



Beautiful Lake Blanche

Lake Florence & Lake Lillian

The Lake Blanche hike is my favorite hike. It is a strenuous hike of 2.7 miles from the trail head to Lake Blanche, and a 2,000 foot elevation rise. Once at Lake Blanche, you can follow the trail to the right and see Lake Florence. There is a waterfall that flows from Lake Blanche into Lake Florence. From there, still heading West, Lake Lillian becomes visible. I usually plan 2 hours for the hike to Lake Blanche and another hour or 2 exploring the other two lakes. I like to start early in the morning to avoid the traffic on this trail later in the day. This trail provides stunning vistas almost every step of the way. There are massive granite faces, Aspen forests, and views of the canyon and dramatic surrounding mountains. As you approach the top of the trail, the red granite

has scrape marks from the movement of the glacier that carved the Lake Blanche area. Wild flowers abound even into mid July. It's a good idea to bring your camera and plenty of water. Camping is permitted by continuing the hike around the lake on the Northeast side of the lake, where the terrain flattens and is among the Aspens. This is part of the Salt Lake watershed and no dogs are allowed.

The trail head is accessed by driving up Little Cottonwood Canyon approximately 3 miles, just before the hairpin turn, on the right side of the road. There is a paved parking lot which usually overflows onto the highway.