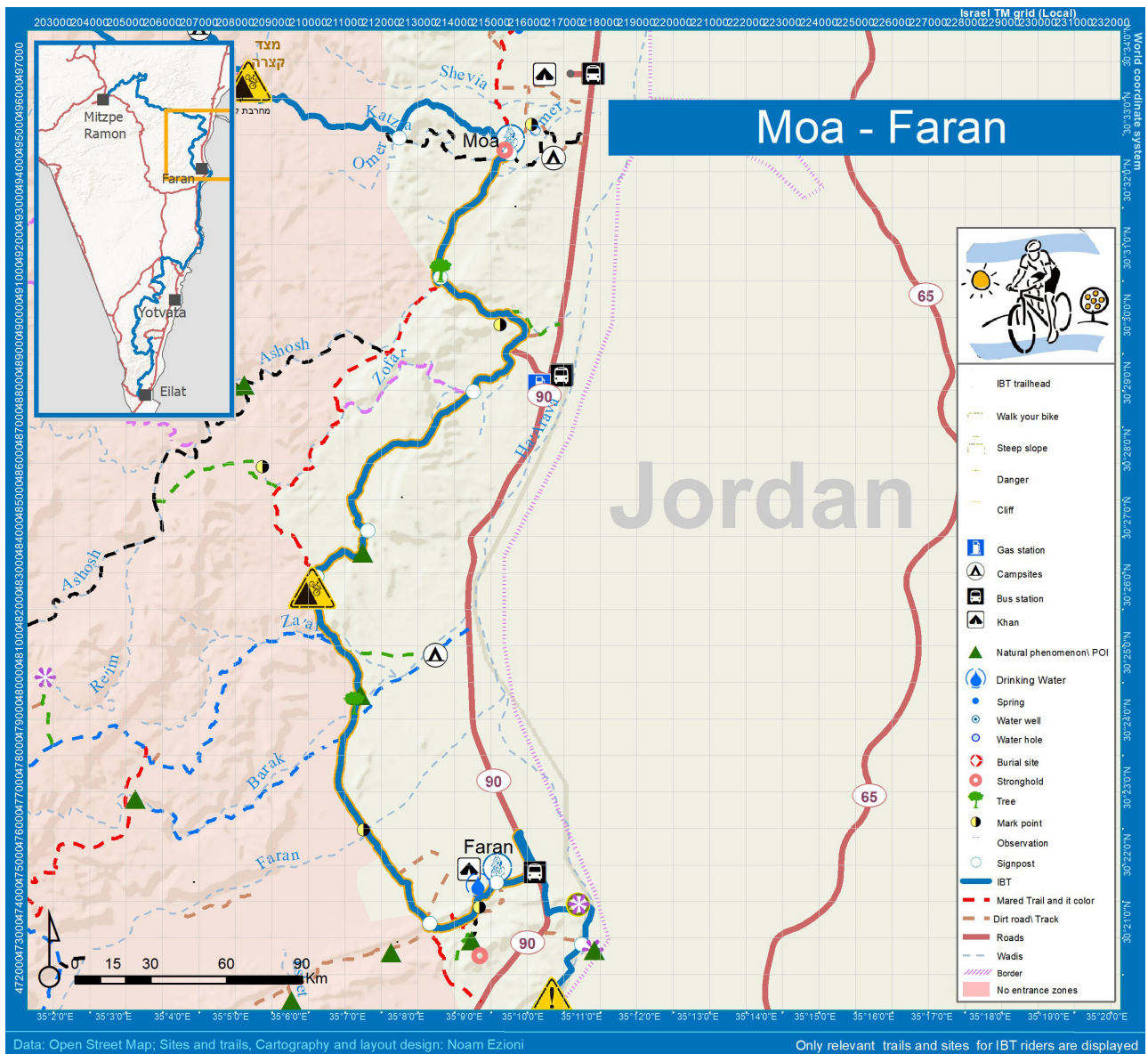


Moa – Paran



Subject of the trail
Desert cycling



Season
Winter, Spring



Total climbing
380



Difficulty
Easy



Length
35



Ending point
Moshav Paran



Starting point
Khan Moa

Information

This segment of the trail crosses varied topography and wide-open landscapes. You'll pass through a scenery that reminds the African savanna. Although there aren't any dramatic views along this segment, it is one of the nicest portions of the southern trail. On this day you'll pedal across the desert's largest wadis – Ashosh and Paran.

