

**Full  
Color**

# ATV Trails Guide Moab, UT

*By Charles A. Wells*

30  
Trails,  
with 31 Maps,  
195 Color Photos  
Plus GPS Waypoints



**Easy • Moderate • Difficult**  
**ATV Riding Adventures**





Kane Creek Canyon Rim, Trail #18.

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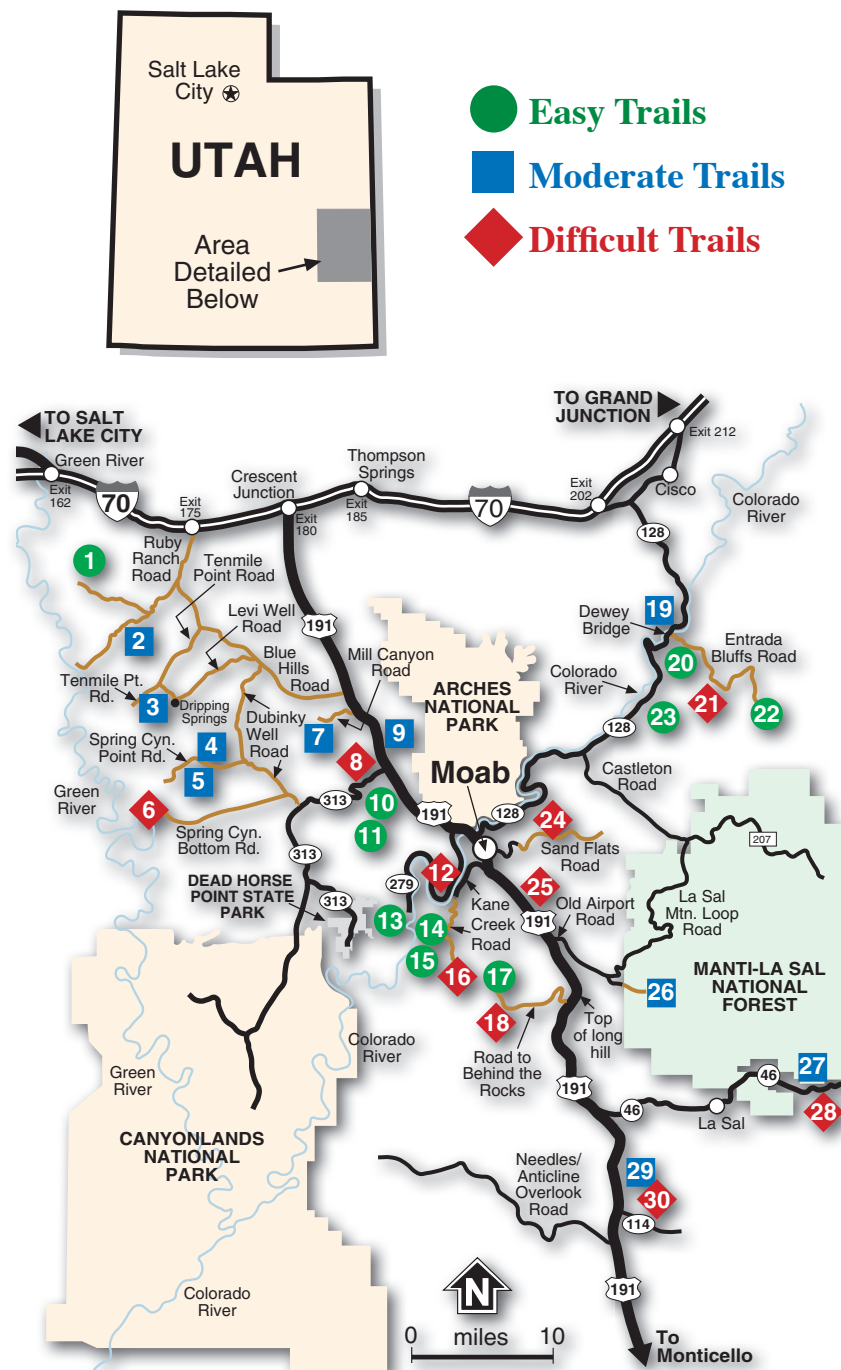
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# Trail List

