



Bureau of
Land Management

Canyon Country District Moab Field Office

Free Visitor Guide

BLM Photo/J.Buck

Welcome to Canyon Country!

If you like to camp, hike, climb, raft, bike, four-wheel, or attend outdoor events, Moab's Bureau of Land Management (BLM) public lands are the right place for you.

Located in the heart of the Colorado Plateau and carved by the Green and Colorado rivers, the BLM Moab Field Office manages 1.8 million acres of spectacular scenery. You will find a vast array of arches, spires, canyons, cliffs and mesas. Recreation opportunities draw three million visitors a year to this unique desert landscape.

BLM-managed public lands support multiple uses such as oil and gas production, livestock grazing, mining, and projects to improve wildlife habitat. The agency strives to manage and conserve public lands for future generations, but we need your help!

This visitor guide will help you be prepared and know how to recreate responsibly while visiting your public lands.



CANYONLANDS
Natural History Association
We Support the Lands You Love

The Moab Information Center (MIC) serves as the regional interagency visitor center, providing trip planning, guide books, maps, and free wi-fi conveniently located on the corner of Main and Center streets.

Moab Information Center
25 East Center Street
Moab, Utah 84532

Hours: Daily from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Phone: 435-259-8825

Protect Your Public Lands. Protect Yourself.



Drink Water
It's easy to become dehydrated in the desert. Drink at least one gallon (four liters) of water per day.



Tread Lightly
Stay on designated routes and trails to protect fragile desert soils, plants, and wildlife habitat.



Pack Out Waste
Use an approved waste bag to carry out all human and pet waste.



Watch the Weather
Flash flooding and lightning can be deadly. Seek shelter during inclement weather.



Fire Rings
Do not build new fire rings or create new dispersed campsites.



Leave What You Find
Leave artifacts where you find them. It is illegal to take artifacts, including historic trash, from public lands.



Wood Gathering
Do not gather or cut wood for campfires. Permits are required for wood cutting.



Protect the Past
Vandalizing rock art and cultural sites is illegal and erases the stories of Indigenous people.



Campground fees are \$20 per night.
Horsethief Campground is \$25 per night.
Most locations accept cash, check, & credit.



Drinking water is available seasonally (spring-fall) at Lion's Park north of Moab.



U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management

Moab Field Office
82 East Dogwood Avenue
Moab, Utah 84532

Hours: M-F, 7:45 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Phone: 435-259-2100
Email: blm_ut_mb_mail@blm.gov
Website: www.blm.gov/utah

Reservations and Permits
The activities listed below require prior reservation or permits. To acquire a permit or reservation visit www.recreation.gov.

Boating: Westwater Canyon, Labyrinth Canyon, and the Dolores River
OHV: Coyote Canyon
Camping: Group campsites, Ken's Lake Loop A individual sites, and Courthouse Rock individual sites 5 & 6

BLM Developed Campgrounds

- Individual campsites are first come, first served and not reservable. Ken's Lake Loop A and Courthouse Rock sites 5 & 6 are reservable in advance on recreation.gov.
- Most camping fees are \$20/night per site. Pay cash (U.S. currency only) or check (to USDI - BLM) at the campground kiosk. Most sites accept credit card or electronic payment. For more details, see the table below.
- No water or electricity is available in campgrounds.
- Vault toilets, fire rings, picnic tables and dumpsters are provided at all developed campgrounds.
- Generators may be operated from 8 a.m. - 8 p.m.
- Pets must be leashed at all times in developed campgrounds .
- No firewood gathering or cutting is allowed. Firewood may be purchased at convenience stores in and around Moab.
- Camping on public land is limited to 14 days at a single location. After 14 days, you must relocate to a new site at least 30 miles away from your previous camp.
- Horse corrals are available at the following reservable sites: Ken's Lake Group Site A, Upper Onion Group Site A, Lone Mesa Group Site A, and Courthouse Rock individual sites 5 and 6.
- Group campsites may be reserved up to six months in advance and up to eight days prior to arrival date (recreation.gov).



