

Scout Cave

Trail Access: Scout Cave Trailhead

Allowable Uses: Hike, Bike, Equestrian

Distance: 6 miles (round trip)

Difficulty: Difficult

Hiking Time: 3.5 hours



Trail Description

From the parking lot, cross the street to reach the Scout Cave trailhead. Nearly half a mile into the trail, keep right at the intersection to head south and follow the trail as it descends into the wash below. Reaching the bottom, follow the trail to cross the wash, staying on its left side until you reach a small sand bench. Cross this sand bench and make a sharp left to head east. After navigating around dry falls, the trail leads up steep wooden steps. Once at the top, you will see the teardrop shaped entrance to Scout Cave on your left. Near the cave, the trail splits into two paths—keep right to follow a short and steep scramble to the cave; keep left to follow a longer but more level route. Beyond the cave, the trail hugs the cliff face, then climbs to the top of the mesa and intersects with the Gila Trail.

Special Features

About half way through this trail is a small cave that provides views of the canyon, and the cities of Ivins and St. George. This trail also shows various rock formations from different eras of Snow Canyon, such as Kayenta sandstone and lava/basalt flows, as well as an intermittently flowing creek bed known as a wash that contains willows and other water loving plants.

Safety and Considerations

This trail features steep slopes, uneven terrain, and minimal shade. Wear suitable footwear and bring water.

Park Rules

- All visitors are required to stay on mapped trails.
- Dogs must be leashed. Scoop and dispose all waste.
- Day Use hours are 6am-10pm.
- Pack out all litter.
- Fires are only permitted in the campground.