# The Ride Guide to the



Everything you need to know for your journey from Brian Head Peak to Escalante, Utah

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Hello Fellow Mountain Biker and Adventure Seeker!

Welcome to the Thru Biker's Guide to the Aquarius Trail Hut System. Thank you for choosing us to assist you on your hut to hut adventure! We are a company that focuses on bringing people back to nature and remind them what our world is truly about. Our mission is to provide you with an exceptional off-grid backcountry hut experience. Riding bikes and exploring the great outdoors is what we do, but being and encouraging sustainable business is our goal.

We appreciate your sense of adventure as you prepare to head out and navigate our hut network. We are confident that you will love what is in store for you. The process of preparing for this kind of journey is almost as fun as riding it! The Thru Biker's Guide to the Aquarius Trail will help you with pre-trip preparations, what to expect while on the route, as well as trail and hut etiquette for having a safe and responsible experience. If you find you have questions that cannot be answered by the Ride Guide to the Aquarius Trail, please contact our office at info@aquariustrail.com or by calling 702-596-2953.

If you're reading this, you've probably already picked your dates and made your initial deposit which means you are about to embark on a one-of-a-kind bikepacking trip in one of America's most fantastic places. We look forward to sharing in your experience and look forward to seeing you out there!

Happy Trails!

The Crew at the Aquarius Trail Hut System



# TABLE OF CONTENTS

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS	5
POLICIES, PROCEDURES & ETHICS  Reservations, Capacity and Confirmation  What's included and not included in hut price?  Deposits and Cancellation/Transfer Policy  Payment Options  Travel Plans & Pre-Trip Preparations  Travel Insurance	9
PLANNING YOUR TRIP  Getting there - Gateway Cities, Airports, Accommodations  Parking/Leaving Personal Vehicles  Included Gear at Huts, Packing Tips and List  Basics, Rental Gear Available, Bike Essentials  Bike Information	12
HUT PROVISIONS AND CUISINE	16
HUT MENUS	19
HOW TO PREPARE Physically Health Considerations and Altitude	21
ROUTES 7 TRIP DESCRIPTION  Route Descriptions and Maps  Trip Fitness & Bike Handling Skills Recommendations  Guest Responsibilities  Communication Between Your Group and ATHS Staff  Weather & the Elements	24
ROUTE ETIQUETTE & EHTICS  Protecting the Environment Leave No Trace Policy Minimum Impact Biking Practices Multi-user trail etiquette  Restrooms	33



HUT ETHICS AND RULES	37
Cleanliness	
7 Basic Rules	
Sleeping Etiquette	
Daily Clean Up Responsibilities	
Water Usage	
Appliance Usage	
Propane Tank Usage- Using the Stove	
Cooperative living	
Trash/Waste Management	
Fire Bans	
APPENDIX	41
Local Contacts	
Local Information	
Car parking, local accommodations and bike shops	
EMERGENCY NUMBERS AND LOCATIONS OF HOSPITALS	43



# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

#### How do I gain access to the huts when I arrive?

The day before your arrival you will receive a code for keyless entry. You will also receive a code for our manual key box found on the side of the hut if the electronic keypad is not working

#### Do you provide a map in the form of a souvenir pillowcase?

Yes. And we're not kidding! When you arrive at you first hut, you will have a brand-new Aquarius Trail pillowcase waiting for you on your bed. This is yours to keep and you will need to take this with you from hut to hut. On the pillowcase is a map of the entire Aquarius Trail Hut System. This is to remind you of where you are going each day and to make sure you have a comfy surface to lay YOUR head.

#### What kind of food do you provide?

We have many great options waiting for you at the huts. You will find suggested recipes in the kitchen upon your arrival. Each hut has a standard menu but there is always other food like burgers, soups, beans, pasta, cookies, coffee, and other staple items. Your lunch options are the same at each hut including lunchmeat for sandwiches, energy drink mix, chips, cookies, energy bars, PB&J, and more. The lunches are made to be taken with you and enjoyed along the trail. You can see a full list of our cuisine at www.aquariustrail.com/hut-provisions-cuisine/. If there is something you specifically want, please give us a call, or notate it in your reservation.

#### Are the huts wheelchair accessible?

Yes! All of the huts meet ADA requirements for bathrooms and all ramps have been graded for total compliance. Every hut is also accessible by vehicle, with ample parking.

#### I am a vegetarian. Will you have food options for me?

Yes. We have many great options including veggie burgers, pasta, salad, potatoes, peanut butter and jelly, vegetables and more. If there is something you specifically want, please give us a call, or notate it in your reservation.

#### Do you have gluten-free food options?

We have many food items that cater to a variety of dietary restrictions. If there is something you specifically want, please give us a call, or notate it in your reservation.

#### Do you have beer at the huts?

Yes. At checkout you will be given the option to purchase the Beer Package for \$50 per person or \$10 day per person. This will provide access to a selection of beer at each hut. Each hut you will be allotted 3 beers.

#### Do you rent bikes?



Yes. We rent Electric Full Suspension Mountain Bikes available for \$125 a day and we have Santa Cruz and Specialized Full Suspension Mountain Bikes available for \$70 a day. You can reserve your mountain bike of choice during the reservation process or give us a call.

#### If I need help with a mechanical issue on the trail can you help me?

If you have an emergency and need help you can call the number provided to you in your booking email. It may take us a few hours to get to you depending on where you are at. There will be a charge for emergency mobile services. If you have a medical emergency, please call 911.

#### Where will my sleeping gear be?

Your sleeping gear will be ready for you in your hut when you arrive.

#### What do I need to clean up when I leave?

We have a Checkout Procedure posted at each hut for your reference. Leave the hut in the same condition you found it. Sweep the floors, wipe down the counters, wash and dry all dishes and put them away, place all your soiled items in the laundry bin in the kitchen area and make sure the door is locked to the bunkhouses, bathroom, and kitchen.

# How do I lock the huts when I leave?

Locking the hut is as simple as pushing the LOCK button on the digital keypad. If you used the manual key, lock the door, and then return the key to the key box and make sure it is locked. Please double check and make sure all doors and locks are secure before leaving.

#### I have a friend who wants to join last minute. What do I do?

Every guest needs a reservation in advance due to capacity as well as food preparations. Give us a call and we will let you know if there is room and we'll do our best to accommodate them. No one is allowed to stay in the huts who does not have a reservation.

#### How do I book my stay?

You can book online at www.aquariustrail.com/book-now/ or call us at 702-596-2953.

#### Is there a deposit at the time of booking?

Yes. At the time of booking, we will collect 50% of the reservation total. The remainder will be collected 45 days before your arrival.

# Do you have a cleaning fee?

No. However we do place a hold on your card for a damage deposit of \$10 per person per night. We expect each user to clean up and leave the hut the way they found it. This includes sweeping out and cleaning surfaces in your hut (using provided disinfectant spray), cleaning bathroom, hanging your sleeping bag back on the rack, putting soiled sheet and towel in laundry bin (in shower room), cleaning kitchen and shower unit, wiping down shower surface, washing all dishes and putting them away. Once you check out on the last day and we make sure the huts are clean, there is not damage and nothing is missing, then we will release the hold.



# Can I stay at one of the huts for more than one night?

Yes. The hut system is designed as a thru-hut system and to be ridden as such but if you would like to stay at one of the huts for more than one night you will be able to book each one separately for different length of stays.

#### Do you provide a shuttle back to Brian Head?

We can arrange a shuttle with advanced notice. There is a \$50 per person charge.

#### Are there showers at the huts?

Yes. We have an enclosed foot pump shower at all the huts. The cool water is quite refreshing after a full day's ride. There is also a solar water shower at each hut as well.

#### Do you provide towels for showers?

Yes. We provide one towel per person per hut.

#### Is there hot water available?

Yes. You can heat water on the kitchen propane stove and use that for your needs. This includes hot water for coffee, cocoa, cooking, and if needed, to fill solar shower bag with warm water. Hot water does not come out by default from our showers or faucets.

#### Is there a way to wipe off my bike?

Yes. You may use paper towels or red shop rags to wipe down your chain and crucial mechanical parts. Because water is a commodity in the backcountry, there is not water to spray off your bike. However, you may use small amounts of water from the kitchen faucet to wet your cleaning rag or paper towels. Please do not use excessive water to wash your bike.

