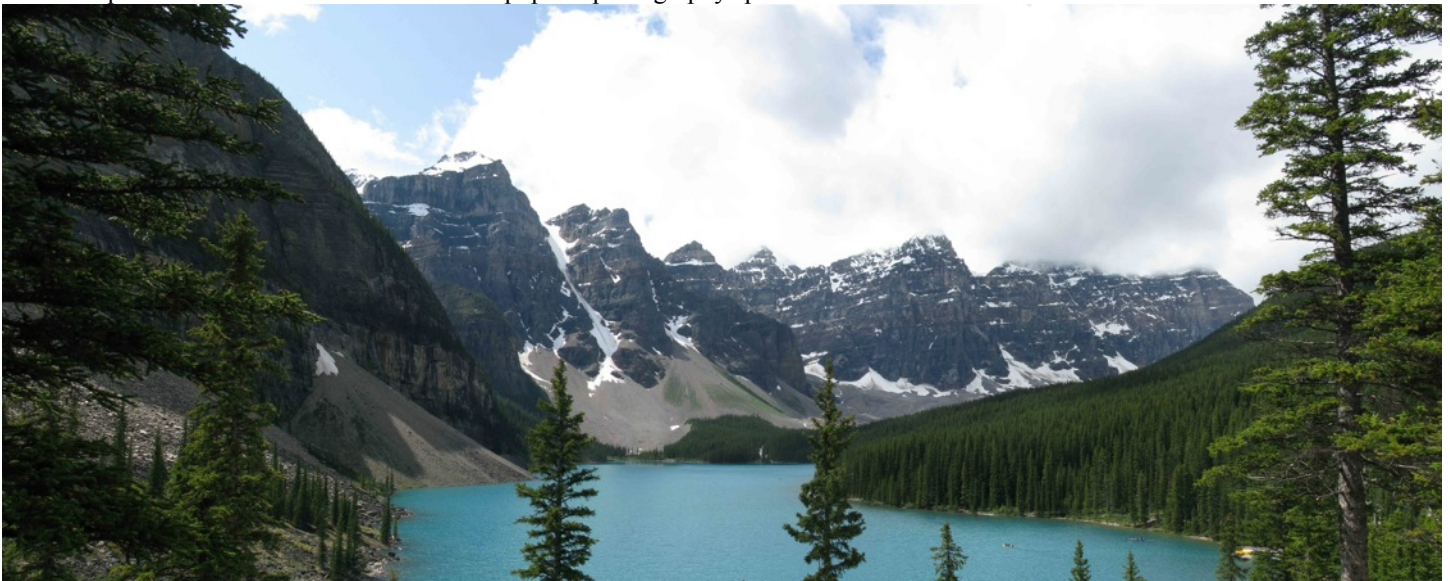
The nice waterfalls in this area:



From here, we decided to head back to Moraine Lake:



This viewpoint of Moraine Lake seems to be a popular photography spot:



This (distorted) panorama photo was taken from the lakeshore walk at Moraine Lake:

