

Hurricave







Overview

This suburban cave has a reputation of being rather chossy but features some of the steepest routes in southern Utah. In fact, many consider it to be the best winter spot for steep, hard sport climbing in the Southwest. Alongside the highquality, near-horizontal test pieces such as The Low Jam (13a), Killer Bees (13d), and Flight of the Conchords (14c) is one of the best 13a's in the region: Cliffdwellers. The rock is limestone of the Kaibab Formation and dates to roughly 250 million years ago. This is the same formation found at Priest Draw, Arizona. Note that the hang is a hillside of dirt and loose scree, therefore probably not the best choice for families or pets.

Season

While fall and spring are doable, winter generally offers the best conditions to climb. Due to its steepness, the cave itself is nearly always shaded, but the flanks and area below the cave offer the opportunity to hang in the sun. Cliff Dwellers, being on the left flank, goes into the sun at about 11:00 am and stays in the sun all day.

Directions

From State Street

(Utah State Route 9) in Hurricane, Utah; take 700 West south for 2.2 miles then turn right onto 2060 South. Continue on this road, which turns into 1100 West for 2.2 miles then turn left onto Cliffs Drive. Follow this residential drive up the hill. Where the pavement ends, continue straight into a gravel lot and park near an embankment (37.117922°, -113.305532°).

From the parking, a well-established trail weaves directly uphill for 0.3 miles toward the crag (37.119342°, -113.301664°). The approach takes about 20 minutes and gains about 500 feet.

Restrictions

While the crag itself sits on public land managed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), the parking area and adjacent lots are privately owned. It is only through a good relationship with land owners that this access is available. To that end, it is inappropriate to camp or park overnight at the trailhead. Alternatively, there's plenty of BLM land to the south, a few miles away.

Opposite: Joe Kinder on the Activator Project.









