

CAIRN STONE ADVENTURE TOURS

JORDAN RIVER VALLEY TEST HIKE

TO: Canyon Trekkers & Training Partners
FROM: Coach Ron Gunn
DATE: April 12, 2022

574.215.4779

CAIRNSTONEADVENTURETOURS.COM



JORDAN RIVER VALLEY TEST HIKE

DATE: SAT, JUNE 18, 2022

OPEN START 8:00AM to 8:30AM

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.

COURSE: This 20.1 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*. Please bring your own water to the start and pack your day pack according to the *Day Pack Checklist* on my website (if you need a copy). You will need your snacks, sun lotion and bug repellent.

CHECK PTS: There will be four check points which are listed below. Hikers will receive a colorful day pack tag to show a successful completion of Day Pack inspection, two segments on the course and receive a finish tag at the end.

AT START	Day Pack inspection (for 20.1 mile candidates)
9.1 miles	Pinney Bridge
15.2 miles	Jordan River Bridge
20.1 miles	Finish Ribbon

COSTS: There will be no cost for our Canyon trekkers and 2022 Training Partners in good standing. A special \$30.00 fee will be charged for guests.

LODGING: I have secured a block of rooms at the 4 star *Shanty Creek Resort* located about 25 minutes from the start. This was very popular for our previous TEST HIKES. The rate for our group is \$200.00 per evening for two nights. I know it is high but this is just \$6 over what we paid last year. They have **31 rooms set aside** for our *Cairn Stone Hikers* group on this weekend. (I will release the remaining rooms left in the block on May 18, if any, in order to avoid a stiff cancellation penalty.) They have made it easy



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now to book your room(s) directly online.

Book at <https://www.shantycreek.com/reservations/cairn-stone-tours/>
by Tuesday, May 17, 2022. [There will be a active link with the email text] This year the hotel required two nights for the block rate. In the past most of our hikers have booked two nights to bask in the glory of their successful hike and to further bond with their teammates.

RECEPTION: I will host a reception on **Friday, June 17, 2022** 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 Road, 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 both TEST HIKES will be provided to Canyon trekkers and available to Training Partners and guests at cost (\$20.00). These are available in both men's and women's sizes.

ATTENTION!!!: Because of the extreme and dangerous challenges when hiking in the Grand Canyon both TEST HIKES are MANDATORY if you want to do any of the extreme hikes. This is for your safety. I cannot properly assess your readiness without evaluating both TEST HIKES. I thank you for your cooperation with the high standards we've set.

-----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) ___ 20.1 ___ 9.4 ___ 8.6 ___ 3.2

STATUS: Canyon Trekker ___ (\$0) 2022 Training Partner ___ (\$0) Guest hiker ___ (\$30)

SHIRTS: Canyon TREKKERS ___ shirt(s) @ \$0
TRAINING PARTNERS/GUESTS ___ shirt(s) @ \$20.00

CELL PHONE(S) _____

EMAIL(S) _____

ORDER DEADLINE: MAY 28, 2022 (I will order shirts for both **Test Hikes** June 1, 2022)

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

MAIL TO: Cairn Stone Tours, c/o Tim Calhoun, 437 Dune Ridges, St. Joseph, MI 49085

