



## OLD WAGON LOOP TRAIL - CAPITOL REEF



**Rating:** Easy Hiking

**Length:** 2-3 hours (3.75 miles)

**Maps:** Golden Throne, UT;

**Water:** None, bring all you need.

**Season:** Any, hot in summer

**Waypoints:**

Trailhead

12S 481307mE 4229909mN

N38° 13' 01" W111° 12' 49"

Loop Junction

12S 480129mE 4229567mN

N38° 12' 50" W111° 13' 37"

Viewpoint

12S 479305mE 4229917mN

N38° 13' 01" W111° 14' 11"

## Hype

The Old Wagon Trail Loop hike is different than many others in the park. It meanders up Miners Mountain along an old wagon road, then loops around back to the trailhead. The main attraction is the historical wagon trail, and the views of the Waterpocket Fold to the east from a distance.

This is not a hike I would highly recommend, though it is interesting and has good views. Though the road was surely in better condition back in its day, it is humbling to think of the difficulties in building and using such a rough trail.

**Tags:** *hike, family friendly, access: paved*

## Trailhead

From the Capitol Reef Visitor Center, follow the Scenic Byway. At about 1.6 miles is the pay booth. At 6.5 miles, a pullout on the right side of the road is the Old Wagon Trail trailhead.

## Route

The trail crosses the wash, and heads east up Miners Mountain. The path is easy, and follows a steady pace, reaching the loop junction in about 20-25 minutes (0.75 miles). The recommended loop is clockwise, so go left. The trail soon nears the edge of Capitol Wash, offering great views into the deep wash, then veers north

and circles back east.

Not far after heading east, a short trail goes off to a viewpoint. (5 minutes round trip) From the viewpoint, it is 20 or so minutes back to the loop junction, then another 20 minutes back to the trailhead.

