

# Snake River BASE Academy

*Higher Education for Lower Freefall*

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## Moab:

### 1) Prepare before visiting

Apex BASE, located in Moab, recommends that jumpers have a minimum of 40 previous BASE jumps before visiting the area. Be sure to practice object avoidance, and have a plan for avoiding object strike when (not if) you have your first 180.

### 2) Do not underestimate the difficulty of these jumps

Because of the popularity of the area, many jumpers assume that it is suitable for beginners. This is not the case. Most cliffs in Moab are vertical (not overhung) and slider down (below 400' in altitude). This means that avoiding object strike after an off heading opening requires skill, currency, and experience.

### 3) Respect the environment

Remember that this is a public wilderness area shared by many groups. Follow good wilderness ethics and minimize our impact and visibility in the area. The hard, dark spots in the ground around Moab are called "Cryptobiotic Soil." These pockets of life are the basis for all the higher life in this desert environment. They are fragile, and off-trail hiking easily destroys them. When hiking or walking in Moab, keep an eye on the ground, pack your trash out, and keep your feet off the crypto.

### 4) Contact the Locals

There are several local BASE jumpers in Moab, including the staffs of Apex BASE (435 259-1085) and Skydive Moab (435 259-JUMP). If you are new to Moab, guiding to local exit points is available from Skydive Moab for a daily fee. The locals know the area, and they also know the risks. Be sure to follow their lead when approaching new jumps in this area.

### 5) Carry a cell phone

In case of accident, it's important to be able to call help quickly. Carry a cell phone with you when jumping, and check that you get reception in the area. If you don't have service at a jump, know where the nearest place you have service is, and how long it will take you to get there in the event of an accident.

### 6) Be prepared with appropriate equipment and training

Be aware that much of the Moab area is remote wilderness, and that many jumps are in these areas. Carry extra water, first aid supplies, and rescue equipment when visiting remote sites. Training in rescue and first aid is definitely recommended, and jumping specific rescue and first aid training is available from Apex BASE.

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