Camping Tips

Want to camp like a pro?

Leave something of no value in your campsite while you are away to show it is occupied.

Keep a clean camp. Do not leave trash or food out. Birds and rodents will gain access to food and make a mess.

Be a good neighbor. Noise carries. Be mindful of how much noise you make and follow quiet hours.

Protect the night sky. Limit the use of bright lights. Many people come to Moab to view the night sky.




Fire Safety

Never leave a campfire unattended! Extinguish your campfire properly every time.

1. Dump water on the fire.
2. Stir the ashes with a shovel.
3. Dump more water on the fire.
4. If it is warm to the touch, then it is too hot to leave.

It is your responsibility to know the current fire restrictions and follow restriction orders.




Human Waste on Public Lands

*Portable toilet systems are **required** for public land users throughout Grand County if no toilet is available.*

Do not dispose of human waste bags in BLM dumpsters. Take human waste bags to the Moab Transfer Station located at 2295 S. Hwy 191 during business hours.

Portable toilet systems such as groovers can be cleaned at various locations in Moab. For more approved disposal sites, scan this QR code:



Your Fees at Work

Campgrounds are maintained with collected fees, not your tax dollars. Your money stays here to benefit the public lands you choose to visit and enjoy!



Category	Percentage
Maintenance (cleaning & vehicles)	29%
Site Amenities (toilets, toilet paper, picnic tables, gravel, shade shelters, etc.)	25%
Recreation Staff & Admin Costs	13%
Law Enforcement	11%
Garbage Disposal	10%
Toilet Pumping	10%
Campground Hosts	2%

Total Annual Campground Expenses = \$1.1 Million



State Route 128 Campgrounds	Miles from Hwy 191	# Of Sites	Max RV Length	# Of Group Sites
Goose Island - Credit card (CC) payment available onsite	1.4	19	40ft (12m)	2
Grandstaff - No trailers; CC payment available at Goose Island	3	16	24ft (7m)	
Drinks Canyon - CC payment available at Big Bend	6.2	17	18ft (5.5m)	
Hal Canyon - CC payment available at Big Bend	6.6	11	24ft (7m)	
Oak Grove - No trailers; CC payment available at Big Bend	6.9	7	18ft (5.5m)	
Big Bend - CC payment available onsite	7.4	33	40ft (12m)	3
Upper Big Bend - CC payment available at Big Bend	8.1	8	18ft (5.5m)	
Upper Onion Creek - gravel road; CC payment available at Hittle Bottom	21	14	40ft (12m)	2
Lower Onion Creek - gravel road; CC payment available at Hittle Bottom	22	19	24ft (7m)	4
Fisher Towers - gravel road; CC payment available at Hittle Bottom	22	5	No RVs	
Hittle Bottom - CC payment available onsite	23	15	40ft (12m)	1
Dewey Bridge - CC payment available at Hittle Bottom	29	7	34ft (10m)	3
State Route 313 Campgrounds				
Lone Mesa Group Sites - gravel road access	9	0	50ft (15m)	5
Horsethief - \$25/night; CC payment available onsite	12	83	40ft (12m)	5
Cowboy - No trailers; CC payment available at Horsethief	18	7	No RVs	