The trail begins at the foothill of Moa stronghold and Khan. We recommend a short visit at the Nabatean encampment, which provided roadside services for convoys of merchants traveling the ancient 'Spices Route' from the far-off Arabian Peninsula to the shores of the Mediterranean Sea. From Moa, ride southward along the trail marked in red to its junction with another trail marked in black, and then continue further south on the red trail.

Your ride continues along Wadi Omer, with its extension on your left. After a few kilometers you'll come across a large acacia tree which marks Wadi Omer's confluence with Wadi Ashosh, coming from the south. This is a great spot for a coffee break.

From the tree, continue east along Wadi Ashosh. When you spot a large water tank on a hill on your right, that's your sign to search for the single track that leaves the wadi and ascends in the direction of the village of Tzukim, where you'll find a campground, guest accommodations and a good restaurant (near the Arava road).

The trail will bring you up to the outskirts of the village, and then turn southward, along Wadi Tzofar, to a section of single track that was also prepared by Israel Bike Trail volunteers. From there the trail climbs to Tzofar Heights, where you'll be surrounded by primordial landscapes. That's another good place to stop before you cross the acacia-studded wadi.

Back on the bikes, you'll ride along the twisting wadi until you reach the jeep path marked in red. Just across the way, you'll discover a lovely lookout over Wadi Paran, which is the largest of Israel's seasonal desert streams.

The descent from the lookout is a challenging slope that requires skill and experience to ride. Use extreme caution; dismounting and walking your bike down is recommended. You'll continue down in the direction of Wadi Za'af and Wadi Paran – look for the turtle-shaped rocks along the trail segment between the wadis.

You'll cross Wadi Paran the long way, heading toward Telem Eshet. Taking a short detour between its sharp cliffs, you'll arrive at the entrance to Moshav Paran.



Caution! During seasons when flooding is a risk (winter, spring and fall), do not try to cross a wadi if it has been raining in the area. Pay close attention to warnings from Israel Nature and Parks Authority rangers and keep up with the latest weather forecasts.

Climate & Weather

Moa - Paran segment runs in the Arava area. A desert climate with high temperatures all year round. Especially during the summer it may get hot. Precipitation figures are low all year round. The rain that does fall mainly falls during the winter. Although temperatures are slightly lower during the winter it remains warm.

You can learn more about the region's climate [here](#).

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Directions

Moa – Faran

Starting point: Khan Moa is located north of Moshav Paran and south of Merkaz Sapir.

By car from the north: From Dimona, take road 25 to the Arava Junction. From there, turn south onto road 90 to Merkaz Sapir; pass it and continue south on road 90 for 2 km. There you'll find the turnoff to an unpaved road leading to the khan.

By car from the south: From Eilat, take road 90 to Moshav Paran; pass it and a few kilometers later you'll come to a left turn to Khan Moa.

By bus: Bus no. 390, 394 or 397 from Be'er Sheva. [Click here](#) for the bus schedule.

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[To see all service providers](#)

Safety Rules

To make cycling safe, enjoyable and considerate of all users of the trail, please observe the following rules, as well as those signposted along the trail:

- The trail is for cyclists and walkers only.☒
- No motorcycles or other motor vehicles are allowed!
- Cycling is permitted only along the marked trail. ☒
- Parts of the trail pass on shared routes with motorized vehicles.
- Riders must take precautions and yield to motorized vehicles as well as to walkers.
- The trail is for experienced cyclists only. Cyclists under the age of 12 must be accompanied by an adult.
- Suit your ride to the trail conditions and to your riding skills.
- Walk your bike in areas where trail conditions are difficult.
- Use proper safety equipment for cycling and walking.
- No cycling after dark.☒
- Plan your ride according to weather conditions: Do not ride the trail on rainy days and do not cross flowing streams. Avoid riding on extremely hot, dry days and avoid dehydration and heat stroke.
- The trail crosses zones of protected flora, fauna and landscape – keep the area clean.☒
- Take your trash with you.
- Do not harm flora, fauna or inanimate objects.
- Follow all signposted instructions on the trail.
- Great effort has been invested in creating the trail.
- Please protect it and report any damage along the way.
- Cycling the trail is at your own risk. No entity is responsible for injury or damage of any kind to cyclists and/or travelers and/or walkers on the authorized cycling trail or on other trails.
- Have a safe and enjoyable ride!