

Honeycombs

The Honeycombs region of the Owyhee Canyonlands is best seen on foot. To experience it, follow these directions to the start of the Painted Canyon Loop.

The road to the Painted Canyon Trailhead is best suited for four-wheel drive vehicles or vigilant Subaru drivers with clearance and wherewithal. This road is not good enough to be traveling after even a quarter inch of rain: Do not leave the road if this is the case.

From I-84, take exit 374 for Highway 201 south. Continue to Nyssa, turning left on Highway 201 south. The highway turns to the east and becomes Highway 19 into Homedale. There, follow the signs and take Highway 95 south. Continue for 18.7 miles to McBride Creek Road. At this point it's important to restart your odometer. Turn right and follow it for 6.3 miles to Succor Creek Road. Take the first right to stay on Succor Creek Road, and then continue for 6.6 miles to McIntyre Springs Road. Follow the McIntyre Springs Road straight, keeping the scenic Three Fingers Butte on your left until a junction at 5.25 miles. Turn right. Continue for another mile and turn left at another junction. Head another mile and keep left at another fork. Finally after 11 miles, turn left for the final quarter mile to a dilapidated cow trough and your trailhead. Park your vehicle.

From Jordan Valley, take Highway 95 north for 27 miles and turn left at the sign for Succor Creek. Take this road 8.5 miles to a junction at the Rockville School, where you will head left toward Succor Creek. Continue for another 7 miles, passing the turnoff for Leslie Gulch on your left. When you get to the next junction for McIntyre Springs Road, turn left and restart your odometer. Follow the McIntyre Springs Road straight, keeping the scenic Three Fingers Butte on your left until a junction at 5.25 miles. Turn right. Continue for another mile and turn left at another junction. Head another mile and keep left at another fork. Finally after 11 miles, turn left for the final quarter mile to a dilapidated cow trough and your trailhead. Park your vehicle.

About the Owyhee Canyonlands

The Owyhee Canyonlands require preparation, awareness and self-sufficiency. Once you leave the blacktop you will not find services or amenities. Top off your gas tank when leaving gateway communities like Jordan Valley or Rome, and carry a spare gas can.

Driving conditions in the Owyhee can be challenging. Roads are often unmaintained, rocky and rutted. Check each destination write-up for road conditions and advice on clearance and four-wheel drive recommendations. A small amount of precipitation makes the road surface slippery, creating mud buildup that clogs wheel wells and limits travel.

Each vehicle should contain a full-size spare tire, towing straps/chains, a jack, some flat boards, Fix-a-Flat, a lug wrench, jumper cables and a five-gallon water jug.

Your best bet for traveling in the Owyhee Canyonlands is to purchase the Malheur Canyon Country and Owyhee Canyon Country maps from the Bureau of Land Management.