#### Do you have tools available if I need to repair my bike?

We have a work stand available to use and is located either in Bunkhouse 1 or the Kitchen hut. We also provide tools (located in the kitchen area) for basic maintenance on your bike. If your bike requires special tools, you should bring those on your ride.

# Is there a fire pit?

Yes. All of our huts have a propane fire pit to end your day sitting around the fire, roasting marshmallows and sharing stories from your epic adventure that day.

#### Are wood campfires allowed?

No. Dixie National Forest does NOT allow campfires at the huts. If you have a campfire, you will be charged a \$250 fine.

#### Are there chairs?

Yes. You will find them either in the shower room or sleeping units.

#### Is there electricity to charge my phone?



Yes. The hut system is built completely off grid and electricity is created by our solar panels. There are outlets in each hut and in the kitchen area so you can charge your devices and be ready to go for the next day. For eBikes, you will need to use the generator in the bathroom. You can charge as many eBikes as needed.

#### Can I park at the hut and use it as a basecamp?

Yes. There is plenty of parking available. Our huts are a great option for unique lodging in the backcountry close to Bryce Canyon National Park.

#### Do I have to share a kitchen with other people?

Our hut locations are set up with 2 separate bunk houses and a common kitchen and bathroom. If you would like a private kitchen and bathroom, you should book the entire hut for your stay and then no one else will be staying on the property for the dates you are there.

# What is the restroom facility like?

The restroom is a pit type toilet and a sink with a foot pump for hand washing.

#### Can I book the entire hut?

Yes. When booking your reservation, you will be given the option to book the entire hut as a Private Hut for 12 Riders (private kitchen). No one else will be staying on the property for the dates you are there.

#### How many people do the huts sleep?

Each hut location has two bunkhouses with bunk beds and a futon sleeping a total of 6 people in each bunkhouse. The only exception is Hatch Hut where there are three bunkhouses sleeping 6, 4, and 2 respectively.

#### I have more than 12 in my group. Can we still rent the huts?

Please give us a call to discuss your specific situation. We will do our best to accommodate your group.

#### Can I ride my eBike and charge them along the route?

Yes. There is a separate designed route that shows where eBikes can ride. Each hut has a gas-or propane powered generator to charge your eBike so you have a full battery to continue to the next hut. Please respect other guests at the hut and do not use generators after 10:00pm. Extra gas for the generator will be available alongside the generator if needed. Please do NOT plug your eBikes into the outlets in the huts.

I don't ride bikes but I'm coming along with my family. Can I drive and meet them at each hut? Yes. We have plenty of parking at each hut. We have comfortable chairs and relaxing hammocks that will be waiting for you to kick back, pick up a book or just sit and enjoy the beautiful, peaceful backcountry.



#### I am travelling by myself. Can I book a single bed?

Yes. When booking your reservation, you will be given the option to book a single bed.

#### Will I have cell phone coverage while traveling the hut system?

For about 80% of the route, you will have cell service and 65% of the route LTE internet with the exception to Hells Backbone where we have installed Satellite WiFi. Here are the current signal strengths at each hut.

Hatch Hut – Very Strong signal – LTE
Butch Cassidy Hut – Strong signal – LTE
Pine Lake Hut – Good signal – LTE
Aquarius Trail Hut – Weak signal – 1X-LTE
Hell's Backbone Hut – Very Strong WiFi access

# POLICY, PROCEDURES AND ETHICS

#### Reservations

Reservations can be made online at www.aquariustrail.com or by contacting our office directly at 702-593-2953 or via email at info@aquariustrail.com

#### What's included in the price?

The price of your experience includes accommodations at our backcountry hut, three unprepared meals, trail snacks, beverages, souvenir pillow case, hut amenities including, first aid kit, shower, beds, full kitchen, sleeping bags, bag liners (sheets), pillows, towel, bike tools, water, electricity, generator, toilet, and other basic community gear including a deck of playing cards, acoustic guitar, two hammocks, folding chairs, and more.

#### What is not included in price?

Prices do not include airfare to and from your departure point, lodging/accommodations before and after the adventure, trip insurance, shuttle from Escalante back to Brian Head, park fees, first aid on the trail or bike mechanic support.

#### Deposits

A \$500 deposit per person plus a cleaning/safety deposit fee (\$10 per person per hut per day) is needed to hold a place on a tour. You then have up until 45 days prior to your trip departure to pay the remaining balance. A deposit for each person in your group is required once you have decided on your dates. Escape Adventures will automatically charge the credit card on file for the remaining balance 45 days prior to the reserved departure date if full payment has not been received.



#### **Payment Options**

Payments can be made online or by check. Checks can be made out to *Escape Adventures Inc.* and mailed to:

Escape Adventures Inc. 10575 Discovery Drive Las Vegas, NV 89135

#### Tour/Hut Capacities

The minimum capacity to open any hut is four guests and a minimum of two nights. The hut will not be confirmed until this minimum is met. There is also a hut maximum of 12 guests as the huts can only sleep 12 guests per night. If a group would like to book the entire hut, it can booked as a private hut and must reserve and pay for all 12 guests. If the group is willing to share a kitchen with another group, the hut can be split in half and the minimum per group then becomes 6. If the group would like to book the hut but can't reach the 12 guest minimum, the hut will remain open to book as non-private until all 12 spots are filled.

# Tour/Hut Confirmation

We will confirm your stay 60 days prior to arriving; prior to this time, huts may be cancelled due to low enrollment. After your hut trip is confirmed, it will not be cancelled for low-enrollment, but in rare cases may be cancelled due to weather, government intervention, unsafe trail conditions, or any other reason that would affect the quality of the schedule tour or the safety of its participants. If we are forced to cancel your trip, we will provide a 100% refund and work to add you to another trip that works for you. If you need to cancel your reservation for any reason, your request must be in writing - email is sufficient. Refunds will be given in accordance to our refund policy stated below.

#### **Pre-Trip Preparations**

ATHS is not responsible for any pre-trip preparations, i.e. airfare, car rentals, equipment purchases, etc. We advise you to avoid non-refundable flights and other travel arrangements, and are not responsible for the costs of such arrangement in the event your tour is cancelled. The travel insurance offered in conjunction with your stay covers the cost of your stay but does not cover additional costs such as travel to and from your departure location, and hotel stays prior to or following your adventure. Please consider purchasing additional insurance coverage if you have non-refundable travel arrangements.

# Cancellation and Transfer Policy

#### Cancellation Policy

If you need to cancel your reservations, for any reason, our cancellation deadlines are as follows:

IF YOU CANCEL YOUR TRIP	YOU WILL RECEIVE
From 15 days after you make your reservation until 60 days prior to trip departure	100% of what you have paid minus a \$200 processing fee per person
59-45 days prior to trip departure	50% of what you have paid minus a \$200 processing fee per person

There is no partial refund for starting late or leaving early.

In order to keep our huts affordable, we must adhere to this timeline without any exceptions. After our refund deadline has passed we cannot provide a refund for any reason, including circumstances beyond your control such as weather-related travel delays, family emergency, or injury. There is also no partial refund if you arrive late to your reservation, or depart early. Insurance agencies however, offer a full or partial refund in many circumstances if you purchase travel insurance to cover your reservation.

#### Transfer Policy

If you would like to change to a different departure date after signing up, we will be happy to transfer you on a space available basis up until 45 days prior to your tour. Please provide your transfer request in writing - email is sufficient. Please note, a \$25 transfer fee will be deducted from your previous payments for each transfer, and if you later choose to cancel your tour, the cancellation deadlines will apply to the date of the originally scheduled tour.

#### Travel Insurance

We highly recommend that our guests buy travel insurance. Travel insurance covers vacation cost against cancellation and interruption while also providing medical, lost or damaged property and trip delay coverage. Travellers are reimbursed if they have to cancel or interrupt their travel, and they are also covered should the need arise for emergency medical treatment, medical evacuation and a number of other situations.



You can purchase travel insurance from AIG when you make your reservation. Please call us for more information or to view the terms of agreement. 800.596.2953. For specific questions or concerns regarding your coverage with Travel Guard or to make a claim, please call 1-866-385-4839 and reference product number 007715 for the most accurate information.





