

Hillside to the Hollow

Quality: ***

Distance: 5 miles

Difficulty: Intermediate and up

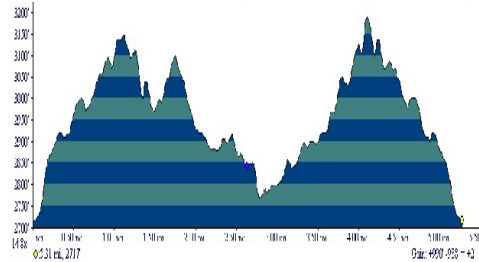
Riding time: 45 minutes-1.5 hours

Tread: Singletrack

Vertical gain: 990 feet

Season: Spring to fall

Watch out for: Hikers, joggers and dogs



Getting there: To enter from Bogus

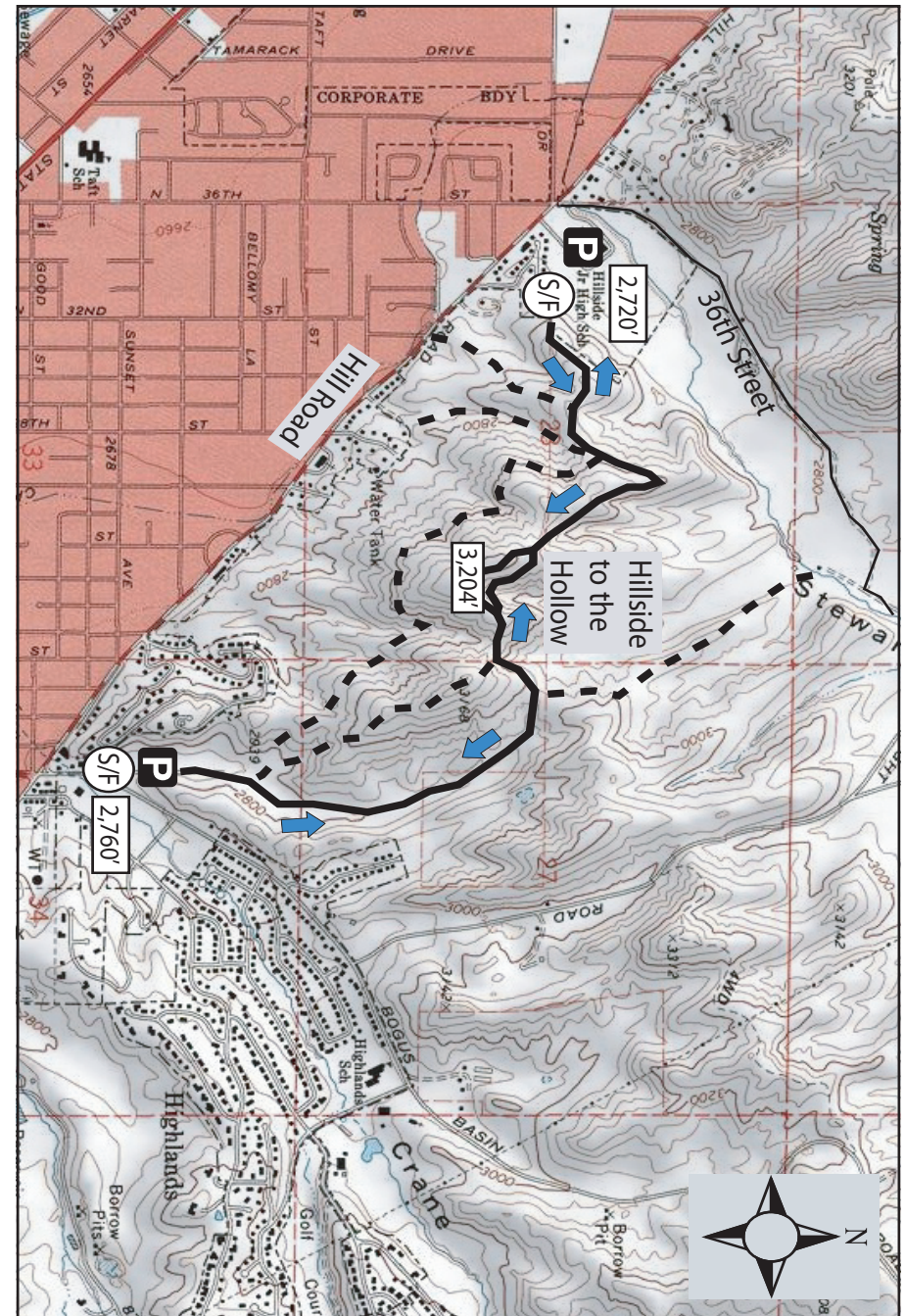
Basin Road, ride to Harrison Hollow Road, just in front of Healthwise and next to the Highlands Hollow brew-pub parking lot on the left. Look for a dirt trail heading up Harrison Hollow as the pavement ends. The ride starts here.

To enter from the 32nd Street side, watch for a gap in concrete jersey barriers on the north side of Hill Road directly across from 32nd Street (This access works only for people who are riding to the trail; there's no parking here at all).

The Ride: This nice trail network exists due to the tolerance of several landowners, including the Simplot Co., Kastera Homes, Colin Connell, Healthwise, and Richard B. Smith Real Estate. There are almost 10 miles of trails in this island of open space, so if you double or triple the loops, you'll get an excellent workout.

To begin, proceed up Harrison Hollow 1 mile to a saddle junction. The jeep trail climbs at a very reasonable pace until a short steep spot before the saddle. From here, turn left and climb a steep two-track a short distance and pick up a singletrack trail on your right. Follow the singletrack as it climbs slightly along the top of the ridge. Follow the trail past the switchback, and now you're descending toward Hillside Junior High as you ride above Quail Hollow Golf Course. Continue to descend until you see a singletrack peeling off to the left. You can either descend to the 32nd Street trailhead here, or stay left and follow a contour singletrack around the Hillside to the Hollow complex back to the Harrison Hollow saddle. Retrace your tracks from the saddle to the trailhead by Healthwise. There are several other trail portals into the Hillside to the Hollow area from 28th Street, Ussery, and Lancaster. These are neighborhood trailheads, so it's best to ride your bike to these trails because there is no public parking.

Note: All of the trails in the Hillside to the Hollow area lie on private land. A group called the Hillside to the Hollow Coalition wants the city of Boise to purchase this area as a future city park reserve. See hillsidetothehollow.org for more information.



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