

ATV ADVENTURES

New ATV trails opening at Lake Powell

On a trip to the Ticaboo Resort last May, Ray Golden personally guided the NUATV club on several trails that can be easily accessed from the lodge, including The Narrows at Ticaboo, The Mount Hiller's Loop, and The Ticaboo Mesa



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Trail. As I rode these trails, I saw so many more I could come back and explore.

Being the month of May, the temperatures for these trails were a little uncomfortable. However, I discovered that while these trails are best ridden in the early spring or late fall, the selection of trails to ride year-round is huge.

While the months of May through September are too warm for the Ticaboo Trails, the temperatures are delightful on the Henry Mountain Trails. With mild temperatures during the winter months, the Ticaboo Trails can be enjoyed from October through April.

That was last May. I had been looking for trails with the right temperatures to ride the first week in November when I received an invitation from Ray to come to Ticaboo for the weekend for a special announcement. With temperatures in the 60s, we joined key members of the ATV community at the Ticaboo Resort.

Ray met us Friday morning and introduced the group to some of the same trails I had ridden earlier. His business card reads, "Capt. Ray Golden." He is licensed to pilot a 100 ton

boat with as many as 16 passengers. I do well to paddle a canoe straight in one direction.

He came to Utah from back east where he guided fishing expeditions and fell in love with the ATV trails we have here. He re-opened the Ticaboo

Lodge offering 72 comfortable rooms with some nice amenities. He also opened Smoki's BBQ Restaurant and the Adventure Center Outfitting Shop.

The Adventure Center is ready to outfit you for days of fun. If you want to play in the lake, they have kayaks and paddle boards along with party, ski, and fishing boats to rent. Have your own boat, but lack some toys to enhance the fun? Capt. Ray is ready to help. He also rents UTVs for your own expeditions.

If you don't know where to go, you have come to the right place. Capt. Ray has an amazing variety of guided tours that include a mix of canyoneering, biking, kayaking, hiking, UTV trail riding, rock hounding, photography, wildlife, petroglyphs, Jeep tours, and boating with all its nuances.

The Offshore Marina, just south of the lodge, is also a part of Capt. Ray's proffered services. It features a well-stocked convenience store and a fast food establishment. He also has an expert staff to repair just about any kind of boat you bring in with problems. Facilities are also available for storage.

With all of that being



PHOTO SUPPLIED, LYNN BLAMIRES

UTVs crossing a wash on a trail near the Ticaboo Resort with Mt. Hillers in the background.

said, Capt. Ray gathered our little group together for his big announcement. The Ticaboo Lodge, effective Nov. 1, has been awarded the Hite Marina Concessionaire Contract. This will be a part of the expansion he calls the North Lake Powell Adventures Services.

The Hite Marina features a store with fuel, an RV Park and camping area. The ATV community will benefit by being able to access

remote areas of the Glen Canyon National Recreation Area. Places like the beautiful and hard to reach Orange Cliffs and Muley Point will be available to explore. The National Park Services will be announcing new trails available to ride in January.

Located 52 miles northeast of Ticaboo, Hite Marina lost its status as a launching point for boats to access Lake Powell due to the fall-

ing levels of the lake. Capt. Ray plans on offering the same type of services currently existing at the Ticaboo Adventure Center plus some exciting new ways to enjoy the backcountry.

With "Glamping" increasing in popularity, Capt. Ray will offer the canvas-walled yurts with a variety of amenities that offer a more glamorous camping experience. While these will not be available until later in the

spring, fifth-wheel trailers will be available to rent the same as cabins in the RV Park for those who don't want to bring their own. He is gearing up to offer these services beginning in January.

When you go, take plenty of water, keep the rubber side down, and get ready to explore these remote destinations.

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