

HIKE WITH A NATURALIST: UTE TRAIL

AUGUST 15, 2020

COURSE LEVEL: IV COURSE #: S5006

FEE: \$50 PER ADULT AGES 16 AND OLDER

INSTRUCTOR: TBA



Rocky
Mountain
Conservancy

FIELD INSTITUTE

PAGE 1 OF 2

LOCATION: This hike will meet at the end of the **Upper Beaver Meadows** road located inside Rocky Mountain National Park. Travel through the Beaver Meadows entrance station and drive approximately ½ mile. Turn left on the first dirt/gravel road which is Upper Beaver Meadows Road. Drive to the end and park.

TIME: 7:00 AM - 3:30 PM

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Participants will get to experience each life zone within Rocky Mountain National Park as they hike down from the tundra, along the historic Ute Trail, through pine forests into lush montane meadows. The focus of this hike will be on the cultural and natural history of the area including information on the Ute people who once called RMNP their home. Each life zone will bring new information and chances to view the plants and animals which inhabit these areas.

COURSE LEVEL: IV

Hike of more than five miles with more than 1,000 ft. of elevation gain/loss.

One-way mileage: 6.5 miles

Elevation decrease: 3,025 ft. (This hike is mostly DOWNHILL.)

Maximum elevation reached: 11,656 ft.

EXPECTATIONS: Professional conduct will be expected from participants at all times. Individual ideas will be respected. Except during course breaks, cellular phones, pagers, and personal entertainment devices are strictly prohibited in the classroom and during field sessions.

TENTATIVE COURSE SCHEDULE:

7:00 AM	Meet at Upper Beaver Meadows Trailhead; Take RMC shuttle to the beginning of the Ute Trail along Trail Ridge Road.
8:00 AM	Begin hike.
12:30 PM	Lunch
3:30 PM	Arrive back at Upper Beaver Meadows Trailhead.

WHAT TO BRING:

- Sack lunch, snacks, energy bars, **WATER**
- Binocular
- Wear comfortable, layered clothing.
- Small notebook/pen or pencil
- Camera (optional)

REMEMBER TO BRING THE 10 ESSENTIALS:

Rocky Mountain National Park recommends that hikers always carry the 10 essentials in their daypacks.

- Raingear
 - Map and compass
 - Flashlight or headlamp
 - Sunglasses and sunscreen
 - Candles
 - Matches or other fire starter
 - Pocketknife
 - First-aid kit
 - Extra layers of clothing
-
- Sack lunch, snacks, and water

Note: Rocky Mountain Conservancy - Field Institute recommends that participants for all courses dress in layers and wear comfortable, sturdy hiking boots/shoes. Participants should be prepared for sudden changes in temperature and weather conditions.