#### PLANNING YOUR TRIP

Each hut is at a different elevation and is open at different times depending on snow melt. The following are the approximate times each location will be open. To experience the entire 190-mile route from Brian Head to Escalante over 6 Day/5 Nights plan on a July 1 through October 15 window. When planning your trip, we suggest planning to allow for at least one full day prior to your departure date at the departure location to allow more time for acclimating. It is also best to plan on a 2:00-5:00 pm arrival in Escalante and a two-hour drive to Brian Head. Please refrain from booking evening flights on your last day to avoid missing flights due to any on-trail or traffic delays.

# Getting There; Gateway Cities, Airports, Accommodations to Brian Head, Utah Las Vegas, Nevada

**Flights** - Just about every major airline has a daily flight to Las Vegas. LV is about a 3 1/2-hour drive (200 miles) to Brian Head, Utah.

#### St. George, Utah

Flights - There are several airlines with daily flights to St. George. <u>Visit the St. George Airport Website</u> for more information. SG is about 1 ½ hours (82 miles) to Brian Head, Utah.

# Salt Lake City, Utah

**Flights** - Many major airlines have daily flights to Salt Lake City. Please visit the Salt Lake City International Airport website for more information. SLC *is about a 4 hour drive (245 miles) to Brian Head, Utah.* 

#### Parking/Leaving a car:

You can leave your car at the Brian Head Resort in the parking lot at the base of Giant Steps ski lift. Leave at your own risk.



#### Included Gear, Packing List and Tips

**Included Gear\_\****This is gear that will be available in each of the huts* 

#### Basics:

- Fire Extinguisher
- Hand Wash Soap
- Basic Bicycle Tools
- Trash bags
- Paper towels
- Electricity Solar PV Powered
- Generator
- Picnic Table with shade
- Two hammocks
- Deck of Playing Cards
- Guitar
- Solar shower
- Chairs
- Trash receptacle
- Towel
- First-aid (Aspirin, eye drops, personal medicine, etc.)

#### Sleeping Quarters & Hygiene

- Sleeping bag (0-45 degree depending on hut)
- Pillow
- Mattress
- Souvenir Pillow Case (Yours to keep and take with you hut to hut)
- Sleeping bag liner
- Shower Towel
- Shower Soap

#### Bike Maintenance

- New tubes
- Basic Bicycle Tools
- Bike floor pump
- Bike Repair Stand
- Chain lube

# **Cooking Equipment:**

- Picnic Table
- Cutting boards
- Table cloth
- Chef knives
- Spatula
- Can opener
- Large metal spoons
- Coffee percolator
- Thermometer and alcohol swabs
- Medium saucepan and lid
- Large sauté pan and lid
- Stainless steel mixing bowls
- Mitts and hot pads
- Towels
- 2-3 burner cooking stove
- 5-gallon propane tanks
- Steel mugs
- Juice container
- 5-gallon "tan" water jugs filled with water
- Hand sanitizer
- Lighter and waterproof matches
- Food– See Hut Menu
- Beverages (Beer available for extra charge)
- Outside Propane BBQ Grill

## **Food Prep Essentials**

- Clorox bleach
- Coffee



- Dishes including bowls and plates
- Napkins
- Plastic Wrap
- Tinfoil

# Packing Tips

- Ziploc Bags
- Washable tablecloth
- Refrigerator/Freezer

Please note that you will be hauling all your personal gear on your person from hut to hut. We suggest a backpack, panniers or seat post rack/pack system.

A word about summer/high elevation trips: Many guests do not consider the elevation of their trip when packing. Regardless of the time of year, days and nights at higher elevations can be cold. It is best to be prepared for everything. Often weather predictions are unreliable, and we recommend bringing gear for wet and cold weather under all circumstances. We have experienced freezing temperatures in both July and October. Layering works well and a warm hat is important all year round.

#### Packing List

These are suggested essentials that riders will need to bring on their hut adventure. You will have to determine what you can carry. Before your departure, check the five-day forecast and plan your clothing accordingly.

The following essentials should fit in your backpack, panniers, or rear rackpack:

- Bicycle (Rentals available by reservation.
   Full Suspension and eBikes available.
   Please call 702-596-2953)
- Helmet
- Personal trail repair bike tools
- Cycling gloves long finger
- Cycling shoes that you can walk in.
   \*Make sure shoes are large enough to accommodate thicker socks. Check shoes before trip to make sure you have good toe movement. Tight shoes could cause problems on the trail.
- Bike jersey with three pockets x2
- 2 Water bottles and/or hydration pack
- Fast-drying, durable cycling shorts x2
- Sunglasses
- Warm hat/beanie
- Knee warmers, leg warmers and arm warmers
- Souvenir pillow case/Map

- Lightweight synthetic socks plus medium weight synthetic socks.
- Sturdy waterproof rain gear pants and jacket mandatory. Jacket should be cold weather rated.
- Light wind breaker
- Ear plugs (for light sleepers)
- Clothing for travel to and from trip, underwear and any other clothing you feel necessary and can carry
- Personal First-aid
- Personal Hygiene supplies and medications etc.
- Smartphone with downloaded Aquarius Trail Map (MapmyRide), Trailforks with Utah downloaded maps
- Chamois crème
- Sunscreen
- Quality bike light with USB charging cord
- eBike charging cord if applicable



# Bringing/Renting a Bicycle

#### Bike Rentals:

Aquarius Trail rents quality bicycles from Specialized and Santa Cruz. If you would like to rent a bicycle for your trip, we will outfit you with a high quality, full suspension mountain bike or eBike.

All bicycle rentals are equipped with flat pedals (unless otherwise specified), a tire repair kit and pump.

# Bringing your Bike on a Plane:

Bringing your bike on a plane can be tedious and quite costly (up to \$150.00 each way) and will require you to assemble your bike in your hotel room before the tour. Most hotels will let you store your bike container for the duration of the tour.



#### **HUT PROVISIONS & CUISINE**

The Aquarius Trail Huts are stocked with fresh, healthy food to keep you well-nourished while you ride the Aquarius Trail. You will find a gas grill, two burner stove, kitchenware and cooking equipment (pots, pans, utensils, etc.) and tableware. They are also stocked with all cleaning and sanitation needs.

Unlike our competitors, who have no electricity in their huts, the Aquarius Trail Hut System is designed off grid with solar PV electricity, which provides enough energy to power a full-size refrigerator and freezer equipped with everything you need to dine on cuisine like a king or queen, including beer at your request.

If you have dietary restrictions, please let us know so we can accommodate your requests.





#### Breakfast

Eggs, Bacon, Hash Browns, Sausage, Oatmeal, Breakfast Sandwiches, Breakfast Burritos, Shredded Cheese, Pancakes, Syrup, Fresh Fruit, Granola, Yogurt, Assorted Cold Cereals



#### Lunch

Peanut Butter, Jelly, Honey, Bread, Assorted Meats and Cheese, Pickles, Lettuce, Fritos, Doritos, Classic Potato Chips, Pretzels, Fruit of the Season (Apples, Oranges, Grapes), Chocolate Chip Cookies, Peanut Butter Cookies, Oreos



#### Dinner

Salmon or Cod Fillets, Mashed Potatoes, Pasta, Red Sauce, Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, Chicken, Quesadillas, Bean and Cheese Burritos, Vegetables, Veggie Burgers, Make Your Own Tacos, Guacamole, Salsa, Baked Beans, Beef Stew, Chili, Rice, Salad, Salad Dressings, Teriyaki Sauce, Buns, Assorted Condiments, Pickles, Lettuce, Tomatoes, S'mores, Ice Cream, Freeze Pops





# **Trail Snacks**

Trail Mix, Granola Bars, M&Ms, Pay Day Bars, Assorted Nutrition

# Drinks

Seltzer Water, Milk, Coffee, Orange Juice, Hot Cocoa, Assorted Sodas, Cold Water, Ice in the Freezer

(Cold Beer Package available for a small fee)