No.	Trail	Page	Rating
1.	Crystal Geyser	32	Easy
2.	White Wash Sand Dunes*	36	Moderate
3.	Tenmile Wash	40	Moderate
4.	Rainbow Terrace	44	Moderate
5.	Dellenbaugh Tunnel, Secret Spire	48	Moderate
6.	Hey Joe Canyon	52	Difficult
7.	Determination Towers*	56	Moderate
8.	Sevenmile Rim	60	Difficult
9.	Sovereign Trail	64	Moderate
10.	Gemini Bridges	68	Easy
11.	Bull Canyon*	72	Easy
12.	Poison Spider Mesa*	76	Difficult
13.	Potash Road	80	Easy
14.	Hurrah Pass*	84	Easy
15.	Chicken Corners*	88	Easy
16.	Kane Creek Canyon*	92	Difficult
17.	Picture Frame Arch	96	Easy
18.	Kane Creek Canyon Rim	100	Difficult
19.	Dome Plateau*	104	Moderate
20.	Pole Canyon Rim	108	Easy
21.	Top of the World*	112	Difficult
22.	Dolores River Overlook	116	Easy
23.	Onion Creek*	120	Easy
24.	Fins & Things*	124	Difficult
25.	Steelbender Loop	128	Difficult
26.	La Sal Pass*	132	Moderate
27.	Hideout Mesa	136	Moderate
28.	Greasewood Canyon	140	Difficult
29.	Cameo Cliffs/Wilson Arch*	144	Moderate
30.	Cameo Cliffs/ El Diablo*	148	Difficult

\*Author's Favorites

# Trail Locator Map



# Trails Listed by Difficulty

Although trails are grouped into three major categories, there are still differences in difficulty within each group. For example, Potash Road is easier than Pole Canyon Rim even though both are rated easy. Trails are progressively more difficult as you pan down the list, although you may have to skip several trails to see any significant difference.

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# Trail Ratings Defined

Trail ratings are very subjective. Conditions change for many reasons, including weather and time of year. An easy trail can quickly become difficult when washed out by a rainstorm or blocked by a fallen rock. You must be the final judge of a trail's condition on the day you ride it. If any part of a trail is difficult, the entire trail is rated difficult. You may be able to ride a significant portion of a trail before reaching the difficult spot. Read each trail description carefully for specific information. Turn around when in doubt. Always wear a helmet.

## Easy Trails

Gravel, dirt, clay, sand, or mildly rocky trail or road. Gentle grades. Water levels low except during periods of heavy runoff. Adequate room to pass. Where shelf conditions exist, trail is wide and well maintained with minor sideways tilt. Most trails are passable when wet; however, certain types of clay can become impassable under wet conditions. Smaller, two-wheel-drive ATVs are usually adequate in good weather. Easy trails are best suited for novice riders.

## Moderate Trails

Rougher and rockier surfaces require slower running speeds. Some riding experience is needed for steeper climbs and descents. Rock-stacking may be necessary to get over the worst spots. Considerable weight shifting may be necessary to offset sideways tilt. Mud can be deep and you may get stuck. Certain types of clay can become impassable when wet. Sand can be soft and steep. Water may be too deep for smaller ATVs. Larger ATVs can usually get through except during periods of heavy runoff. Aggressive tires needed for two-wheel-drive machines. Four-wheel-drive is usually best.

## Difficult Trails

Very rough and rocky surfaces require careful tire placement. Slopes may be extremely steep with scary sideways tilt. Skillful riding is necessary to avoid tipping or flipping over. Rock-stacking may be necessary in places, and the worst spots could require assistance from other people. Sand can be very soft and steep. Shelf roads can be very narrow with daunting cliffs. Water and mud can be very deep. Wet clay surfaces can be impassable. Some powerful two-wheel-drive ATVs may get through under good weather conditions, but four-wheel-drive with low-range gearing is highly recommended.



# Determination Towers 7



Rocky terrain around Determination Towers.



A few steep climbs.



Pass through this rock opening after towers.



Entering Tusher Tunnel.



Returning from Tusher Tunnel across sandy ridge to rejoin Tusher Wash.

**Getting There:** Drive north from Moab on Highway 191 about 13 miles and turn left on Mill Canyon Road just after mile marker 141. Head west over railroad tracks and continue 0.7 miles to a broad intersection where Mill Canyon Road goes left to Cotter Mine Road. Staging is permitted in a wide area to the right of this intersection. (Ignore the first parking area on the right just after the railroad tracks.)

