

Cooks Mesa

Enjoy a rim with a view.

CAPITOL REEF COUNTRY TRAIL GUIDE

HIKING



4.2 miles

DISTANCE

836 ft

ELEVATION GAIN

Moderate

DIFFICULTY

1.5-2.5 hrs

EST. TIME

LOCATION

Trailhead is one mile east of Highway 24.

TRAIL TYPE

Hiking route up onto a mesa bench; dogs allowed.

TRAIL DESCRIPTION

The route makes a steep ascent through the colorful Chinle formation before leveling onto a scenic bench below towering red rock cliffs, to a viewpoint over Holt Draw, the Boulder Mountains, and the Henry Mountains.

DIFFICULTY NOTES

The steep initial ascent and mixed rock, gravel, and sand terrain over 836 ft of gain classify it as moderate.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

Dogs allowed, No fees. Pack out everything you pack in. Flash floods can hit canyons fast from distant storms — check the forecast first.

COORDINATES

38.32705, -111.36450 (Trailhead)

Coordinates are a navigation aid — conditions change, so always verify current road and trail status before you go.

SAFETY

Check weather forecasts for flash flood risk; carry a physical map, first aid kit, and notify someone of your route.

TRAIL TIP

Do this hike at sunrise in the warmer months — winter hikers should watch for ice in shaded areas.

