



**TO:** PNW Trekkers & Training Partners

**FROM:** Coach Ron Gunn

**DATE:** March 16, 2023

574.215.4779

CAIRNSTONEADVENTURETOURS.COM

Ron@CairnStoneTours.com

## JORDAN RIVER VALLEY TEST HIKE

**SAT, JUNE 10, 2023**

**8:00AM DAY PACK CHECK** (19.0 mile trekkers only)

**8:15AM HIKE START**

This is a wonderful loop hike that was used very successfully for our last Grand Canyon trip in 2022. 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 19.0 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 19.0 mile candidates)
9.1 miles	Pinney Bridge
14.2 miles	Jordan River Bridge
19.0 miles	Finish Ribbon

**COSTS:** There will be no cost for our PNW (Pacific Northwest) trekkers and 2023 Training Partners in good standing. Guests are welcome with a \$30.00 fee.

**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 for two nights is \$173.00 (standard room) or \$202.00 (parlor room). Book directly online at: <https://www.shantycreek.com/reservations/cairn-stone-tours-2/> I know it is high but this is \$21 less than we paid last year. They have **31 rooms set**



# CAIRN STONE ADVENTURE TOURS

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**aside** for our *Cairn Stone Hikers* group on this weekend. (I will release the remaining rooms left in the block on May 6.) The hotel requires 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 9, 2023** 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 the Pacific Northwest hikes will be provided to PNW trekkers and available to Training Partners and guests at cost (\$20.00). These are available in unisex sizes.

**ATTENTION!!!:** Extreme Hike Candidates - Because of the extreme and dangerous challenges of our longest hike in the Pacific Northwest both TEST HIKES are MANDATORY if you want to do this hike. 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.

**DESTINATION HIKE:** This is definitely a great destination to hike and each year we have many who come just to enjoy this wonderful course even though they will not be traveling with us to the Pacific Northwest.

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

### JORDAN RIVER VALLEY TEST HIKE DECLARATION & TECH SHIRT FORM

NAME(S): 1) \_\_\_\_\_ T-SHIRT 1: S M L XL XXL

2) \_\_\_\_\_ T-SHIRT 2: S M L XL XXL

HIKING DISTANCE(S) \_\_\_ 19.0 \_\_\_ 9.1 \_\_\_ 8.6 \_\_\_ 3.2

STATUS: PNW Trekker \_\_\_ (\$0) 2023 Training Partner \_\_\_ (\$0) Guest hiker \_\_\_ (\$30)

SHIRTS: TRAINING PARTNERS/GUESTS \_\_\_ shirt(s) @ \$20.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

CELL PHONE(S) 1) \_\_\_\_\_ 2) \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL(S) 1) \_\_\_\_\_ 2) \_\_\_\_\_

**ORDER DEADLINE: MAY 28, 2023** (I will order shirts for both **Test Hikes** May 29, 2023)

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

