

Riding Death Valley for Thanksgiving by Patty Hoskins

Biking friends, Death Valley was gorgeous. It was an outstanding adventure. The ride was out of Furnace Creek Campground at the north end of Death Valley, which is 190 feet below sea level. The weather was perfect. It was in the 70's during the day and 40's at night. We did about 25 miles from Furnace Creek. The climb up into Artist's Den was 1150 feet in about two miles with the average grade at 11% with a total of 2500 feet of climbing. Artist's Den was a 9 mile loop back to the main road which had a narrow shoulder. You can see Joshua, one of my sons, friend struggling on a hill in the picture below. Notice the road across the bottom from where we came from. It takes you to Badwater, which is the lowest point in the US at 282 feet below sea level.