\*Vegetarian substitutes available upon request







#### **HUT MENUS**

#### Hatch Hut

Breakfast: Classic egg breakfast, breakfast burritos/sandwiches, pancakes, oatmeal, yogurt,

granola, and fresh fruit

Lunch: Sandwich selections, chips, fresh fruit, and cookies

**Dinner:** Steak or Salmon (or trout)

Vegetarian Option: Salmon Side Dish 1: Corn on the cob Side Dish 2: Mashed Potatoes Dessert: Chocolate Cake

Condiments: Lemons, A1 Steak Sauce, BBQ Sauce, butter

#### **Butch Cassidy Hut**

Breakfast: Classic egg breakfast, breakfast burritos/sandwiches, pancakes, oatmeal, yogurt,

granola, and fresh fruit

**Lunch:** Sandwich selections, chips, fresh fruit, and cookies

Dinner: Tacos & Burritos

**Vegetarian Option:** Vegetarian Tacos or Bean & Cheese Burritos

Side Dish 1: Chips & Salsa Side Dish 2: Guacamole

**Dessert:** Vanilla Ice Cream Cones

Condiments: Sour cream, guacamole, fruita di fresca, limes, cilantro, grated cheese, queso

fresco, assortment of beans, lettuce, corn & flour tortillas

#### Pine Lake Hut

Breakfast: Classic egg breakfast, breakfast burritos/sandwiches, pancakes, oatmeal, yogurt,

granola, and fresh fruit

Lunch: Sandwich selections, chips, fresh fruit, and cookies

**Dinner:** Burgers & Brats

Vegetarian Option: Boca Burgers Side Dish 1: BBQ Baked Beans Side Dish 2: Potato Salad

Dessert: Apple Pie

Condiments: Onions, lettuce, tomatoes, ketchup, mustard, mayo, pickles, sliced cheese, relish,

sesame seed hamburger buns, hoagie rolls



#### **Aquarius Hut**

Breakfast: Classic egg breakfast, breakfast burritos/sandwiches, pancakes, oatmeal, yogurt,

granola, and fresh fruit

**Lunch:** Sandwich selections, chips, fresh fruit, and cookies

**Dinner:** Chicken w/ Chinese Veggies: bok choy, bean sprouts, chow mein noodles

Vegetarian Option: Veggie Stir Fry

Side Dish 1: Rice

Side Dish 2: Spring Rolls or Egg Flower Soup

**Dessert:** Chocolate Mousse

**Condiments:** Soy Sauce, Sweet & Sour Sauce, Teriyaki Sauce

#### Hell's Backbone Hut

Breakfast: Classic egg breakfast, breakfast burritos/sandwiches, pancakes, oatmeal, yogurt,

granola, and fresh fruit

Lunch: Sandwich selections, chips, fresh fruit, and cookies

**Dinner:** Spaghetti & Meatballs **Vegetarian Option:** Sans meatballs

Side Dish 1: Breadsticks

Side Dish 2: Minestrone Soup or Italian Crouton Salad

**Dessert:** Cheesecake with canned topping

Condiments: Grated cheese, parmesan cheese, butter, olive oil, assorted salad dressings



#### **HOW TO PREPARE**

# Physical Preparation

For optimal physical preparation, we recommend that you ride at least several hours per week during the month preceding your adventure. During the trip you will be on your bike every day, and we can assure you that an unprepared bottom is a sore bottom! If you can't ride your bike, or don't own one, take a spin class at your local gym a few times a week. Your level of fitness does affect how much you will enjoy your trip. Please reference the Aquarius Trail itinerary for an idea of your average daily mileage and level of strenuousness - then train appropriately.

#### Bike Repair & Maintenance

It is highly recommended that each person at a minimum be able to change a flat and that at least one tech savvy person accompanies your group. Remember, any part of your bike can break. We will have a bike repair kit at each of the huts, but you will be responsible for your own maintenance and tools on the route. ATHS is not responsible for what you break, what you do not bring, or what do not know how to fix. At least one member of the group should have a bike repair kit. We also suggest you fully inspect your bike before your tour. Re-check all tires, cables, brake pads, tubes, chains, and other parts are in good condition each day before hitting the trail.

#### A kit should include:

- Chain-breaking tool.
- Multi-tool allen wrench set with 3mm-9 mm sizes. (If not all are present, be sure to add extras).
- Tire levers.
- Spoke wrench, for all four-nipple sizes.
- 3mm-6mm wrenches, preferably open-ended.
- Phillips and slotted head screw drivers that fit all needs of all heads on a bike, more than one may be necessary.
- Four spare spokes and nipples, at least one fitting each spoke length on your bike.
- Spare rear derailleur. Find one that is compatible for at least one per every group.
- Spare brake and derailleur cables, long enough for either front or rear replacement, one set per group.
- Chain lube.
- Shock or fork pump for those with air spring suspensions, one per group (based on compatibility, obviously).
- Spare set of brake pads, one set per two riders.
- Leatherman or other multi-tool that includes a good set of needle nose pliers and a sharp knife blade.
- Gorilla tape roll a good length around the tube on your bike near the seat tube for future
- Toe straps they repair everything duct tape cannot. Bring two per four riders.



#### **Health Considerations**

#### Hydration

Stay hydrated! We cannot stress this enough. Dehydration is one of the biggest concerns on a multi-day mountain biking trip. Not only does it inhibit performance, but combined with the higher altitude can be very unpleasant and even deadly. Bring a hydration pack with at least a 3L bladder and two water bottles each day. Hydrate as you ride. The western climate is dry, so plan on drinking more than you may need to in other areas of the country. Start focusing on fluid intake three to five days before your trip, especially if you are consuming alcoholic or caffeinated drinks. Drink more if it's hot.

Pay attention to any medication you may be on as many affect your hydration levels. Some medical conditions will also be a factor when it comes to consuming the amount of liquids your body will need to stay hydrated, so it is important to talk to a medical care provider prior to your trip.

#### Altitude Sickness

The Aquarius Trail takes place at high elevations and exercising at altitude will increase fatigue levels. Most people acclimate easily and without incident; however it is best to be prepared and recognize symptoms of altitude sickness when they occur. Being well hydrated before the tour begins and a good level of fitness will help. Ibuprofen and other light pain relievers can help with headaches. The most common side effects are headache, loss of appetite and sleeplessness. If you're a "flatlander," you may find yourself gasping for air at 8,000 feet or higher - the higher you go, the less oxygen the atmosphere contains. In addition, a decrease in barometric pressure makes it more difficult for your body to absorb the oxygen that is available. As a result, your body is less able to transport oxygen through the bloodstream and you may develop a condition called altitude or mountain sickness. Most people only experience mild symptoms - headache, nausea, fatigue, loss of appetite and shortness of breath. Rarely, symptoms can be quite serious, such as swelling in the lungs and brain if not properly and quickly treated. Shortness of breath is often a preliminary symptom of altitude sickness, and 8,000 feet is high enough for it to develop. The most common symptom is headache. While you may not notice any symptoms at rest, this can change quickly when you begin even moderate exercise. Recognizing and treating symptoms early is the key to preventing the more serious aspects of this problem. The faster you ascend, the less chance you give your body to adjust. A mild case of altitude sickness very closely resembles a hangover, a good reason not to drink alcohol the first day or two after your ascent. Alcohol causes dehydration, which worsens altitude sickness.



It's important to drink plenty of non-alcoholic and decaffeinated beverages to stay well hydrated. A slow ascent is one way to prevent mountain sickness, but this may not be practical if you're flying in or only have a few days. Because overexertion is a main cause, it's a good idea to take it easy for a few days until your body can acclimate. A diet high in carbohydrates (70 to 80 percent) helps increase blood oxygen levels and alleviates some of the symptoms. A high-fat diet does the opposite. Make your trip to the mountains enjoyable. Take it easy the first few days, stay well hydrated, get plenty of rest, eat well and don't go out too hard. If you start to experience headache, fatigue, nausea or shortness of breath, it's time to stop or rest.

- Plan to stay at the trailhead altitude at least 24 hours before you depart on your trip to give your body time to acclimate.
- Staying hydrated is key! Drink plenty of fluids before, during and after riding. Once you feel thirsty, you are already dehydrated.
- If you start to experience headache, fatigue, nausea or shortness of breath, it's time to stop or rest...it is likely to only get worse if you don't.



