

CAIRN STONE ADVENTURE TOURS

JORDAN RIVER VALLEY TEST HIKE

TO: Utah Trekkers & Training Partners
FROM: Coach Ron Gunn
DATE: March 3, 2021



574.215.4779

CAIRNSTONEADVENTURETOURS.COM

Ron@CairnStoneTours.com

JORDAN RIVER VALLEY TEST HIKE

DATE: SAT, JUNE 19, 2021 OPEN START 9:00AM to Noon

This is a wonderful loop hike that was used very successfully for our last Grand Canyon trip in 2018. It is the only wilderness area in the Lower Peninsula and is located 4 hours 10 minutes from South Bend and 3 hours 40 minutes from St. Joseph. It is definitely possible to do this as a day trip. For those who feel comfortable staying over several area campgrounds and hotels are scheduled to be available.

COURSE: This 18.7 mile course is a very scenic clockwise loop through the Jordan River Valley and features several hills, including the half mile Deadman's Hill at the finish. Much of the course is also on the North Country Trail (NCT). Trekking poles are definitely recommended.

OTHER COURSES: There are three shorter course options that are also good:
Deadman's Hill Loop (3.2 miles): Starts and finishes at Deadman's Hill trailhead.
Pinney Bridge to Deadman's Hill (9.4 miles): Great hike but requires you to provide your own drop off at Pinney Bridge. (Two or three with two cars could make this work.)
Deadman's Hill – Fish Hatchery – Deadman's Hill loop (8.6 miles): Another great hike that starts and finishes at Deadman's Hill trailhead.

AID: There will be two aid stations on the course at Pinney Bridge and at Jordan River Bridge. It will be a no touch station with bottled water (take what you need) and *untouched by human hands* packaged Windmill cookies. Please bring your own water and pack your daypack according to the daypack checklist on my website (if you need a copy). You will need your snacks, sun lotion and bug repellent.

CHECK PTS: There will be two check points which are listed below. Hikers will receive a colorful backpack tag to show a successful completion of that segment of the course.

9.1 miles Pinney Bridge
15.2 miles Jordan River Bridge

COSTS: There will be no cost for our Utah trekkers and Training Partners in good standing. A special \$30.00 fee will be charged for guests.

LODGING: I have secured lodging at the 4 star resort *Shanty Creek Resort* located about 25 minutes from the start. This was very popular for our TEST HIKE for the last Grand Canyon trip. The rate for our group is \$194.00 per evening. I know it is high but this is close to what we paid last time. They have **31 rooms set aside** for our group on this weekend. You may book your room(s) yourself, call Shanty Creek at 231-533-3083 **by Monday, March 15, 2021**. I will release the remaining rooms left in the block, if any, in order to avoid a stiff cancellation penalty. (For other lodging options see attached).



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RECEPTION: I will host a reception on Friday, June 18, 2021 at the Lakeview Hotel at Shanty Creek Resort from 5:30 to 6:30PM. A short team meeting with course maps will also be held. Maps will also be available at the trailhead on Saturday.

DIRECTIONS: Shanty Creek Resort, 5780 Shanty Creek Road, Bellaire, MI 49615
Deadman's Hill trailhead, 8250 Deadman's Hill Rd, Elmira, MI 49730. US131 to Deadman's Hill road then west less than two miles to trailhead. (GPS N 45° 02' 47.79", W 84° 56' 09.93")

TEST HIKE SHIRTS: Attractive long sleeve tech shirts commemorating all three TEST HIKES will be provided to Utah trekkers and available to Training Partners and guests at cost (\$13.00). These are available in both men's and women's sizes.

-----CLIP HERE & MAIL-----

JORDAN RIVER VALLEY TEST HIKE DECLARATION & TECH SHIRT FORM

NAME(S): _____ MEN'S S M L XL

_____ WOMEN'S S M L XL

HIKING DISTANCE(S) ___ 18.7 ___ 9.4 ___ 8.6 ___ 3.2

STATUS: Utah Trekker ___ (\$0) 2021 Training Partner ___ (\$0) Guest hiker ___ (\$30)

SHIRTS: UTAH TREKKERS ___ shirt(s) @ \$0

TRAINING PARTNERS/GUESTS ___ shirt(s) @ \$13.00

CELL PHONE(S) _____

EMAIL(S) _____

ORDER DEADLINE: MAY 29, 2021 (I will order shirts for all 3 Test Hikes June 2, 2021)

AMT ENCLOSED: \$_____ Check payable to: Cairn Stone Adventure Tours

MAIL TO: Ron Gunn, 142 Conifer Trail, Dowagiac, MI 49047

----- clip here and mail -----



[Cairn Stone Tours](http://CairnStoneTours)

2021 CAIRN STONE Training Newsletters

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