

Lost Coast Backpacking Trip Itinerary Fri – Mon Sept 9-12 2022

Day 1: Backpack In

Day	Event	Start Time	Duration	Arrival	Notes
Fri	Drive from Santa Rosa to Shelter Cove Ranger Station, 768 Shelter Cove Road	9:00 AM	3:07	12:07 PM	101 North to Redwood Drive exit 639B, turn left on to Redwood Drive, go 2.6 miles then turn left on Briceland Road, go 12.1 miles then turn slightly right on to Shelter Cove Road, then go 0.9 miles, on left
	Buy waterproof map and talk to ranger	12:07 PM	0:23	12:30 PM	
	Drive to Black Sands Beach trailhead	12:30 PM	0:18	12:48 PM	Drive 7.2 miles down Shelter Cove Road, turn right on to Beach Road, go 0.9 miles, on right
	Eat packed lunch and ready packs	12:48 PM	0:27	1:15 PM	
	Backpack 3.7 mi to Gitchell Creek Camp	1:15 PM	2:15	3:30 PM	Assumes 1.64 MPH including stops, the slowest we can backpack to get to the impassable area just past the camp at the beginning of the passable time
	Hike 4.8 more miles to Miller Flat / Big Flat Camps, 8.5 miles total	3:30 PM	3:15	6:45 PM	Arrive at camp 50 minutes before sunset; may need headlamps to set up camp and cook but full moon is Saturday so moon will be up. Need to keep at least 1.48 MPH rate to get through impassable area. Alternatives are to stop at Buck Creek Camp 1.5 mi past Gitchell or Shipman Creek Camp after 2.9 mi

Lost Coast Backpacking Trip Itinerary

Days 2 and 3: layover days

Day	Event	Start Time	Duration	Arrival	Notes
Sat	Day hike from Miller Flat / Big Flat Camps up to as far as the beginning of the second of 3 impassable zones at Randall Creek, up to 14.2 miles round trip		Less than 10 hours		
Sun	Day hike from Miller Flat / Big Flat Camps up towards King Peak, up to 16.6 mi round trip / 4,088' climb		Less than 10 hours		

Lost Coast Backpacking Trip Itinerary

Day 4: backpack out

Day	Event	Start Time	Duration	Arrival	Notes
Mon	Backpack from Miller Flat / Big Flat Camps 4.8 across the impassable zone to Gitchell Creek Camp	6:33 AM <i>19 minutes before sunrise</i>	3:12	9:45 AM	Assumes 1.5 MPH average. May adjust this after first crossing on Friday. Alternative is to cut Sunday day hike short and move camp between 4:30 and 9:00 PM when passable back to Shipman, Buck or Gitchell Creek Camps, in or past the impassable zone. If we blow this and have to stop at Shipman or Buck Creek Camp and wait out the impassable time we have to wait until the 5:15 – 10:15 PM passable window and get home as late as 2:30 AM Tuesday morning.
	Backpack from Gitchell Creek to Back Sand Beach Trailhead 3.7 mi	9:45 AM	2:15	12:00 noon	Assumes 1.64 MPH
	Eat packed lunch at trailhead	12:00 noon	0:30	12:30 PM	
	Drive home	12:30 PM	3:25	3:55 PM	May take longer due to traffic.

Days 1 and 4



Days 2 and 3



Tides

Date	AM Start below 2.5'	End below 2.5'	PM Start below 2.5'	End below 2.5'
9/9	2:00	8:30	3:30	6:45
9/10	3:00	9:00	4:00	8:00
9/11	3:45	9:30	4:30	9:00
9/12	4:30	9:45	5:15	10:15

Sun

Sunrise	Sunset
6:52 AM	7:35 PM

Camps with water

Camp name	Distance from Black Sand Beach Trailhead	Distance from last camp	In the impassable at high tide zone?
Horse Mountain Creek	1.8		No
Gitchell Creek	3.7	1.9	No
Buck Creek	5.2	1.5	Yes
Shipman Creek	6.6	1.4	Yes
Miller Flat / Big Flat	8.5	1.9	No
Big Creek	11.3	2.8	No
Kinsey Creek	13.0	1.7	No
Spanish Creek	14.4	1.4	No
Randall Creek	15.6	1.2	No
Cooskie Creek	17.6	2.0	Yes
Punta Gorda Lighthouse (3.7 mi from Mattole River Trailhead)	20.7 (24.8 miles to Mattole River Trailhead)	3.1	No (plus 0.5 mile section 1.3 mi past Punta Gorda)

Tides

9/9

<https://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/noatidepredictions.html?id=9418024&units=standard&bdate=20220909&edate=20220909&timezone=LST/LDT&clock=12hour&datum=MLLW&interval=hilo&action=dailychart&thresholdvalue=2.5&threshold=greaterThan>

9/10

<https://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/noatidepredictions.html?id=9418024&units=standard&bdate=20220910&edate=20220910&timezone=LST/LDT&clock=12hour&datum=MLLW&interval=hilo&action=dailychart&thresholdvalue=2.5&threshold=greaterThan>

9/11

<https://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/noatidepredictions.html?id=9418024&units=standard&bdate=20220911&edate=20220911&timezone=LST/LDT&clock=12hour&datum=MLLW&interval=hilo&action=dailychart&thresholdvalue=2.5&threshold=greaterThan>

9/12

<https://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/noatidepredictions.html?id=9418024&units=standard&bdate=20220912&edate=20220912&timezone=LST/LDT&clock=12hour&datum=MLLW&interval=hilo&action=dailychart&thresholdvalue=2.5&threshold=greaterThan>

Map

<https://www.blm.gov/sites/blm.gov/files/programs-nlcs-california-king-range-map-and-guide.pdf>