



THE TOADSTOOLS - **PARIA**



Rating: Easy trail walking / hiking

Length: 1-3 hours each

Maps: West Clark Bench, UT; Bridger Point, UT

Season: Any, although summers can be hot.

Waypoints:

Red Toadstools TH	12S 422406mE 4106464mN N37° 06' 05" W111° 52' 24"
Red Toadstools	12S 422618mE 4107221mN N37° 06' 29" W111° 52' 15"
Red Toadstools 2	12S 422392mE 4107349mN N37° 06' 33" W111° 52' 25"
White Toadstool Trailhead	12S 420024mE 4107060mN N37° 06' 23" W111° 54' 00"
Top	12S 420766mE 4108622mN N37° 07' 14" W111° 53' 31"

Hype

The Toadstools is a unique area near the Paria Ranger Station, about 40 miles east of Kanab. The toadstools themselves are sandstone formations that have a harder caprock that has protected a softer, more easily weathered tower. The towers range in height from a meter or two to 10+ meters. The Toadstools is a very fun family accessible place to visit, and photographers will delight in the unique colors and shapes that dot the area.

Two different areas are described in this description. The first, the Red Toadstool area, is easily accessible by all, and provides close-up views of some great toadstools. The second area described, the White Toadstool area, requires a bit more walking, and shows most of the towers from a distance.

Note: Many of the toadstools are very fragile. Please do not climb on them.

Tags: roadside, dog friendly, family friendly, access: paved

Trailhead

Red Toadstool Trailhead

Head east out of Kanab on Highway 89. About 40 miles east of Kanab, at milepost 19.3 is the Red Toadstool

Trailhead on the north side of the road. This is signed with a trailhead sign and register.

White Toadstool Trailhead

Head east out of Kanab on Highway 89. About 40 miles east of Kanab, at milepost 20.8 is the Paria Ranger station on the south side of the road. The trail for the White Toadstools begins exactly opposite the ranger turnout at a small pullout and gate on the north side of the road.

Route

Red Toadstools

From the trailhead, follow the well defined and marked trail about 3/4 of a mile to the first Red Toadstool. This is a magnificent example of erosion. Behind this first toadstool are several more. After visiting these, be sure to go west (left when looking at the cliff) around on the entrada bench. Just around the corner are many more toadstools, as well as some very photogenic white toadstools. Return the way you came.

White Toadstools

From the trailhead, cross the fence at the gate. Follow the well-defined cow trail up the wash that is along the right side of the butte. After about 20 minutes, you will begin to see toadstools high on the right. These, although interesting and magnificent, are hard to photograph because of their distance. As the cow trail comes to a large wash, parallel the deep wash on it's left side up canyon. Just around the corner from the set of toadstools high on the cliffs, are three toadstools down low.

For some fantastic views, find away across the deep wash, and ascend the slope behind these toadstools staying on the easiest path. At the top there is a move or two of 4th class to reach the rim, but if you locate an easy route, there is no exposure. Once on the rim, traverse east along the edge for great views and even more toadstools. Wander along the rim as far as you'd like, and then return the way you came.

