

Mount St. Piran Hike (13km, 920m Elevation Gain)
Saturday July 27, 2013

Nine people were on this hike, with 1 new member to the club. Meeting time was at 9:30AM at the Lake Louise Chateau parking lot. Five people stayed at a hostel in the area on Friday night and 4 people drove in from Red Deer in the morning. The meeting place for car-pooling in Red Deer was at 5:45AM at the AMA parking lot. The weather started out cool and cloudy but turned sunny as the day wore on.

The group started the hike at 10:00AM and we had our first brief stop at Mirror Lake. There were many tourists on the trail until the Agnes Lake turnoff at 3.6km. Once we turned off on the Mt. St Piran Trail there were a lot of switchbacks up to the summit which makes it a little easier, but it was still a steady up. The group ate lunch just below the summit, as there was a cold wind at the top of the mountain. Minor scrambling at the top. It was really windy and cold on the summit although when the wind stopped every now and then for a few minutes it was quite nice. Someone had made a rock wind shelter up there which was very appreciated and we huddled in it when the winds really got going. The views of the Lake Louise Valley and the surrounding mountain peaks were really fantastic. We spent quite a bit of time on the summit taking pictures and then it was time to go back down again. 2 Members of the group did a brief detour over to the little beehive and then we all stopped at the Lake Agnes Tea House to sit and enjoy the sun before we continued back down the mountain.