#### **ROUTES & TRIP DESCRIPTIONS**

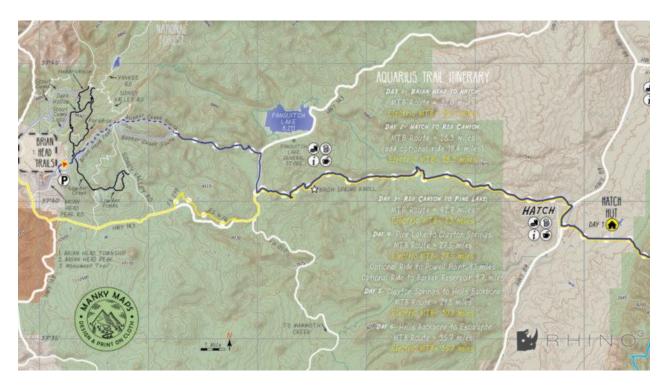
#### **Route Descriptions and Maps**

Day 1 - Ride from Brian Head to Hatch

Stay at the Hatch Hut Mountain Bike: 32 miles

Electric Mountain Bike: 35.5 miles

ATHS Staff will NOT meet you at Brian Head. You start this trip on your own and we plan on your arrival at the first hut as our meeting spot. Your adventure begins at Brian Head Peak (11,307), where you descend the exciting Bunker Creek Singletrack. Mountain Bike Action Magazine rated this Singletrack as one of the top ten best trails in America! It descends 2,885 feet over 12 miles to Panguitch Lake where we catch an exciting and fun 15-mile route through ponderosa and juniper forests—dappled with ancient lava beds and rolling meadows—to the Hatch Hut in Hatch, Utah.

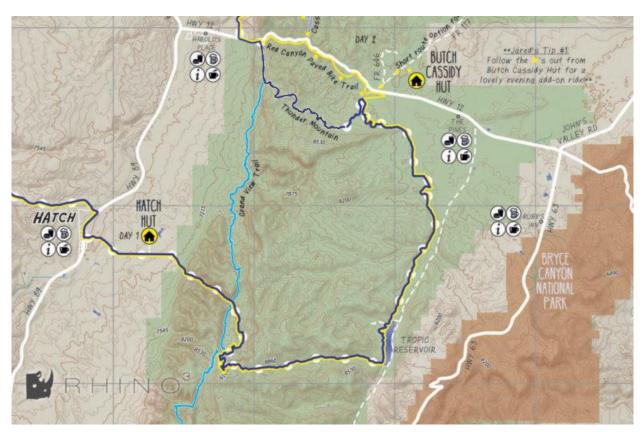




Day 2 - Ride from Hatch to Red Canyon

Stay at the Butch Cassidy Hut Mountain Bike: 28.3 miles Evening Add on Ride: 18.4 miles Electric Mountain Bike: 28.3 miles

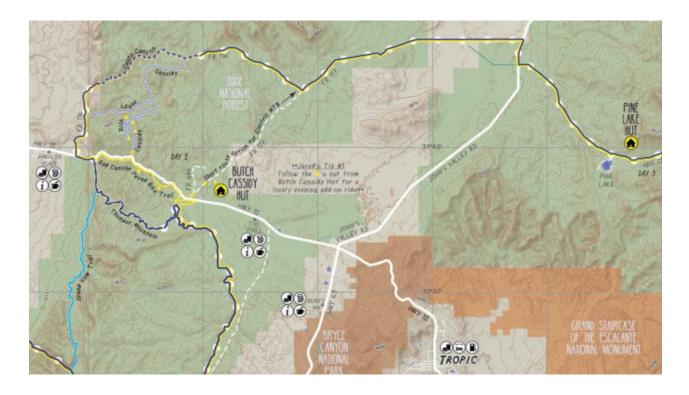
Energize with a hearty breakfast for this morning's invigorating eight-mile, 2,500-foot climb through Proctor Canyon to the top of Sunset Cliffs! Sunset Cliffs is the mountain border for the Bryce Canyon Valley. After viewing the stunning scenery, you descend eight miles to Tropic Reservoir, and take a plunge in the crisp (yet refreshing) waters. Cruise a 19-mile section of the Great Western Trail to Red Canyon. Once you get to the hut take a little time for hiking or opt for the Cassidy Loop in Red Canyon. Enjoy sunset over beautiful Red Canyon.



# Day 3 - Ride from Red Canyon to Pine Lake

Stay at the Pine Lake Hut Mountain Bike: 42.7 miles Electric Mountain Bike: 23 miles

Get ready for some of the best single-track in Utah—Red Canyon. From the hut, ride down Thunder Mountain Trail through the beautiful hoodoos of Red Canyon. From here cross Highway 12 and ride up to the Casto Canyon trailhead, passing many amazing views of Slate Mountain and Powell Point. Casto Canyon, crosses a small creek bed up to 44 times before eventually meeting up with jeep roads that cross the high planes of Bryce Canyon country to Pine Lake Hut. Pine Lake is a nice relaxing lake where you can fish or swim and cool off for the evening.



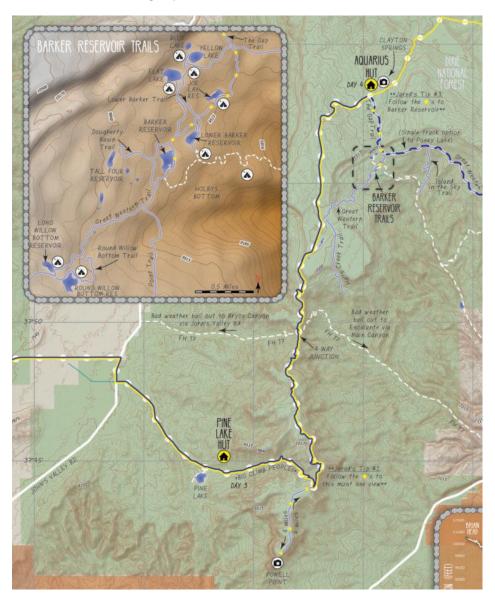
Day 4 - Ride from Pine Lake to Clayton Springs

Stay at the Aquarius Hut Mountain Bike: 27.5 miles

Optional Ride to Powell Point: 9.1 miles Optional Ride to Barker Reservoir: 9.7 miles

Electric Mountain Bike: 27.5 miles

Today you will climb to the top of the Aquarius Trails namesake – the Aquarius Plateau! Get ready for the BIG climb -2,200 feet over 10 miles to the top of Barney Top 10, 577 feet. On your way to the top, don't forget to ride out to Powell Point (an optional 8-mile out and back ride to a vista overlooking southern Utah). Once back on route, continue onto Barney Top and across spectacular high meadows to the Aquarius Hut at Clayton Springs. If you are still thriving for another ride, opt to ride down to Barker Reservoir and back. The ride drops 500 feet to the reservoir so don't forget you have a climb back to the hut!





# Day 5 - Ride from Clayton Springs to Hell's Backbone

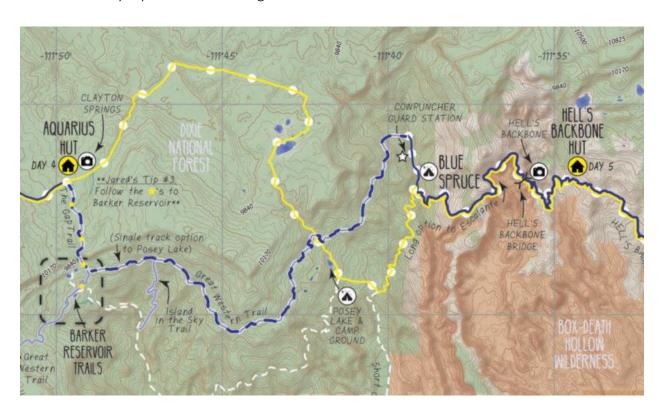
Stay at the Hell's Backbone Hut

Mountain Bike: 29.8 miles

Electric Mountain Bike: 30.7 miles

There are two different ride options from the Aquarius Hut to the midpoint at Posey Lake. Take the non-technical ride on Hell's Backbone Road or choose the backcountry singletrack ride on the Great Western Trail. Each is very different. The dirt road option is across big open meadows with antelope roaming freely while riding along the mountain singletrack, you will be challenged to technical riding and more climbing (climb 2,500 feet and descend 3,300 feet over the first 15 miles). Choose to stop at Posy Lake where, time permitting, you might have the opportunity to do some hiking around the lake. (If you are on a 5 day 4 night hut adventure, this is where you leave the Aquarius Trail and drop down the short route back to Escalante). From here choose dirt road or then ride cowpuncher 5 mile singletrack to Cowpuncher Guard Station and Blue Spruce Campground. From here both options collide into the ride up to Hell's Backbone Bridge and across Box Death Hollow Wilderness and then finally descending to Hell's Backbone Hut at Sand Creek.

