PRECAUTIONS

Be prepared for several long climbs. Know your limits and allow more time than you think you will need. While this route description ends at Hurrah Pass, the road continues as a jeep trail. If you decide to ride farther, make sure you understand the route and are prepared for a trip into a more remote area.

Crossing Kane Creek is usually easy. In late spring and summer, the stream is often dry. However, in early spring, and after heavy rains, Kane Creek can swell to a torrent. Exercise caution at the creek crossing.

The road to Hurrah Pass is also used by motor vehicles. Follow the rules of the road, and be courteous to others.

Always wear a helmet
In places, the Hurrah Pass Trail is rocky and steep. Medical professionals say that the average cost of treating a major head injury is over a half-million dollars.

Carry lots of drinking water and take high energy food
Take two large bike bottles and a reserve supply in a water bladder or other container. Eating at intervals provides an opportunity to rest and the energy needed to complete the ride.

Check your bike frequently
Riding on Moab trails loosens headsets and puts maximum stress upon frames and components.

Carry and use trail maps
Trail maps and guidebooks are readily available in Moab. Study the route and confirm your location at key junctions. Moab is surrounded by a maze of deep canyons and towering cliffs. Never try to cut cross-country to shorten the ride.

Be prepared in case of an emergency
Don't venture into remote areas without a T-shirt and shorts. Carry a windbreaker, sunscreen, sunglasses, map, matches or lighter, pump, patch kit, first-aid kit, a good bike tool kit, extra food, water and clothing. Ride with someone else and stay together in case of problems. Discuss your situation calmly and make a plan to improve it.

Stay found, save money
Grand County has the highest incidence of search and rescues in Utah. The high cost of these operations is normally the responsibility of the rescued party. If you decide that you have lost the trail, do not continue on in hopes of finding your way. Retrace your route back towards the trailhead until you pick up the trail, find someone who knows the area, or return to the trailhead.

If you cannot retrace your route, stay put, conserve energy and water, make yourself visible, and await rescue.

Respect the desert
Tread lightly when traveling (don't leave bike tracks off trails) and leave no trace of your camping. Help keep Canyon Country clean by taking your trash home and picking up after the less aware. Protect and conserve scarce water sources for wildlife by not washing your bike or yourself in them. Allow space for wildlife by maintaining your distance, and leave historic sites, rock art, ruins and artifacts untouched for the future.

Have fun and learn about the area
Great trails are not the only reason Moab has become an international destination. Take time to enjoy the scenery, study ancient Native American rock art, or marvel at the toughness of desert plants.

SPECIAL RULES

Kane Creek is part of the Colorado Riverway Recreation Area, and special rules are enforced to protect its natural and scenic resources. Within the Riverway:

Vehicle and mountain bike use is limited to designated routes.

Camping is limited to campgrounds.

No woodcutting or firewood gathering is permitted.

DISCLAIMER

Trail conditions can change rapidly. Signs vanish. Trails deteriorate from weather or use. You are the one responsible for your own safety.

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For information about the Moab Bike Patrol, contact the Bureau of Land Management, 82 East Dogwood, Moab, Utah 84532; (435) 259-6111.
HURRAH PASS BIKE TRAIL

The Hurrah Pass Trail is relatively easy (by Moab standards) and very scenic. It begins as a gravel road and turns into a graded dirt road at the base of the climb to the pass. The route ends at Hurrah Pass and a view of the Colorado River. The “trail” to the pass is an out-and-back ride. Rated 1 on a scale of 1 to 4, where 4 is the most difficult, the route is technically easy. However, the length of the ride can make it tiring for individuals not in good physical condition. To shorten the ride, drive farther up the road. Passenger cars can go as far as the Hunters or Kane Creek crossings, depending on road conditions.

GETTING STARTED

While the trail can be ridden from Moab, many riders start 4.7 miles from Highway 191 on Kane Creek Road where the pavement ends. To reach the trailhead from Highway 191, turn onto Kane Creek Road at McDonald's, then go left at the “Y” intersection with 500 West. Continue to a cattleguard at the end of the pavement. Just past the cattleguard, on the right, is a large parking area located on public land. From the parking area, it is 9.5 miles to Hurrah Pass. The route follows Kane Creek Canyon for about six miles, and then climbs for over 3 miles to reach Hurrah Pass.

The normal riding season for the trail is February through November, with summer being extremely hot. Facilities at the trailhead parking area are limited to a trail information board. There are no approved water sources along the route, so bring plenty with you. Camping is permitted only in campgrounds along the Colorado River and Kane Creek.

TRAIL DESCRIPTION

Ridden from the end of the pavement, the trail is 19 miles out to the pass and back to the pavement. On the way out, there is a 300 foot climb at around mile 2, and a 700 foot climb the last 3 miles of the ride. On the return ride, there is a steep 300 foot climb toward the end of the ride. The trail is very easy to follow—just stay on the main road and bypass the side routes. The only intersection to watch out for is at mile 6.7, where the Kane Creek Canyon jeep trail goes left and down to re-cross Kane Creek. This intersection is about one-half mile after the Kane Creek crossing. Once you cross the creek, stay on the better road to the right and follow it up to Hurrah Pass.

LOW IMPACT RIDING

To help maintain the Hurrah Pass area, please:

- Stay on the trail
  The gardens of cactus and cryptobiotic soils are easily damaged by bike tracks. The dark, often crusty-looking cryptobiotic soils are the building blocks of the desert and take years to recover once disturbed.

- Apply brakes gradually to avoid skidding
  Skidding your tires leaves ugly black marks on rock and can promote trail erosion. Feather your brakes for more control.