**Staging/Camping:** Unload at Waypoint 01 as stated above. You can also stage at the other end of Cotter Mine Road and reach the trail from the south side. This entry point is convenient to Archview C.G.

**Difficulty:** Moderate rock ledges, soft sand and steep climbs. A complex network of roads can be confusing.

**Highlights:** This route serves as an introduction to a broad, scenic area with many fun roads and dramatic rock formations, including Monitor and Merrimac Buttes and Determination Towers. An exciting side trip to Tusher Tunnel includes twisting sand trails and undulating terrain. Stay on existing roads at all times. No cross-country travel allowed.

**Time & Distance:** About 15 miles as described here. Allow 3 to 4 hours. Add more time for other roads you'll want to explore.

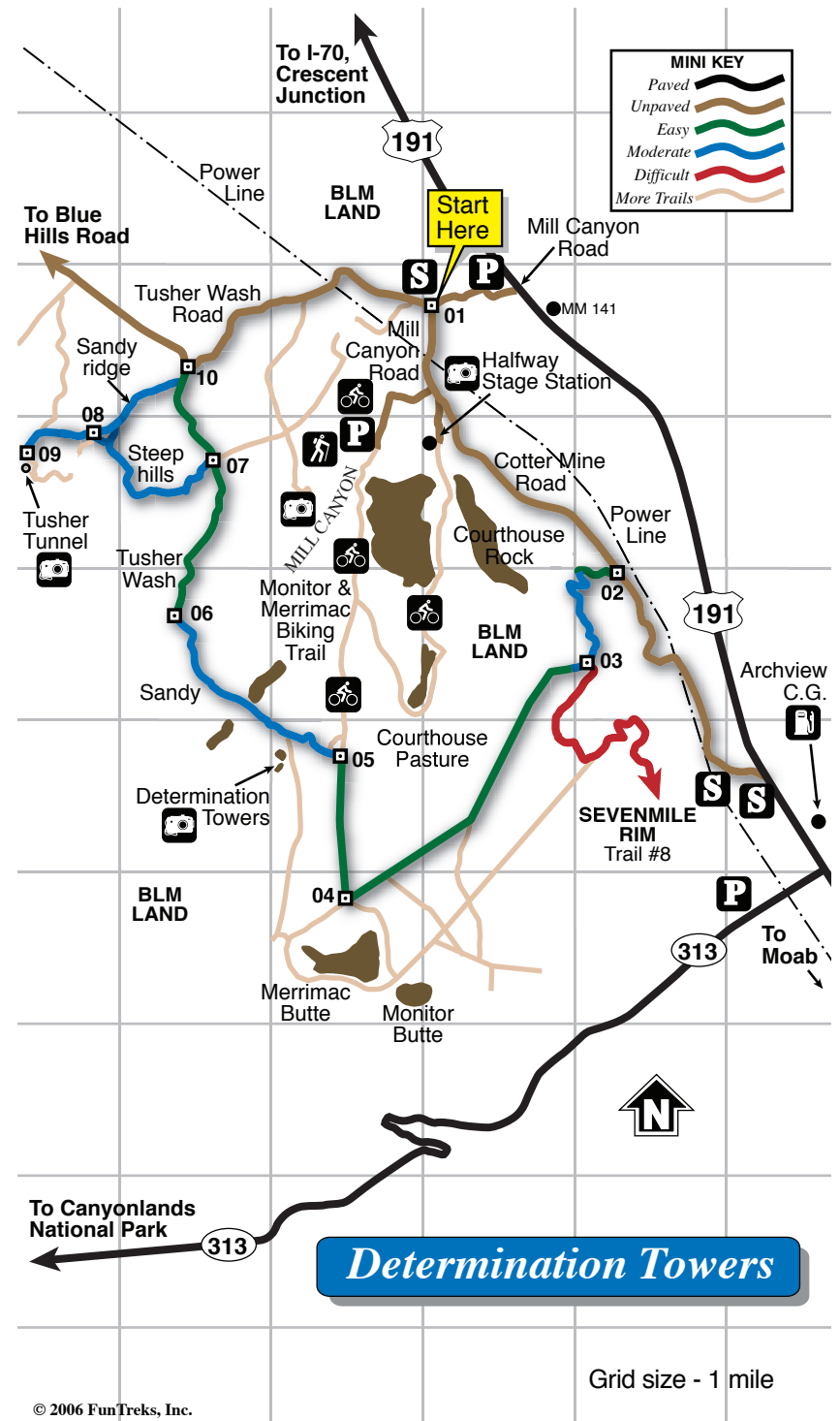
**Trail Description:** Climb rocky switchbacks to a high plateau. After a long straightaway across Courthouse Pasture, you'll turn north, then west past the eye-popping Determination Towers. Continue west downhill through twisting, sandy terrain to Tusher Wash. This wide, easy wash goes north toward Tusher Wash Road. Before you reach Tusher Wash Road, turn west to see interesting Tusher Tunnel, which requires a short, steep hike. Return to Tusher Wash where it connects to Tusher Wash Road, then head east back to start.

