North Lake to Piute Lake Hike

By the Parchers Resort Crew

Piute Pass Trailhead at North Lake (7.5 Miles Roundtrip and 1700 Vertical Ft.)

The trail begins by the campground restroom. Shortly after passing the walk-in campsites, the trail forks, with the left fork going to Lamarck Lakes and the right fork going to Piute Pass. Stay to the right following the trail marked, Piute Pass. The trail meanders through the woods, crossing creeks a couple of times. The trail then follows the creek out into the open and works up switchbacks on the north side of the canyon. Views back toward North Lake are spectacular.

After a long slog up 600 vertical feet, the trail drops into Loch Leven. This is at about the 3 mile point. The trail is pleasant from here on, walking the shore of Loch Leven, meandering by some ponds and tarns before arriving at Piute Lake. There is only about 200 vertical feet between Loch Leven and Piute Lake, so enjoy this last mile.

The scenery at Piute Lake is stark, but beautiful. Piute Lake and Loch Leven hold rainbow and brook trout, some fish being moderate in size. There are some stunted trees to provide cover and shade for a picnic.