State Route 279 Campgrounds	Miles from HWY 191	# Of Sites	Max RV Length	# Of Group Sites
Jaycee Park - No trailers; CC payment available at Williams B.	4	7	No RVs	
Williams Bottom - CC payment available onsite	6	17	24ft (7m)	
Gold Bar - CC payment available at Williams Bottom	10	9	40ft (12m)	4
Kane Creek Road Campgrounds				
King's Bottom	2.8	23	24ft (7m)	1
Hunter Canyon Group Site - gravel road access	7.8	0	No RVs	1
Ledges A, B, C, D & E - gravel road; CC payment available at Ledge B	10	98	30ft (9m)	3
Needles Overlook Road Campgrounds				
Windwhistle - No trailers	6	15	No RVs	1
Hatch Point - No trailers; gravel road access	24	10	No RVs	
Highway 191 & Other Campgrounds				
North Klondike - gravel road; Recreation.gov scan and pay option	1.5	25	30ft (9m)	2
Courthouse Rock - gravel road; Recreation.gov scan and pay option	1	10	50ft (15m)	
Ken's Lake - Loop A Reservation Only (Recreation.gov)	1.8	48	40ft (12m)	2
Sand Flats Recreation Area Campgrounds - gravel road access	3	140	34ft (10m)	6

BLM Dispersed Camping and Designated Backcountry Camping

Due to high visitation, many areas near developed campgrounds and the city of Moab are closed to dispersed camping. See map for more details.

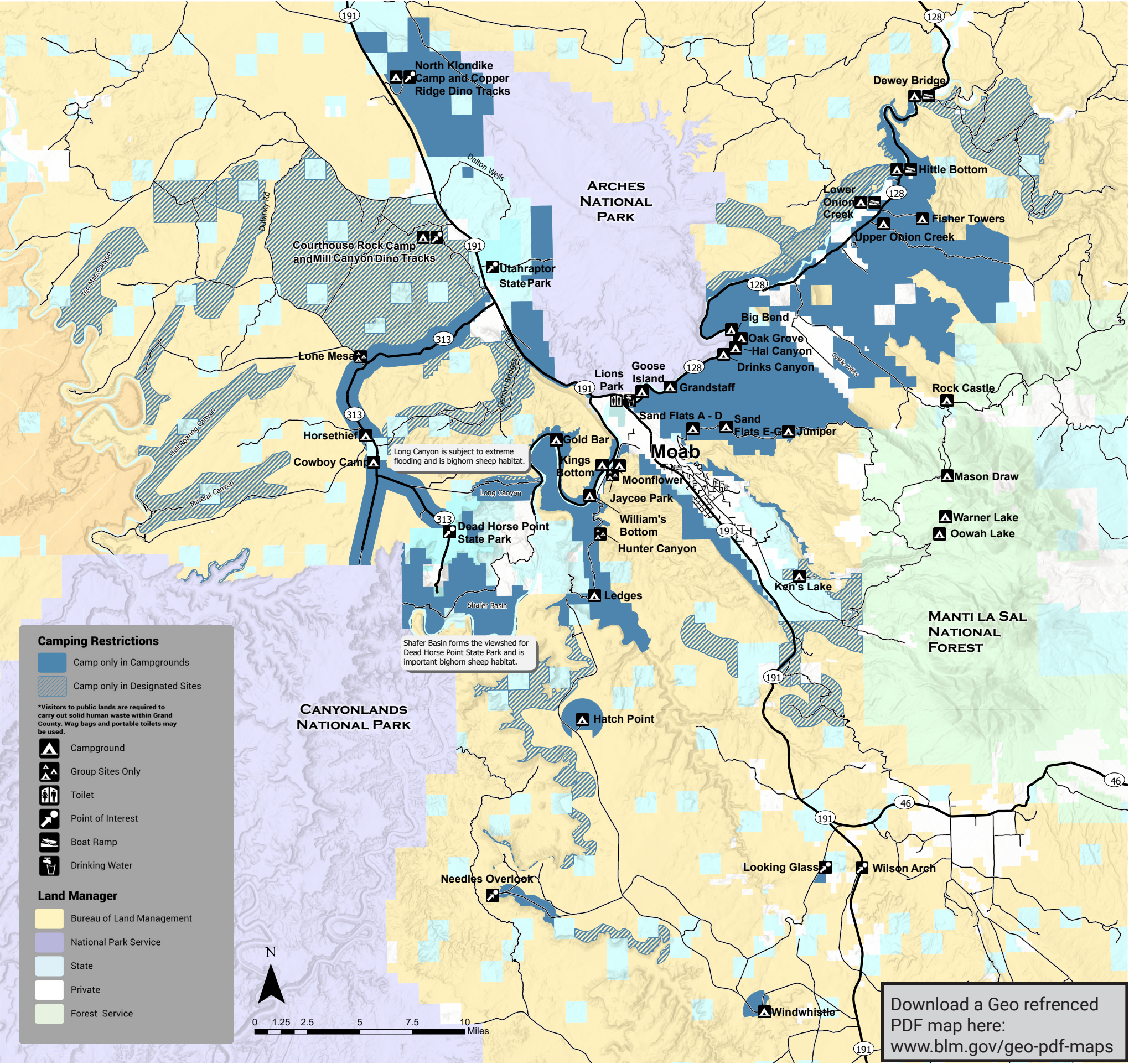
What is a **designated backcountry campsite**? These sites are marked with a tent symbol on a brown post. Camping activities must remain in the boundaries of a marked site within the designated site zone.