**Other routes nearby:** Sevenmile Rim, Trail #8. Numerous other roads shown on map. *Special Note: Trails through Mill Canyon and around Courthouse Rock are important mountain biking routes. Please stay out of this area. These routes may soon be closed to motorized traffic.*

**Services:** Gas and supplies are available at Archview Campground at the intersection of Highways 191 and 313. No toilets on trail.

**Directions:** (Shadowed portion of trail is described here.)

WP	Mile	Action
01	0.0	<i>N38° 43.53' W109° 43.95'</i> Head south on Cotter Mine Road. Stay left on main road past several roads that branch to right.
02	2.4/0.0	<i>N38° 42.01' W109° 42.60'</i> Bear right uphill on 7-Mile Road. Switchbacks become rockier at top.
	0.9	Bear right at fork after rocky switchback.
03	1.1	<i>N38° 41.51' W109° 42.84'</i> Turn right, leaving 7-Mile Rim Trail.
	1.4	Continue straight on best road at major crossroads. Road bends southwest and heads directly towards Merrimac Butte.
	2.4	Bear right at Y.
04	3.5	<i>N38° 40.16' W109° 44.57'</i> Make a hard right at major 5-way intersection and head due north.
05	4.4	<i>N38° 40.96' W109° 44.62'</i> Turn left towards Determination Towers.
	4.7	Stay right of towers and pass through right side of rock opening. Descend through sandy, undulating area. Stay right.
	5.9	Stay right as trail drops into narrow wash.
06	6.2	<i>N38° 41.76' W109° 45.82'</i> Trail runs into Tusher Wash. Turn right and follow wide wash. It soon passes through a narrow, wet section.
07	7.3/0.0	<i>N38° 42.64' W109° 45.54'</i> To reach Tusher Tunnel, turn left uphill out of Tusher Wash on a steep trail. (Don't be confused by 7-Mile sign.) Straight goes directly to Tusher Wash Road in 0.8 miles. Right goes to a fun network of roads, one of which goes to a remote overlook of Mill Canyon.
	1.2	After a series of steep hills (see photo), bear left at fork as you come downhill. Right goes back to Tusher Wash across a sandy ridge.
08	1.3	<i>N38° 42.82' W109° 46.39'</i> Continue straight uphill where four roads converge at bottom of sandy wash. (You'll return here later.)
	1.7	Turn left at "T." Right goes northeast to Tusher Wash Road.
09	2.0	<i>N38° 42.66' W109° 46.96'</i> Bear left at fork that is part of loop at base of Tusher Tunnel. Find sign and hike up steep path to tunnel entrance. After visiting tunnel, turn around and ride back to Waypoint 08. (Before doing this, you may wish to explore a fun area on the backside of tunnel. Follow road around rocks south of tunnel.)
08	2.7/0.0	After returning to Wpt. 08, bear left at bottom of wash and connect to sandy ridge that goes back to Tusher Wash.
10	0.8/0.0	<i>N38° 43.15' W109° 45.75'</i> Drop into Tusher Wash and turn left to connect with Tusher Wash Road. Turn right on Tusher Wash Road, which soon crosses a wide part of Tusher Wash.
	0.1	Turn right uphill out of Tusher Wash. Important turn is easy to miss.
01	2.1	Arrive back at start.







**This guide has been designed specifically for ATVs, but trails are also great for dirt bikes. Precise directions, pinpoint maps and stunning color photos guide you through Moab's legendary back-country. Thirty "cruiser to bruiser" routes provide thrilling rides for all skill levels. Learn where to unload and the best places to camp. Stay on course with handy GPS waypoints. Load up now for a rockin' good time.**



***FunTreks, Inc.***