

CAIRN STONE Test Hike

TO: Utah Trekkers & Training Partners
FR: Coach Ron Gunn
RE: Manistee River Valley Hike Update
DT: July 22, 2020



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CAIRNSTONEADVENTURETOURS.COM

Ron@CairnStoneTours.com

This iconic Cairn Stone hike, originally scheduled as our final TEST HIKE for Utah on September 6, 2020 has been postponed to September 5, 2021. However, I have scheduled a bonus training hike on the same course on Sunday, September 27 for those who feel comfortable doing it. Complete details follow below:

DATE: **Sunday, September 27** with open start between **8:00AM and 10:30AM**.

WHERE: Meet at the hiker's parking lot on Upper River Road just off Coates Hwy., one mile west of the Red Bridge over the Manistee River.

DISTANCE: 21.0 mile loop starting on the *North Country Trail*, crossing the *Little Mackinac Bridge* and finishing on the *Manistee River Trail* and it's connector trail across the Manistee River.

Because of social distancing no shuttles will be provided for our 16.0 and 10.8 mile hikes. However, hikers utilizing two vehicles could spot one car at the start and then pickup with another at the finish. It could be worked out very easily with two people interested in one of these shorter hike options. Contact Thom Janssen for help to facilitate this.

COSTS: There will be no charge for our *Utah Trekkers* and *Training Partners*. There will be a \$30.00 charge for guests.

AID: There will be one aid station about 1/2 way at the *Little Mackinac Bridge* featuring bottled water and packaged Windmill cookies. Please use the *day pack checklist* to be sure you pack all that you could need for aid and safety. Be sure this includes sunscreen, insect repellent and trekking poles.

CHECKPOINTS: There will be checkpoints at the start, *Little Mackinac Bridge* aid station, and the finish. These are for safety reasons only – no day pack tags will be issued.

LODGING: For those comfortable staying in a hotel our official lodging site is the *Holiday Inn Express* in Cadillac: 7642 US-131 BUS South, Cadillac, MI 49601 (US-131 Business exit) Call for reservations 231-779-4656 and use group code CTH. Our group rate is \$124 + 11% tax.

Please make your reservation soon but no later than September 6. I will lead a caravan from the hotel at 7:00AM to the trailhead.

REGISTRATION: For planning purposes all participants are asked to complete the form below and **return to me by September 6, 2020**.

-----CLIP HERE-----

NAME(S) _____ DISTANCE (CIRCLE 1 EA.) 21 16 10.8

CELL: _____ EMAIL: _____

LODGING (at Holiday Inn): ___ YES ___ NO COMMENTS: _____

RETURN TO: Ron Gunn, 142 Conifer Trail, Dowagiac, MI 49047 (BY SEP. 6)

Ron@CairnStoneTours.com

CELL: 574-215-4779