

North Lake to Lower Lamarck Lake Hike

By the Parchers Resort Crew

Piute Pass Trailhead at North Lake
(3.0 Miles Roundtrip and 1350 Vertical Ft.)

Catch the trail as it leaves the lower end of the South Lake parking lot. There are some nice wildflowers during the first 100 yards of trail. The trail ascends into the open, following above the shoreline. There are some spectacular views of the Sierra Crest and South Lake Island to had in this stretch.

The trail then moves into a draw before making a hairpin turn back toward the lake. At this point, the trail enters the John Muir Wilderness. There is a long straight stretch of trail through the forest before coming to the Treasure Lakes Trail Junction.

At the junction, take the trail to the left, marked Bishop Pass. Follow the path onto a wooded bench that slowly ascends as it moves southeast. Continue to follow the trail as it makes some gentle switchbacks, then straightening out again. Look for the trail marker denoting the Marie Louise Lakes Trail. The trail steepens as it make a hairpin turn that will soon provide a view down on Hurd Lake.

The tail moves straight across a rocky outcropping before making about a half dozen steeper switchbacks. The trail straightens out moving up a shallow draw, crosses to the other side and then finally comes to a cove of Long Lake. This is a great photo op but there are better places to picnic. Follow the shore of the lake to the right and you will come to an excellent campsite. Another option is to continue up the trail until it moves away from the lake. Walk toward the lake at this point and you will be on a granite bluff that sits above the lake.