Dispersed camping is allowed in areas that have been previously disturbed by camping activities and that lie outside of a camp-only-in-campground zone or designated backcountry zone (see map). Maintain a low impact by choosing hard rock surfaces and do not expand on or create new dispersed camp sites. Some sites may not be large enough to accommodate multiple campers. Avoid disturbing areas with biological soil crusts or vegetation.














Do your part: Pack out all trash including human waste. A portable toilet system, or human waste disposal bag, is required for all dispersed camping. For more information, see 'Human Waste on Public Lands' above.



Enjoy Local Hiking Trails

- Bring plenty of water and salty snacks.
 - During summer months, hike in the morning or evening to avoid the hottest time of the day.
- Always walk on trails or durable surfaces to avoid stepping on biological soil crust.
 - If trailhead parking is full, choose an alternate location or come back later.
- Pets must be picked up after and leashed or under voice command at all times.
 - Dog friendly trails are marked with 

Trail	Trailhead Location	Distance (round trip)	Average Time	Description
State Route 128				
Amphitheater Loop 	22 mi. from Hwy 191, park at Little Bottom	2.8 miles (4.5 km)	2.5 hours	Meander through washes, around boulders, and over benches in the Moenkopi and Cutler Sandstones. Trail ascends 250 ft. and offers sweeping views of the Colorado River.
Fisher Towers	21 mi. from Hwy 191, right on dirt road to parking lot	4.4 miles (7.08 km)	4 hours	Features fantastic views of the Fisher Towers and Onion Creek area. This trail has little shade and can be exceptionally hot during summer afternoons.
Grandstaff Canyon 	3 mi. east of Hwy 191	4 miles (6.44 km)	4 hours	Family friendly hike along a perennial stream to Morning Glory Natural Bridge, a 243-foot long rock span. Use caution: poison ivy is present on the trail.
Sylvester 	18.5 mi. from Hwy 191, right onto Professor Valley Rd	6.54 miles (10.53 km)	5 hours	This hike follows an old cattle trail and travels on sandstone and shale ledges climbing 810 ft. to an overlook of Castle Valley.
Highway 191				
Dinosaur Stomping Grounds 	23 mi. north of Moab to North Klondike Mountain Bike Trailhead	3.4 miles (5.47 km)	5 hours	The pedestrian trail starts on a mountain bike trail and branches off to a hiking only trail. Follow rock cairns and painted yellow dots to the Jurassic-age track site. There is an elevation gain of 459 ft.
Hidden Valley 	3 mi. south of Moab to Angel Rock Rd, to Rimrock Rd	6 miles (9.65 km)	3 hours	Views of Moab Valley and Behind the Rocks. Steep switchbacks lead to more mellow terrain. Just beyond the low pass (~2 mi.) the trail connects with the Moab Rim 4WD road.
Ken's Lake 	7 mi. south of Moab on 191, follow signs for Ken's Lake	3 miles (4.82 km)	1 hour	Family-friendly short hikes near water sources. Circle the reservoir, walk to Faux Falls, and enjoy the Ken's Lake Rock Loop Nature Trail.
State Route 279				
Corona Arch	10 mi. west of Hwy 191	3 miles (4.82 km)	2 hours	The popular trail features Bowtie and Corona Arch. There are two safety cables with steps cut into the rock. These may be difficult for some hikers and be impassible for dogs.
