

Shillelagh Trail

Walk in, rappel out.

CAPITOL REEF COUNTRY TRAIL GUIDE

CANYONEERING / HIKING



4.5 miles
DISTANCE

600 ft
ELEVATION GAIN

Moderate
DIFFICULTY

2-3 hrs
EST. TIME

LOCATION

20 miles south of Hanksville, off Highway 95.

TRAIL TYPE

Out-and-back, with an optional technical canyoneering variant.

TRAIL DESCRIPTION

The most accessible of the 'Irish Canyons' - casual hikers walk the bottom wash through red rock narrows, while technical canyoneers can attempt a top-down route with two mandatory rappels, the longest 110 feet.

DIFFICULTY NOTES

Technical top-down variant requires two mandatory rappels, longest 110 feet.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

No dogs permitted; no fees required. Nearest services: Hanksville (20 miles north). Pack out everything you pack in. Flash floods can hit canyons fast from distant storms — check the forecast first.

EQUIPMENT

At least 220 feet of rope for the technical top-down route.

COORDINATES

38.02143, -110.54832 (Trailhead)

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

SAFETY

Check weather forecasts; carry physical maps and first aid kit.

TRAIL TIP

Wear shoes that can get wet, plus long sleeves and pants to avoid getting scraped up.