This is a BIG Day if you ride all the singletrack.



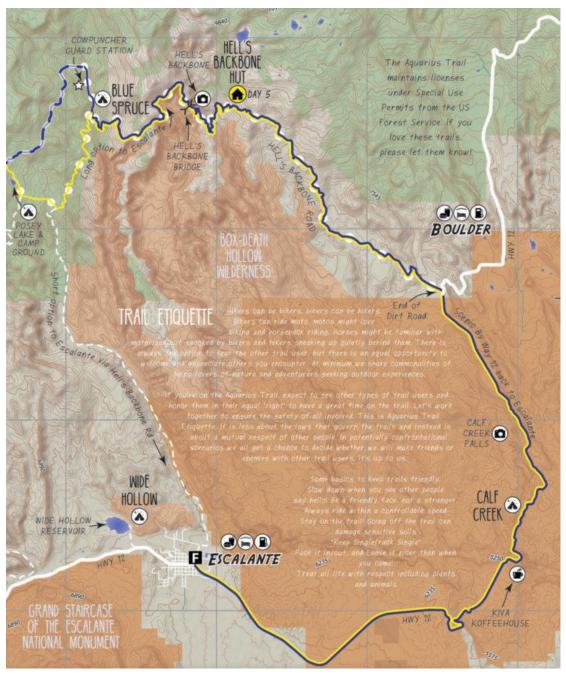


#### Day 6 - Ride from Hell's Backbone to Escalante

Mountain Bike: 35.7 miles

Electric Mountain Bike: 35.7 miles

Passing through various vegetation zones, today's ride borders the Box Death Hollow Wilderness. Continue riding along Hell's Backbone Road until you reach Scenic Highway 12. From here it is a beautiful ride along the Hogback back to Escalante. Along the way, stop at Calf Creek and cool off in the crystal clear waters. Optional 3 mile hike to Calf Creek Falls is a great side trip as well. This 128 foot waterfall is nothing shy of amazing! One big climb on the road after Calf Creek is followed by a gradual descent to Escalante to conclude your 190 mile adventure!





#### Full Aquarius Trail Hut System Map



# <u>Trip Fitness & Bike Handling Skills Recommendations</u>

#### **Fitness**

The Aquarius Trail is rated as a 3 on our scale of 1 to 5. This means that those who plan to join us must exercise regularly and be comfortable with sustained output at a relaxed paced. This also means that they are comfortable with the occasional short anaerobic periods for trail conditions that involve short, punchy climbs, or longer sustained climbs in unpredictable intervals.

## **Technical Level**

The Aquarius Trail providers riders with the full spectrum of terrain types. Riding the Aquarius Trail means riding paved roads and paths, dirt roads, double track, 4x4 and singletrack trails of varying widths. Riders on the Aquarius Trail will also experience varying grades from easy grade to relatively steep terrain. On most occasions the Aquarius Trail offers alternative trail options; i.e., shorter routes and/or double track options instead of true singletrack. In some cases the roads are not maintained, steeper sections feature loose rocks/gravel, and walk a bike might be required. Every rider should be prepared and ready for the unpredictable on the trails.



#### **Guest Responsibilities**

Be familiar with all written communications provided to you by ATHS.

- If you have selected a return shuttle, please communicate any changes in your final day plans to our office.
- Please understand and know your trip routes
- Please respect the others who are participating.
- Please respect the environment in which you are riding as well as the surrounding wildlife.
- Please make sure all trash makes it into a proper receptacle. We are a proud partner of the Leave No Trace program and strive to minimize our impact in many ways. Please ask us for more information about the program.
- Forde streams at 90 degrees to the bank
- Any property damage to huts and national forests must be reported.
- No animals are allowed in huts
- No weapons are allowed in huts

# Communication Between Your Group and ATHS Staff

If you have a noncritical emergency, please call the office at 702-596-2953. If you become stranded and need to be picked up for any reason, there is a flat \$100 rescue fee plus \$1 per mile. If you have a life-threatening emergency, please call 911.

# Weather and the Elements

**Weather Report:** A weather report is accessed daily from an internet site that gives the 10-day forecast. The day before your departure, check the National Weather Service Five-Day Forecast! Please check Brian Head and Bryce Canyon. There is a significant elevation difference on the route but these locations will give you the colder weather so you can plan appropriately.

#### Lightning:

If caught in one of these storm systems, hunker down with your rain gear, deep in the forest (but not under a big tree!), and wait for the storm cell to pass. If caught in the open, stay away from fences. While your bike's metal will not "attract" lightning, we do not advise sprinting downhill. Sprinting through sagebrush with loaded panniers and funny shoes in fear of your life is asking for its own trouble. Set your bike down gently and take cover in lower country or deep in the forest. If you are pinned-down and feel that the lowest, immediate ground is the safest, find a spot without water and crouch low. Maintain the lowest profile possible and keep minimal contact with the ground. Do this only if certain and immediate peril prevents you from moving around!



#### Mud and Snow:

Mud and snow may be serious at times. Riders who are mentally prepared for mud fair well. It can be very difficult to move forward on a bike when it is snowing overhead and muddy under the tires, but it is possible. The best way to deal with mud conditions is to avoid them, but if you do find yourself in the mud, releasing cables on brakes that set the pad to the rim can really help on up-hills, flats and gentle descents. It is imperative that you take the time to peel the mud off your derailleur, brakes, rims, chain and anywhere else it collects. With a clogged chain and derailleur, you have to be very careful when shifting. You may not be able to shift at all. If you do, you could break the derailleur. You may have to peel the mud off every quarter mile for miles. You may have to get on and off to walk your bike.



#### **ROUTE ETIQUETTE AND ETHICS**

#### **Protecting the Environment**

It is important that we all work hard to ensure that bike touring does not adversely impact environmental resources. Some of the relevant Standard Operating Procedures for Natural and Cultural Resource Protection are listed below:

Adopt "Leave No Trace" backcountry ethics. Adopt "Tread Lightly" practices.

**Hiking Trails** - Hike only on existing, established trails at appropriate locations for safety considerations, using the buddy system. Walk only in washes, on rocks, and stay off of any plants.

**Biking** - Bikes are allowed only on designated roads and trails. eBikes are allowed anywhere a motor is allowed. Parked bikes are left on the right side of the road out of the pathway of any other vehicles. You should pace yourself as to get to the hut at a reasonable time and are not traveling at night.

**Historical Sites and Discoveries -** Discoveries of historical or scientific interest sites are to be reported immediately to ATHS representative in whom they will be reported directly to National Forest office. Do not go closer than three feet from unprotected ruins, sites, fossils, artifacts, or any other item of Archaeological or Paleontological value in order to preserve them. Collecting rocks, flowers, plants, artifacts, or any other natural object from the forest is prohibited.

**Wildlife** - Adopt "Be Bear Aware" practices in all activities conducted. Avoid disturbances during very early morning and late evening hours due to higher wildlife activity. No feeding of any wildlife nor should food residuals be left in forest. Wildlife should only be intentionally observed briefly and at a distance (100+ yds.) Biking in areas where wildlife could be surprised or startled (heavy cover, blind curves in trails, topographic screening, etc) should be done at slow biking speeds.

**Interaction with other Guests -** Practice a good neighbor policy to help make a positive experience for all riders encountered on the trail. Keep hut quiet so you don't interfere with other campers in the area.