Jeep Arch	10.3 mi. west of Hwy 191	4 miles (6.44 km)	3.5 hours	Spectacular views await! Pass through a large culvert beneath the railroad tracks and look for a sign to the left. The gradual rise takes you around fins and spires to Jeep Arch.
Longbow Arch	Poison Spider parking area, 5.9 mi. from Hwy 191	2.4 miles (3.22 km)	1.5 hours	The route features dinosaur tracks, rock art, and Longbow Arch. The trail ascends 200 ft. including a short climb on slickrock with metal handles (may be impassible for dogs).
Poison Spider Bench 	Poison Spider parking area, 5.9 mi. from Hwy 191	2.2 miles (3.54 km)	2 hours	With 230 ft. elevation gain along the first 1/4 mi., this trail offers striking Colorado River views. After this short climb, the trail levels out. Follow signs to stay on the foot path.
Portal Overlook 	Jaycee Park Campground, 4.2 mi. from Hwy 191	4 miles (6.44 km)	3 hours	Enjoy panoramic views of the Moab Valley, La Sal Mountains, and Colorado River. Keep dogs leashed, as the trail travels along exposed cliff edges. Late afternoon shade in the summer.
State Route 313				
Dellenbaugh Tunnel 	8.4 mi. west of Hwy 191, turn onto Spring Canyon Bottom Rd, then short distance on Secret Spire Jeep Safari Route	3-4 miles (4.8-6.4 km)	3 hours	Outstanding views on the high-desert landscape. From the parking area, follow painted dots on smooth sandstone for 0.5 mi. At this point, choose between hiking on rock or through grasslands; both join a single trail leading to a natural rock tunnel.
Kane Creek Road				
Hunter Canyon 	7.5 mi. west of Hwy 191	4 miles (6.44 km)	4 hours	Enjoy a small steam during the spring with cottonwood trees and pools along this canyon hike. A large arch is located on the right side of the canyon, 0.5 mi. from the trailhead.
Stairmaster 	1.9 mi. west of 500 West	1.6 miles (2.57 km)	2 hours	This trail is all about aerobic exercise, gaining 910 ft. of elevation in just 0.8 mi. The workout is rewarded by great views of the Colorado River and Moab area.
Sand Flats Recreation Area				
Juniper Loop	6.3 miles past the entrance booth.	1.9 miles (3 km)	1 hour	Ascend 100 ft. to the top of a small mesa for sweeping views and relative solitude. Sections of the trail follow along steep cliff edges. Use caution and follow trail markers.



Pet Safety

Desert heat is deadly for dogs. Always carry water for your pets and never leave them in a hot car.

Hot trail surfaces can burn a dog’s paws. If you can’t comfortably leave your hand on the surface, then it is too hot for a dog’s paws.

Remember to pick up after you pet and have them leashed or under voice command at all times.



Graffiti

Do not mark rocks or deface cultural sites. Chalk, charcoal, and scratches cause irreversible damage. Vandalizing natural and cultural features is a crime punishable by fines and jail time.

Do not attempt to remove graffiti. Record the location, take photos, and report it to the BLM Field Office at 435-259-2131 or email us at blm_ut_mb_mail@blm.gov.



Rock Stacking

The stacks of rocks you see on the trail are called rock cairns. They are built by rangers and used to mark the trail to help hikers stay on the trail.

Please do not build your own cairns or add to rock gardens. Altering the natural landscape diminishes the visitor experience and is considered a form of defacement. Visitors have gotten lost, injured, and died due to following false rock cairns.