

A List of Alabama Hills Photo Sites for the GPS Enabled

On one hand a list such as this is superfluous; nearly everywhere you look you can find a good photo just waiting for you to line it up and release the shutter. Wily images in the form of fancifully named rock formations and piles inhabit this strange place waiting to see if you can capture them. And it is hard not to find some good stuff at any time of the year, day, or direction.

However, here is a small and growing list of approximate GPS coordinates for some special sites throughout the valley. As I shoot and record more I'll add them to the list. Remember, commercial GPS receivers have a precision of about 3 meters; that means the ACTUAL spot could be anywhere within a circle with a 3 meter radius from where it is indicated on YOUR receiver. But this will get you close enough to see the things being described.

Dawn Overlook 1. Located just off of Movie Rd. I've taken several dawn mosaics from this area. You go past the parking area for Moebius Arch. The road dips into a gulley then rises to make a 90 degree left turn and immediately the parking area is on the left. **36° 36.758 / 118° 07.074 @ 4,640 ft**

Moebius Arch Trailhead and Parking. The trail head is on the west end of the parking area. This is on Movie Rd just past the first big sweeping 90 degree turn to the right. Moebius (Nirvana) arch is an iconic shot since you can look through it and frame Mt. Whitney or Mt. Lone Pine.

36° 36.679 / 118° 07.497

McCoy's Cave. This opening in the rocks (not a real cave) was used in a Star Trek Episode where McCoy delivers the baby of an warrior alien queen and nearly pays with his life for it. The cave interior was on a sound stage but it was here that they emerged to face the gathered warriors. The side road turns west off at Movie Rd at **36° 36.356 / 118° 07.375**. Drive west about ¼ mile (+/-)to the circle drive in front of the "cave" at **36° 36.260 / 118° 07.486**

Site of Big Arroyo Mosaic. This is where I took a 27 frame mosaic where several washes come together. It is west of Movie Rd driving on the side road at the point where Movie Rd take a 90 degree sweep to the right. The overlook where I shot (looking north) is at **36° 36.624 / 118° 07.782**

High Overlook. This is a spectacular view of the whole valley actually looking down on the Dawn overlook noted above. The road is rough and you will need good tires and a higher clearance vehicle but not 4WD. The side road is located to the south off of Movie Rd at **36° 37.358 / 118° 06.845**. Drive south carefully picking your way. You will pass a large saddle that offers a good view but keep going. A few hundred yard spur to the right will take you to an overlook where the view is framed between rock pinnacles. This is at **36° 36.978 / 118° 06.574 @ 4774 ft**.

West Arch Trail. This foot trail leads to a small arch on the west end of the rock piles. The spur to the parking area is located off of Whitney Portal Road, past Movie Rd and Horseshoe meadow Rd at **36° 35.686 / 118° 09.161 @ 5193 ft.** This spur goes north through the scrub for a few yards and you will see the parking area and trail head.

Tuttle Creek Corral. This old abandoned corral on the north side of the road is a favorite photo stop on the Tuttle Creek Rd. These coordinates were taken from across the road (south side) where there is lots of room to park. **36° 35.686 / 118° 09.161 @ 5193 Ft.**