VERDE VALLEY 4 WHEELERS TRAIL RATINGS (1 – 5 Scale)

Trails are rated using a combination of criteria – trail difficulty, vehicle required and driver's experience necessary. The final rating is determined by the highest score of the three categories.

RATING	TRAILS	VEHICLES	DRIVER EXPERIENCE
2	Unimproved or rarely graded dirt road which may have some mud holes and water crossings, small to medium size rocks and loose dirt hill climbs. Easy grades and side hills. Occasional use of 4WD.	Stock Wranglers, Jeep Grand Cherokees, Libertys or equivalent. Stock tires, minimal ground clearance.	Limited or no experience driving off highway. May need help with low range and basic off road skills.
2.5	Rutty and rocky road. Slow easy going with four-wheel drive. Low range helpful for speed/traction control and to minimize damage. Some rocks/ledges that require low range and some skill to navigate.	Jeep Wranglers or equivalent with upgraded clearance and upgraded tires – A/T or Mud Terrain tires or equivalent. Two speed transfer case mandatory.	Basic 4WD skills and knowledge. Would like help on some obstacles and skills.
3	Quite rocky or deep ruts. Low-range four-wheel drive required due to terrain and loose traction. Trail may have medium to large rocks and ledges, deep water crossings, and steep grades. There may be side hills that could result in some slippage. Some body damage may occur.	Wranglers or equivalent with rear axle traction device (limited slip or lockers). High-clearance 4WD vehicles, some skid plates recommended. Aggressive tire tread and method of airing up and airing down tires. Front and rear attach points mandatory.	Moderate level of off-highway experience. Full knowledge of basic 4WD skills including low range, traction devices and rock climbing techniques.
3.5	Rocks frequent and large in difficult terrain. Low-range four-wheel drive required in sections. Steep hill climbs and descents may be required. Obstacles could result in significant body damage. Some obstacles will require traction devices.	Rubicon Wranglers with high ground clearance mandatory with good skid plates. Traction device (locker or limited-slip) on both axles. 3 ply or more tires strongly recommended.	Moderate to extensive experience. Some ability to perform basic trail repairs. Comfortable with steep climbs, descents and off-camber situations.
4	Trail badly eroded or in very difficult terrain. Obstacles will require technical driving skills to negotiate. Very large rocks and deep ruts will require traction devices. High ground clearance and skid plates required. Body damage very possible.	Fully modified vehicles with oversized tires, excellent articulation, large ground clearance and lockers on both axles.	Experienced drivers fully knowledgeable in all aspects of off road travel. Able to follow and give spotting help when necessary. Able to perform basic vehicle maintenance.
4.5	Severe trail with potentially dangerous sections. Body damage, mechanical breakdown, rollover possible. Significant obstacles that will require technical wheel placement and experienced drivers. Parts of trail may result in vertigo or other signs of distress.	Winches recommended. Full Roll cages and other body protection strongly recommended.	Very experienced drivers. Self- sufficient drivers who require very little to no spotting assistance.
5	Extremely rugged trail through virtually impassable terrain. Winching is required in at least one point on the trail. Body damage, mechanical breakdown, and/or rollover probable. Will be expensive.	Winches and spare parts required. Spare fluids and welding capabilities recommended. Very tall suspensions, trail tested and fully modified vehicles only.	Very experienced drivers fully capable of all trail fixes and repairs. Do not come on these trails if you are not completely self-sufficient.