

2018I – Mohave Road and Indian Wells

Tuesday, October 16 – Drive to Barstow, CA (457 miles; 7.5 hours)

Drive to Barstow
Dine at Peas Soup Andersen's in Santa Nella on I5 along the way
Stay at Rodeway Inn in Barstow

Wednesday, October 17 – Barstow to Mojave Road (168 miles; 2.5 hours); Offroading: (24 miles; 4 hours)

Drive to Laughlin, NV near the start of the Mojave Road (from the east)
Get gas and stock up on last minute food supplies
Start 4WD along the Mojave Road
Hike 3.5 miles out and back to Picture Canyon to see petroglyphs
Visit the ruins of Fort Piute
Camp in the back of the 4Runner near Fort Piute

Thursday, October 18 – Mojave Road (53 miles; 4 hours)

Continue driving along the Mojave Road
Hike 3 miles out and back from the Piute Gorge Overlook to Piute Springs
Stop to put a penny in the famous Mojave Road penny can
Stop at Rock Springs and hike the 1.3-mile Rock Springs Loop
Camp in a nice area right off Mile 68.4 – this time in the tent rather than the 4Runner

Friday, October 19 – Mojave Road (39 miles; 4 hours)

Continue driving along the Mojave Road
Stop at the historic Mojave Road Mailbox to sign the register
Visit the Frog Garden behind the Mailbox
Take a side trip along Aiken Cinder Mine Road to hike down into a lava tube
Camp just shy of Afton Canyon railroad trestle (mile 115)

Saturday, October 20 – Back to Civilization (185 miles; 5 hours)

Drive Basin Road back out to I15
Dine at Peggy Sue's 50s Diner in Yerma
Visit Calico Ghost Town in Yerma during their Halloween Ghost Haunt
Drive to friends' house in Indian Wells
Stay at friends' house

Sunday, October 21 – Indian Wells (156 miles; 4 hours)

Drive 47 miles to the southern entrance to Joshua Tree only to find out that the road is closed because of flood damage
Drive back to Palm Springs
Hike 2-mile Tahquitz Canyon trail (\$12.50 pp admission)
Dine at Giuseppe's Pizza
Stay at friends' house

Monday, October 22 – Indian Wells (60 miles; 2 hours)

Take the Palm Springs Aerial Tramway to the top of Mt. San Jacinto State Park
Hike the Desert View Trail and other trails along the top
Take the tram down
Dine at Le Donne Cucina Italiana
Stay at friends' house

Tuesday, October 22 – Home (547 miles; 9 hours)

Drive Home

Total Trip Mileage: 1,665 miles
Average Miles per Day: 208 miles per day