

Young Lakes Loop

Distance 12 miles round trip

Elevation Gain 2141 Feet Up and 2141 Feet Down

Location: Tuolumne Meadows – Lembert Dome

Time of Year: Mid June to Mid October

Directions from Bishop: Head north on Hwy 395 to Lee Vining, 65miles away. Just prior to reaching Lee Vining, turn left on Hwy 120 and head west 12 miles to Tioga Pass, it's another 7 miles to the Hiker parking area at Lambert Dome.

Description: Pick up the trail at Lembert Dome; it will fork within a 1/4 mile, go right to Dog Lake; the trail climbs rapidly gaining 700 feet in the first 3/4 mile; turn left towards Dog Lake at the trail jct; another 1/2 mile or so brings you to the Dog Lake turnoff, stay left heading towards Young Lakes; from here it is about 2.7 miles and a gain of about 1,000 feet to the high point of the run at 10,000 ft; a short 1/2 mile downhill run brings you to a trail jct, turn right to Young Lakes; 1.5 miles bring you to Young Lakes; turnaround and head back to the trail jct where you run straight or to the right; from here it's a 1,200 ft drop to the Tuolumne River 3 miles later; here you'll pick up the Glen Aulin trail, turn left and head back to Lembert Dome about 1.5 miles on a flat to downhill trail.

Odds and Ends

- 1) You'll have to pay an entrance fee upon entering the park at Tioga Pass.
- 2) In wet years, you'll find snow on the trails and possible high stream crossings.
- 3) Try swimming in Young Lakes, it'll be refreshing after all that uphill.

