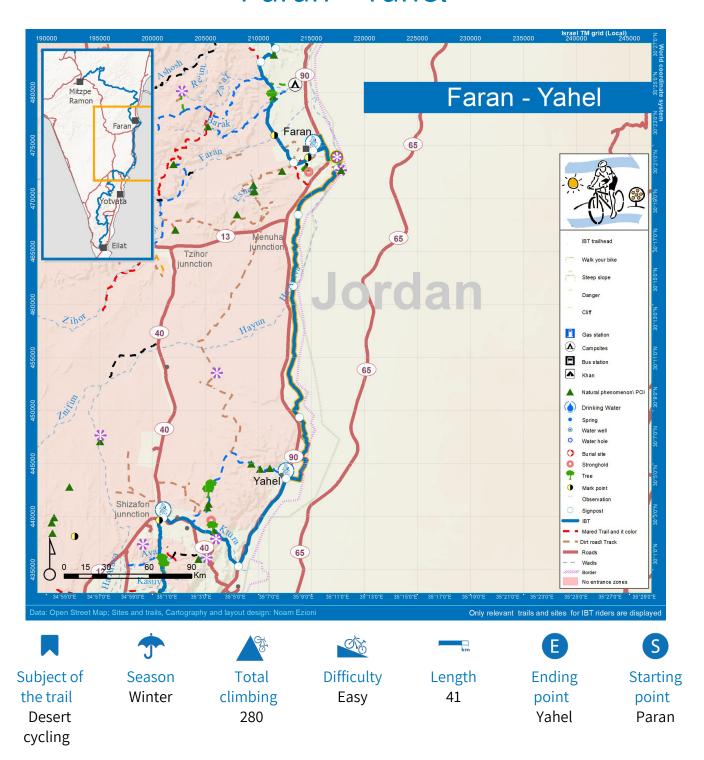
Paran - Yahel



Riding through the heart of the Syrian-African Rift

This is a long segment through a relatively level area, where you'll enjoy the captivating savannah scenery of the Arava Valley and the Mountains of Edom on the eastern side of the Syrian African Rift.

You'll pedal across the broad plain of Wadi Hayun to Notsa Ridge, the highest point in the Arava and part of the area known as the Arava Ridge. This is the Arava's watershed; from here, streams flow either northward to the Dead Sea or southward to the Gulf of Eilat.

The route is mainly level and along unpaved roads, and so it doesn't require major technical ability.

You'll leave Moshav Paran and head east through an underpass toward the moshav's greenhouses. Right after you've emerged on the other side of the road, you'll come to the Hikers to Petra memorial, where you'll find picnic tables and shade. Continue riding to the lookout over the Hatseva Reservoir. In the winter the reservoir is full and attracts many birds.

From the reservoir, continue your ride along the Jordan border, with its interesting history you'll want to get to know.

Pedal on through the arid Arava plains where vegetation, shade and natural water sources are meager. And yet, you'll see amazing agriculture that has made the desert bloom by advanced water management that makes possible abundant harvests of fruits and vegetables.

Your day of cycling ends at Kibbutz Yahel, where you'll find country lodging, water and a warm welcome.

Do not go off the marked trail under any circumstances because it passes close to the Jordanian border.

Climate & Weather

Paran - Yahel 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 <u>here</u>.

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Directions

Starting point: Outside the gate of Moshav Paran, north of the access road to the community.

Directions

By car from the north: From Dimona, take road 25 to the Arava Junction and turn south, taking road 90 to Moshav Paran.

By car from the south: From Eilat, take road 90 to Moshav Paran.

By bus: Bus nos. 390, 394 and 397 from Be'er Sheva. Click here for the bus schedule.