

## PRECAUTIONS

Many roads branch off the main trail (especially at the beginning). Pay attention to the mileage log and stay on the marked route. Should you become lost, try and retrace your route. If this is not possible, make yourself visible and await help.

The rock sections, especially, can be hazardous. Just off the trail, the rock is cut by deep fissures. People have bicycled into these cracks and injured themselves. Stay on the trail.

### ✓ Always wear a helmet

Most trails are very rocky. Even the best riders can get tired and make mistakes. Helmets can prevent or reduce the severity of head injuries. 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

Great trail maps and guidebooks are available at bike shops, the Moab Information Center, bookstores and other locations in town. Check the alignment of the route and key junctions. Moab is surrounded by a maze of deep canyons and towering cliffs. Never try to cut cross-country to shorten a ride.

### ✓ Be prepared in case of an emergency

Don't venture into remote areas with nothing but 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.

### ✓ Develop basic riding skills on easier trails

Even trails like Klondike Bluffs are not suitable places to learn basic riding skills.

### ✓ 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 harmony of a cryptobiotic soil garden.

## DISCLAIMER

Trail conditions change rapidly. Signs vanish. Trails deteriorate from weather and 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.



# Klondike Bluffs Trail



Purchase of this guide supports Moab Bike Patrol trail management and safety programs.



15.6 mi (25.2 km) out-and-back  
Time: 4 hours average  
Rated 1: Physically and technically moderate

## KLONDIKE BLUFFS TRAIL

The Klondike Bluffs Trail is a jeep trail, with a variety of surfaces, including slickrock. From the end of the old road, a short hike leads to spectacular views of Arches National Park. Another outstanding feature of the trail is that riders go right past dinosaur tracks frozen in the rock. The trail is relatively easy (for the Moab area), rating a 1 out of a possible 4. However, the trail does gain 800 feet in elevation.

## GETTING STARTED

The trailhead begins as a dirt road just north of mile marker 142 on the right (east) side of Highway 191, approximately 16 miles north of Moab. (If you get to the Moab Airport, you have gone too far north). The road goes through a gate here; please leave it as found as there may be cattle in the area. The normal riding season for the trail is from late March through late October, with summer being extremely hot. If there is any rain (or snow) at all, the first portion of the trail will be an impassable mud gumbo and should be avoided by both bikes and vehicles.

There are no trailhead facilities at the parking area.

## TRAIL DESCRIPTION

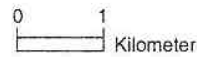
Ridden from Highway 191, the trail is 15.6 miles out-and-back. Marked with brown flexible posts, cairns (piles of rock) and dinosaur track stencils painted on rock, the trail starts as a fairly high quality dirt road. At the 2.7 mile mark, it takes a left while a better road goes right. Another confusing point is at the 3.8 mile mark, where the trail heads right through a small canyon (towards the white rocks), while the "main road" continues north up the wash.

Once the trail gets onto white slickrock, look for real dinosaur tracks (on the left near the base of the hillside). Occasionally, the tracks are "protected" by sticks and rocks so that they are not ridden over. When the trail crests the white rock (at mile 5.2), be alert for a very large cairn on the hillside above you. This marks the approximate point where the trail turns right (again onto slickrock), and leaves the obvious jeep path. Follow the stencils and cairns until the bike trail again becomes a jeep road at mile 6.4. From here, it is another 1.4 miles until you reach the Arches National Park boundary.

**NOTE: The trail is closed to bikes at this point.**

A short walk leads to wonderful views into the park from the top of Klondike Bluffs. Exercise caution on the return ride and keep to the marked route. Riders attempting to take shortcuts have severely damaged cryptobiotic soils.

LEGEND	
Paved highway	0.0 Trail mileage
Unpaved road	mp Highway mile marker
Jeep Trail	Trailhead
Spur route	End of trail
Park boundary	Gate
Parking	



To Interstate 70  
14 miles

Airport

**Klondike Bluffs  
Trail**

mp 142 (4,600 feet)

0.0 mi

2.7 mi

3.8 mi

5.2 mi

6.4 mi

7.8 mi

(5,400 feet)

To Moab  
16 miles

US Highway 191

**Arches National Park**  
(No bikes beyond end of trail.)

## MILEAGE LOG

### Mile 0.0

Trail starts 0.4 miles north of milepost 142 on U.S. Highway 191.

### Mile 2.7

Trail goes left (north) at Y intersection.

### Mile 3.8

Trail goes right (east) toward white slickrock.

### Mile 5.2

Trail goes right onto rock, while jeep road descends (this is marked by large cairn on the hillside).

### Mile 6.4

Trail turns right (southeast).

### Mile 7.8

Trail ends at Arches National Park boundary. A short walk up an old roadbed leads to great views of the park. No bikes allowed in the park!

## LOW IMPACT RIDING

To help maintain the Klondike Bluffs area, please:

### ✓ Stay on the trail

The gardens of pinyon trees, 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.