

## Sids Mountain Ride



Sids Mountain is a large plateau bordered by deep canyons on all four sides. Sid's Cabin in the middle of this plateau is the primary destination for riders. This cabin was built in the 1930s to provide a line shack for cowboys riding up here from the local towns to check on the cattle. There is only one horse trail onto Sids Mountain and this trail crosses slick rock on steep slopes. The ride to the base of Sids Mt and on top is easy. The climb onto the plateau is more difficult with steep and rocky slopes.

**Description:** Sids Mountain has only one usable trail to ride a horse up on it. The top of this plateau is a large sandy meadow dotted with a number of large free standing sandstone monoliths. You will be riding around and between them on the trail to the cabin. Desert bighorn sheep and mule deer are seen frequently on this ride. There is a lack of water on this mountain, so it is best if you water the horses in North Salt Wash before starting the climb.

**Directions:** There are two trail heads that can be used to access Sids Mountain trail. The North Salt Wash trail head is a long drive over rough roads but will shorten your ride by 4 miles each way. The Fuller Bottom trail head although

longer, takes the rider through some beautiful country. My favorite way to get there is to follow the North Salt Wash loop ride until the ride reaches the second narrows in North Salt Wash. On the south side of the second narrows there is a trail that climbs out of the wash bottom and starts the long climb to the top of Sids Mountain. The trail up Sids Mt has become abraded by numerous riders not staying to the trail. You can pick your own trail as long as you stay within these abraded trails. The top third of the climb is restricted down to one narrow trail on a steep slope. Many riders get off and lead their horses here. As mentioned above, the climb up onto Sids Mountain is on slick rock, narrow gaps in the rocks, and on some loose rock. Each rider will need to determine their own comfort factor. Horses have fallen on this trail so the rider needs to be aware of his and his horse's ability and have confidence in both.



Once on top, you just follow the trail. There is one narrow gap that will squeeze all the trails together. You will go through a gap in a brush fence (made from brush) and jump your horse off a 2 foot ledge. A short distance from here the trail will split. Both trails will take you to Sid's Cabin.