#### Leave No Trace

Leave No Trace is a national and international program that strives to educate all who enjoy the outdoors about the nature of their recreational impacts as well as techniques to prevent and minimize such impacts. Leave No Trace is best understood as an educational and ethical program, not as a set of rules and regulations.



- 1. **Plan Ahead and Prepare** Know the regulations and special concerns for the area you'll visit. Prepare for extreme weather, hazards, and emergencies. Repackage food to minimize waste.
- 2. **Travel and Camp on Durable Surfaces** -In popular areas, concentrate use on existing trails and campsites and walk single file in the middle of the trail, even when wet or muddy. In pristine areas, disperse use to prevent the creation of campsites and trails avoid places where impacts are just beginning.
- 3. **Dispose of Waste Properly** Pack it in, pack it out. Inspect your rest areas for trash or spilled foods. Pack out all trash, leftover food, and litter. Deposit solid human waste in catholes dug 6 to 8 inches deep at least 200 feet from water, camp, and trails. Cover and disguise the cathole when finished. If washing, carry water 200 feet away from streams or lakes and use small amounts of biodegradable soap.
- 4. **Leave What You Find** Preserve the past: examine, but do not touch, cultural or historic structures and artifacts. Leave rocks, plants and other natural objects as you find them. Avoid introducing or transporting non-native species. Do not build structures, furniture, or dig trenches.
- 5. **Minimize Campfire Impacts** Campfires can cause lasting impacts to the backcountry. Where fires are permitted, use established fire rings, fire pans, or mound fires. Keep fires small. Only use sticks from the ground that can be broken by hand. Burn all wood and coals to ash, put out campfires completely, then scatter cool ashes.
- 6. **Respect Wildlife** Observe wildlife from a distance. Do not follow or approach them. Never feed animals. Feeding wildlife damages their health, alters natural behaviors, and exposes them to predators and other dangers. Protect wildlife and your food by storing rations and trash securely. Avoid wildlife during sensitive times: mating, nesting, raising young, or winter.
- 7. **Be Considerate of Other Visitors** Respect other visitors and protect the quality of their experience. Be courteous. Yield to other users on the trail. Step to the downhill side of the trail when encountering pack stock. Let nature's sounds prevail. Avoid loud voices and noises

#### Minimum Impact Biking Practices

- 1. Ride only on open roads and trails Riding cross-country, taking shortcuts, and play riding damages plants and soils. Don't be a trail pioneer by leaving a poorly chosen path for others to follow. Help land managers keep areas open to biking by staying on established routes.
- 2. Learn to recognize and preserve cryptobiotic soilcrust This delicate, often black, crusty-looking, complex of soil and slowly growing algae, mosses, bacteria, and lichens retains water, reduces erosion, and provides a stable base from which higher plants can flourish. It takes many



years for cryptobiotic soil crust to recover from the ruts created by one bike. If you don't know what it looks like, ask ATHS staff to point it out.

- 3. **Avoid skidding your tires** Locking your wheels needlessly damages trails and leaves tire marks. Stay in control by "feathering your brakes."
- 4. Avoid clay-like surfaces and stay on rocky, slickrock, and sandy areas when it's wet Soils with high clay content turn to slippery, chain-clogging mud when wet. Riding through these areas under wet conditions leaves deep ruts that accelerate trail erosion.
- 5. Refrain from riding through and camping in riparian areas Riparian areas, the communities of water-loving plants along streams, are precious to wildlife. Wildlife concentrate in these areas and can be displaced by recreational use.
- 6. **Protect water sources** Washing mud off bikes and bathing can introduce lubrication, soaps, and oils from sunscreen into water sources critical for the survival of small animals.

#### **Restrooms**

Facilities at each hut are available.

#### What do I need when there is no access to facilities?

Biodegradable toilet paper, a trowel for digging a cathole (a rock can work), a freezer weight zipper lock bag and hand sanitizer.

What is a responsible way of using the restroom when there isn't access to any facilities on the trail?

**Step One:** Pick your spot, at least 200 feet away from any body of water, trail, or campsite. Nice view is a bonus.

**Step Two:** Dig a hole at least 6 inches deep and about 8 inches across.

Step Three: Make your deposit.

Step Four: Wipe away. Pack all wiping material in its own baggie (don't bury it).

**Step Five**: Fill in your cathole completely with soil.

**Step Six:** Sterilize your hands.

Simple as that. If there is an outhouse available, use it. It is there to concentrate the waste for a reason.



# Pit Toilets

Also known as a vault toilet, these facilities are common in our recreation areas and National Parks and Forests. They are basically well-maintained outhouses. When these are available, use them.

Locations of Pit Toilets along route (other than at huts) are as follows in order of 6 Day hut ride from Brian Head to Escalante:

#### Day 1

Brian Head Peak Trailhead

#### Day 2

Tropic Reservoir and Kings Creek Campground, Great Western Trailhead at Highway 12

#### Day 3

Thunder Mountain Trailhead upper, Thunder Mountain Trailhead lower, Casto Canyon Trailhead, Pine Lake Campground

# Day 4

None along Route

#### Day 5

Blue Spruce Campground

#### Day 6

Calf Creek Falls Trailhead

Suggested Reading Material: <u>How To Sh\*t In the Woods</u> by Kathleen Meyers



#### **HUT ETHICS AND RULES**

<u>Cleanliness</u> is imperative to the future success of the hut to hut system. Each and everyone's individual actions have a lasting impact on the environment, on fellow riders and riders to come. Please consider the repercussions of your every action over the course of this trip. Please make cleanliness a goal and respect the experience of other while staying with the Aquarius Trail Hut System. Occasionally a group will fail to clean the huts. This might mean that you are left to clean up someone else's mess. Please do the right thing and help stop the cycle of leaving huts in bad shape. If the group in front of you has negatively affected your experience please call our office immediately and we will deal with it accordingly.

#### 7 Basic Hut Rules

To make your visit as enjoyable as possible, please read the following and consider the guests who will arrive after your stay.

- 1. Leave the huts better than you found them. Please do not leave anything behind or take anything that does not belong to you, including maps, tools, utensils, towels, games, batteries, cookbooks, etc. Put all food away in refrigerator and cupboards. LOCK the HUTS.
- 2. **Remember you're a community**. Share kitchen space.
- 3. **Be aware of your surroundings.** This includes respecting wildlife and other campers. Moderate your noise.
- 4. Please do not attempt to accommodate people who have not paid to stay in the huts. You may be approached by hut servicers and if extra people are found, you will be removed and not allowed to return. You will also be charged for the additional people at going rate per night per person. We do not accept "walk-ins" so please do not permit walk-in campers to reside in the huts.
- 5. **Stick to your reservations**: Please do not skip huts or stay extra nights
- 6. **Respect the huts**. Cleanliness is godliness. It will also be key to getting your deposit back.
- 7. Promise to pack common sense above anything else.

#### Sleeping Etiquette

- Beds are claimed on a first-come, first-serve basis in designated bunkhouse.
- Please discuss hut quiet hours with your group as to all agree on a time and be respectful of other peoples' wishes. General quiet hours are 10:00pm-6:00am.
- Please treat sleeping bags with care. Zippers and down material is fragile and easy to damage. Please do not lay sleeping bags or pads directly on the ground.
- Please use a sleeping bag liner that can be found on your bed in your bunkhouse or in specified linens area in storage unit. Do not use the sleeping bag without the liner.
- If you get the sleeping bag dirty, please clean it with warm soapy water
- Hang Dry the sleeping bags if they get wet in your bunkhouse over the top of your bunkbed.
- Make sure the bag is fully dry before returning it to the bed.



