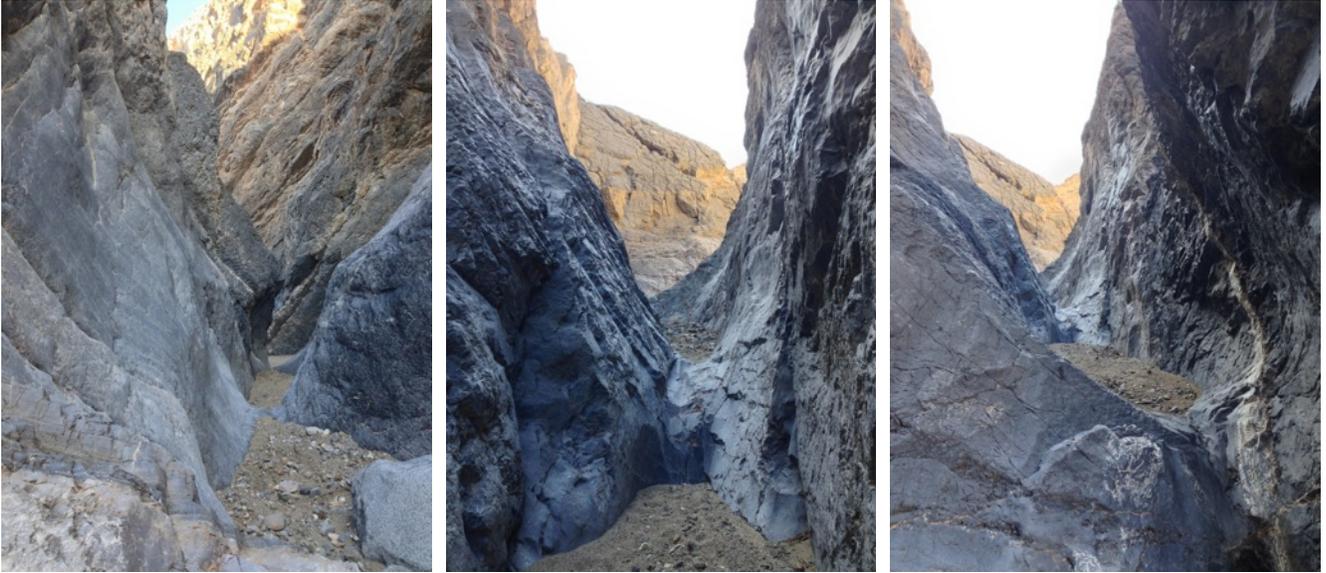


The canyon began to get narrower, and the rock walls became more impressive; we felt very lucky to get to see this much of the canyon:



These three photos are of the narrowest part of the canyon, where a hiker can touch both walls at the same time:



Continuing down-canyon, we were amazed at how far we had been able to progress towards the massive dryfall:



Up ahead, the canyon drops over this short boulder jam, the only obstacle in the wash that requires brief thought as to how it should be descended (it's easier to climb down the left side of the rock rather than over the boulder). Just beyond, an overlook of the lower canyon wash can be seen, and the canyon cuts to the left to the top of the massive dryfall:



Rock anchor with webbing at the top of the massive dryfall:



Looking over the first drop, into the top pothole:



Panorama looking out towards the ridge we had come down earlier, with the first pothole far below:



Looking over the viewpoint into the lower canyon:



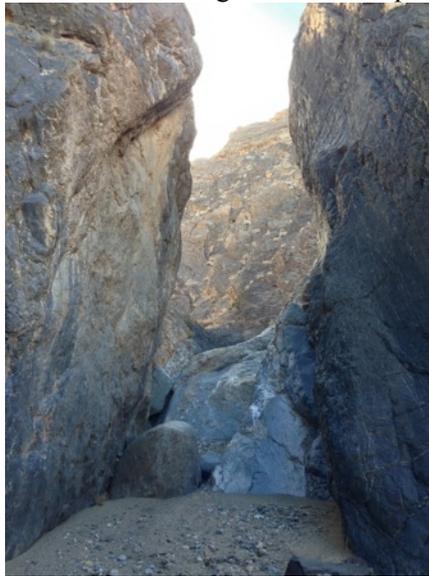
Panorama looking out from this viewpoint towards the overlook of this major dryfall which we had been at earlier:



One last view looking out over the top of this impressive dryfall; we had no idea that we would be able to get to this point:



This is the small boulder jam, which is best climbed on the right side in this photo:



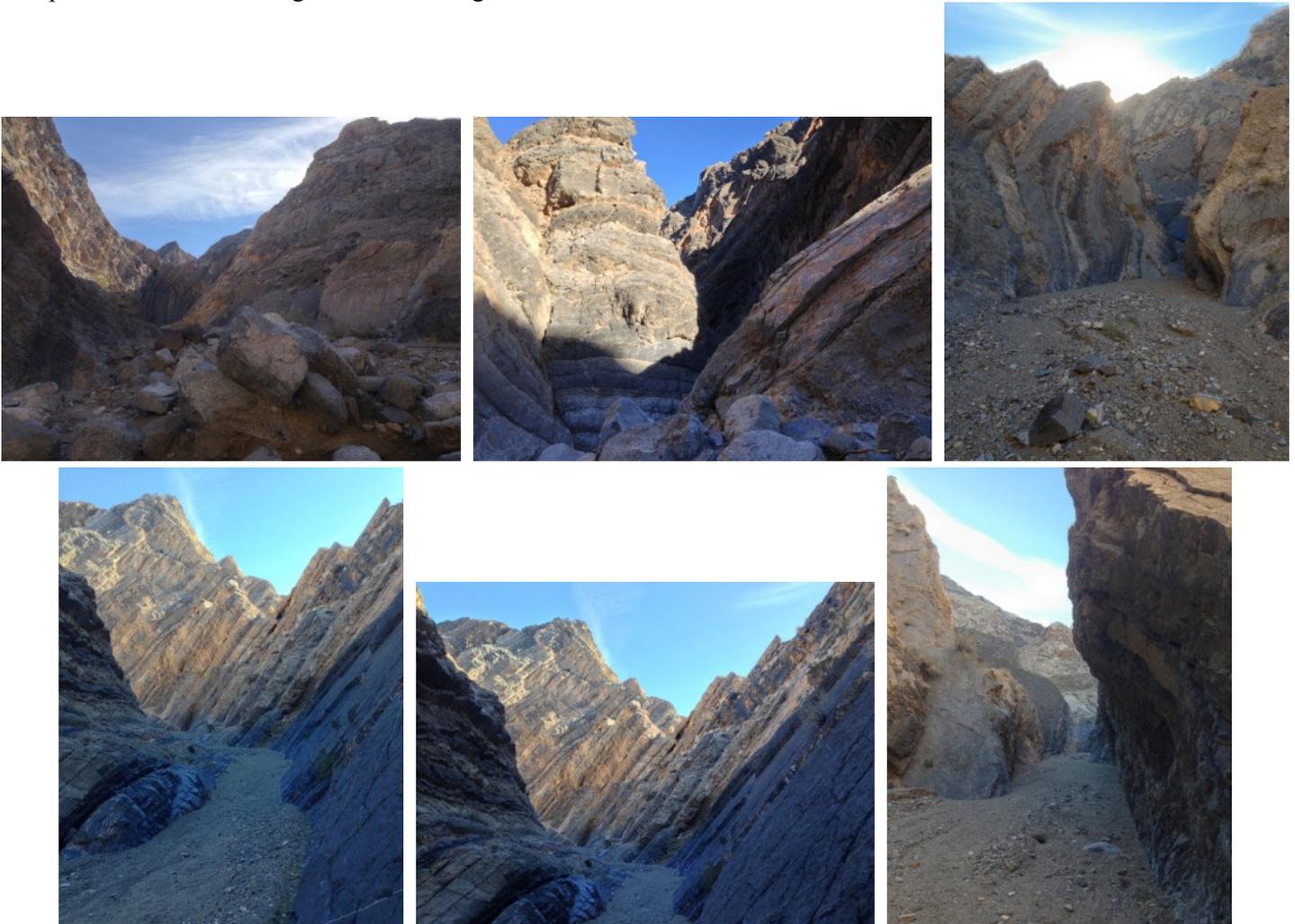
More photos of the amazing narrows above the big dryfall in Pothole Canyon:



Two additional photos of the tightest spot in these narrows:



We had been very much impressed by this entire hike, from the views of the massive dryfall and of Death Valley itself, to the spectacular narrows we got to walk through at the end of the hike:



This is a short and easy dryfall in the narrows:



HDR photos of this canyon narrows turned out amazing:



After exiting the narrows, we retraced our route back up the northern fork of the canyon to the ridge, taking some photos along the way:



This photo is of a nice bend in the canyon through some interesting (volcanic?) rock:



Up ahead is a boulder pile:



This is a closer view of the boulder pile which we had needed to climb through on our way down-canyon:



The simplest route is just to crawl through this rock tunnel:



Then climb up this short dryfall:



Looking back down-canyon at the boulder pile:



Once attaining the ridge, we looked back at the canyon narrows which we had just left; it is still hard to believe that we were able to hike, uninterrupted by any sort of major impasse, to the top of the massive dryfall:



Interesting green rock I spotted on our hike back up the ridge:



From here, we decided to try the canyoneers route back down to the valley floor; according to the maps, it first follows this ridge down to the bump seen to the left of center in this photo:



This is a closer view of the bump which the route crosses:



Looking over towards Canyon 5 from near the top of this bump:



At first, it seemed that the ridge would cliff out just past the flat top of the bump; however, we kept descending and eventually we could see the valley floor:



Another view looking into Canyon 5 from further down the ridge:



This was a strange hole in the rock which was spotted on the way down, which did not photograph particularly well:



Looking back up at what we had just descended:



After hiking both routes, we found our original route up to be easier for us; however, both routes work just fine:



Looking back towards the ridges and Canyon 6; as can be seen in this photo, it is starting to get dark, which is why we felt so rushed hiking through the narrows on this January day:



One last panorama looking towards the cliffs in the Canyons 4, 5, and 6 area:

