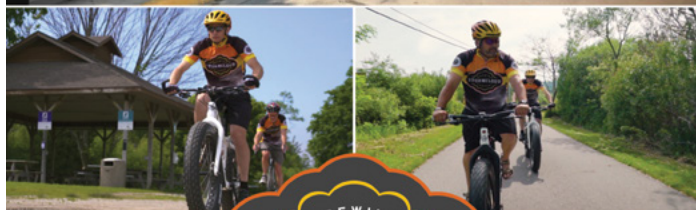


Arcadia Dunes Dry Hill Trail



Arcadia Dunes Dry Hill Trail

Hidden away in the wilderness of Arcadia Dunes C.S. Mott Nature Preserve is one of Michigan’s most scenic mountain biking adventures. The 9.5-mile Arcadia Dunes Dry Hill Trail carves a meandering path through the rugged ravines, ridges and natural contours of this ancient dune complex.

Considered “intermediate” skill level, over 95 percent of the trail travels through a cool, shady canopy of hardwood forest, making it the ideal trail to ride on a hot summer’s day. Masterfully designed, built and maintained by Grand Traverse Regional Land Conservancy, this fairly “flowy” trail makes the most of the natural terrain, weaving in and out of a long series of ravines with almost enough downhill momentum to carry you to the top of the next ridge. Plenty of banked curves, tricky turns and thrilling downhills will keep you on your toes. It’s the ultimate mix of beautiful scenery, technical challenge and exhilarating fun.

This is a multi-directional, multi-use trail that is also open to hikers and trail runners, so make sure to stay alert for oncoming traffic. According to most riders, the Dry Hill Trail loop is easier to ride in a clockwise fashion with a couple of long downhills on the southwest section of the trail. Each intersection of the trail is clearly marked with a map showing your location. If you don’t have time to ride the entire Dry Hill Trail loop, the 1.9-mile Chestnut Loop is a quick and somewhat challenging way to experience the natural beauty of Arcadia Dunes.

At the St. Pierre Trailhead, an informational kiosk provides a map and history of the Dry Hill Trail and Dunes. This is a very popular trail, especially on weekends. If the parking area is full, you’ll find additional parking nearby at the Abby’s Woods Trailhead. From there, it’s a mostly flat and easy 0.8-mile ride on the Abby’s Woods Trail to the Dry Hill Trail loop.

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