Dai	ily Cleanup
Wŀ	nen you check out, please make sure the following has been completed:
	Pack out everything you packed in.
	With a wet paper towel and disinfectant spray, wipe off all kitchen counter surfaces, shower
	room, and restroom surfaces.
	Remove sleeping bag liner, pillowcase and dirty towels and place in designated laundry bin in
	shower room.
	Turn the sleeping bags inside out and shake them clean. Turn outside in and lay bag flat and extended head to toe on your mattress.
	Sweep bunk mattresses onto floor beginning with the top bunks and wipe down the bunks with paper towels if needed.
	Sweep under the nightstand tables, bunks and out the door. Sweep the kitchen, shower
_	room, and bathroom floors. Mop all three rooms.
	Gather all swept residue and dispose of it in the outside kitchen bin. Take kitchen trash out to Storage area and put in large trach can. Put in new kitchen liner in bin.
	Reorganize and tidy things up
	Turn off all lights and cook tops.
	Close the lid on the toilet
	Close all windows and lock them.
	Have entire group present inside the hut before leaving & locking to confirm that the hut is
	clean and the entire to-do list has been completed.
	Latch and look the doors with electronic locks. Have someone check to make sure all doors
	are locked. This includes both sleeping units, kitchen unit, bathroom unit, and other locks
	that have been unlocked <u>including padlocks</u> . Any lock left unlocked will result in forfeiture of

The huts are restocked and serviced after each use. If a hut is occupied more than one day, then the hut is serviced after hut is vacated or within five days. Provisions brought to the huts by the guides/commercial outfitters must be removed upon vacating.

deposit and any damage or vandalism done prior to hut personnel arrival will be your

responsibility. To ensure safety of guests and to deter against vandalism, each hut location is

When huts are booked by self-guided groups and individuals it is nearly impossible for us to monitor the day-to-day activity. Please be our eyes and our partners in keeping the huts healthy, happy, clean, safe places to recreate.

#### Water Usage - Potable and Non-Potable

under recorded remote video surveillance.

Water is brought in and replenished with each new group. Water in shower, kitchen sink, and bathroom wash station should not be used for drinking. Each hut is supplied with tan water jugs and clear water containers in refrigerator. These should be used for drinking. If these run out there is a large water container in each storage unit that is filled with drinking water. This can be used to replenish tan water jugs and refrigerator containers. Please practice good water conservation ethics. Each person is allotted 2 gallons of water per day. That water can be used for cooking, conservative cleaning, drinking and bathing. There is no place to gather water so it is



important to monitor water consumption. Try to fill your water bottles at the locations denoted on the maps provided. Use lakes along route to clean off and fill up water containers. Do not throw out water for any reason. Please do not use water provided to wash your bike.

# **Appliance Usage**

#### **Using Toilet**

To make sure they work correctly, do not place anything other than bodily waste and toilet paper in toilets. Examples of items that DO NOT go in a composting toilet includes, but is not limited to underwear, cloth items, plastic of any kind, foil, tampons and tampon applicators, pads or sanitary hand wipes. Please place all non-biodegradable material in the waste can provided.

#### Using Bathroom Sink

The bathroom sink is a foot pump. To use foot pump option simply press pedal in under sink to extract water. Water is presupplied under the hut. If water runs out, refill the jug with the water supplied in storage unit connected to bathroom.

#### Using Kitchen Sink

The kitchen sink is a foot pump. To use foot pump option simply press pedal in under sink to extract water. Water is presupplied under the hut. If water runs out, refill by hose in storage container. Run hose to underdeck water tanks and refill the 46-gallon tank. Watch to make sure the tank does not overfill. If not watched this could drain entire tank and complete water supply at hut location causing hut to be closed until water can be delivered.

#### Using Shower

Shower can be used two ways, foot pump or gravity bag. To use foot pump option simply press pedal in shower to extract water. Water is presupplied under the hut. The water will be cold but the idea behind this is to conserve the water by taking short fast showers. Gravity bag method is used by pouring water into bag and hanging in shower overhead and allowing gravity to spray water. Gravity bag can be filled with hot water by heating water on stove in kitchen and then funneling it into Gravity bag. If water runs out, refill by hose in storage container. Run hose to underdeck water tanks and refill the 46-gallon tank.

#### Conserve Energy

Each unit is supplied by solar power and stored in batteries. Do not run excessive lights and leave refrigerator open. This could drain the hut batteries causing loss of power. If power is lost or solar not working, use generator in storage unit to power refrigerator and other personal devices as needed.

#### Charging Devices

To charge phones and personal devices use house power supplied by outlets in sleeping units or next to refrigerator on counter. If charging electric bicycle batteries, use generator in storage unit. Do NOT run generator after 10:00pm at any hut location.



#### Propane Tank Usage - Using the Stove

Propane tanks (propane cylinders) are provided to supply energy to kitchen stove, outside grill, outside fire pit, heating stoves (in each sleeping unit), and Champion Brand generators in storage unit. There are additional propane cylinders in the storage unit if an appliance runs empty. Please do not replace a propane cylinder until it is empty. Please be sure that there is a window open while using the cooking stove in kitchen and/or heating unit in the sleeping unit.

#### Cooperative Living

If you have not reserved your hut as a private reservation, you will possibly be sharing with others.

#### Please practice the following:

- Be welcoming and friendly: invite others to play hut games or share the extra dessert ☺
- Make room for latecomers
- Keep your gear tidy and in one place
- Remove your shoes before entering the hut
- Keep noise down while others are sleeping

#### Trash Waste/Management

#### Procedures

- No food waste down sinks. All waste should be discarded into trash can in the kitchen unit or trash can in the bathroom unit.
- No trash in toilet. IT is EXTREMELY difficult and UNPLEASENT to remove.
- When leaving hut, take all kitchen trash out to large trash can located in storage unit.

#### Fire Bans

Absolutely NO wood fires allowed at the huts. Each hut is supplied with a propane fire pit which can be used to not only socialize, but roast marshmallows. Marshmallow sticks are supplied in kitchen drawer.



#### **APPENDIX**

# Chamber of Commerce and Tourism Agencies

# Escalante & Boulder Chamber of Commerce:

(435)-826-4810 Escalante, Utah Chamber of Commerce P.O. Box 175 Escalante, Utah 84726 http://www.escalanteut.com/

#### Brian Head Town:

(435) 677-2810 Highway 143, PO Box 190325 Brian Head, Utah, 84719 http://brianheadutah.com/calendar.php

# **Garfield County Travel Council:**

Bryce Canyon City 800-468-8660 or 800-444-6689

Boulder 435-335-7308

Escalante 435-826-4199

Panguitch 435-676-8585

Tropic 435-679-8713

http://www.brycecanyoncountry.com/



#### Bike Shops/Bike Resources

#### Brian Head, Utah

Aquarius Trail Hut System 1221 E Haiti Trail Hatch ,UT 84735 Phone: (800) 596-2953 | Email: info@aquariustrail.com

\*\*11 minutes from Trailhead Start at Brian Head Peak Bike rental delivery to Brian Head Resort only. Trailhead Start at Brian Head Peak



**GEORG'S SKI SHOP** 

612 South Hwy 143, Brian Head, UT 84719

Phone: (435) 677-2013 | Email: <a href="mailto:geoskibike@yahoo.com">geoskibike@yahoo.com</a>
\*\*12 minutes from Trailhead Start at Brian Head Peak



# Escalante, Utah

Escalante Outfitters 310 West Main St. PO Box 575 Escalante, UT 84726

Phone: +1 (866)-455-0041 or +1 (435)-826-4266

E-mail: info@escalanteoutfitters.com

\*\*2 Hrs to trailhead start at Brian Head Peak



#### Las Vegas, Nevada

Las Vegas Cyclery 10575 Discovery Drive, Las Vegas, NV 89135 Phone: (702)-596-2953 | Email: rental@lasvegascyclery.com

\*\*3 hrs 10 min to Trailhead start Brian Head Peak





# EMERGENCY NUMBERS AND/OR LOCATIONS OF HOSPITALS

Garfield Memorial Hospital | Panguitch, Utah: 435-676-8811

Ivan Kazan Memorial Clinic | Escalante, Utah: 435-826-4374

Cedar City Hospital | 435-868-5000

Intermountain Cedar Insta Care | Cedar City: 435-865-3460

Garfield County Sheriff's Office | 435-676-2678

Iron County Sheriff's Office | 435-867-7550

Glen Canyon NRA Emergency Dispatch | 800-582-4351

Escalante Fire Department | 435-826-4672

Brian Head Fire Department | 435-677-9924

National Poison Control | 800-222-1222

Escape Adventures/Las Vegas Cyclery Las Vegas Office | 702-596-2953

Aquarius Trail Hut Office Hatch, Utah | 800-596-2953

Aquarius Trail Shuttle Driver | Contact info given at time of departure



