

# The Energy Loop: Huntington/Eccles Canyons Scenic Byway

The Energy Loop: Huntington/Eccles Canyons Scenic Byway winds across the Manti-La Sal National Forest, rising up to 10,000 feet above sea level. Explore the rich history of industrial development as you view coal mining operations, historic mining towns, and coal-fired power plants. Nearby Sanpete Valley contains some of the best-preserved Mormon Pioneer settlements in existence.



## Local Information

### Utah's Castle Country

435-636-3701

800-842-0789

[Send E-mail](#)

Length: 85.92 miles / 137.5 km

Time to Allow: 1.5 hours to drive or a day to visit the byway.

## Visitor Services

### Fees



There is no charge to drive the byway.

### Bicycle/Pedestrian Facilities



There is a comprehensive bicycle trail guide available that outlines both touring and mountain biking experiences found within minutes of The Energy Loop. There are also a variety of hiking and pedestrian trails available along stretches of byway routes.

### Camping



Camping is available in the Manti-La Sal National Forest.

Follow these links to [reserveUSA.com](http://reserveUSA.com) to make reservations at nearby National Forest campgrounds:

- Gooseberry Group Campground (Manti-La Sal National Forest).
- Flat Canyon Campground (Manti-La Sal National Forest).
- Gooseberry Reservoir Campground (Manti-La Sal National Forest).
- Lake Canyon Group Site Campground (Manti-La Sal National Forest).
- Miller Flat Group Site Campground (Manti-La Sal National Forest).
- Rolfson Group Sites Campground (Manti-La Sal National Forest).

- South Hughes Group Campground (Manti-La Sal National Forest).
- Bridges Campground (Manti-La Sal National Forest).
- Chute Group Campground (Manti-La Sal National Forest).
- Forks of Huntington Campground (Manti-La Sal National Forest).
- Old Folks Flat Campground (Manti-La Sal National Forest).
- Little Bear Group Campground (Manti-La Sal National Forest).
- Big Rock Group Campground (Manti-La Sal National Forest).
- Indian Creek Campground (Manti-La Sal National Forest).
- Potter's Ponds Campground (Manti-La Sal National Forest).

Additional sites include:

- Mountain View Campground at Scofield Reservoir.

### **Food**



There are places to buy food along this byway.

### **Gasoline**



Gasoline is available.

### **Information**



There is an authoritative information center along this byway.

### **Lodging**



There is overnight lodging along this byway.

### **Restrooms**



There are toilet facilities along this byway.

### **Retail**



There are places to shop along this byway.

## **Special Considerations**

Sections of The Energy Loop climb to altitudes above 10,000 feet. Visitors should dress warmly during all seasons.

## **Restrictions**

Some portions of The Energy Loop run through elevations surpassing 10,000 feet. Certain roads may be closed during heavy snowfall.

### Seasons

#### Best Time to Drive

Summer and fall are the best seasons for driving the byway. During the summer the mountains are coated with every shade of green. In the fall, the leaves change to reveal every other hue.

#### High Season

During the summer, visitors will want to drive the byway to enjoy the wilderness area and take part in recreational activities like fishing and boating on the many reservoirs along the byway.

#### Off Season

During the winter, not all of the byway is accessible due to snow, but parts of the canyons are ideal for winter sports activities.

## Map and Directions



### Legend:

Point of Interest	Campground	Featured Byway	Water	State Border
Park	Picnic/Rest Area	America's Byways	Wildlife Refuge	Urban Area
Mountain	Interstate	Other Byway	Wilderness Area	Tribal Nation
City	U.S. Highway	Other Road	Other Federal Lands	Military Base
Capital	State Highway	Trail	Other State Lands	

### Driving Directions

From Fairview, take State Highway 31 east to its junction with State Highway 264, at the top of Fairview Canyon. Here, the byway forks.

**Fork A:** Take State Highway 264 east to Scofield. At this point there's a spur down to Clear Creek. Otherwise head north on State Highway 96, which ends at Highway 6 in Colton, the terminus of the byway.

**Fork B:** At the junction of State Highways 31 and 264, stay on State Highway 31 which veers south. Stay on Highway 31 to the end of the byway at Huntington, about 40 miles.

### Getting to the Byway



#### Nearby cities

**Salt Lake City, UT** (93 miles / 149.67 km, 1 hour 45 minutes)

- Start:**            ⊙ I-15 southbound, Salt Lake City, UT  
                          N 40.758° W 111.905° [?]
- Directions:**
- Take I-15 south to Spanish Fork.
  - Get on US-6 and go southeast to Thistle.
  - Take US-89 south to UT-31 in Fairview where the byway begins.
- Junction with byway:**   \* Intersection of State St and 400 N, Fairview, UT  
                                  N 39.634° W 111.439° [?]



## Road Trip: Scenic Tour of Huntington and Eccles Canyons

**Departure:** Fairview, Utah

**Destination:** Huntington, Utah

**Time to allow:** 1 day

Traveling from Fairview, this tour includes scenic vistas that will make any traveler's visit to the Energy Loop a fulfilling one.

### Day 1

- **Start: Fairview (UT)**

Fairview is a historic community in Sanpete County. Here, you will begin your journey on the Energy Loop.



- **Stop 1: Electric Lake and Burnout Canyon**

**From previous stop:** 30 minutes / 20 mi (32.0 km)

**Directions:** Beginning in Fairview, take State Highway 31 approximately 10 miles to its junction with Highway 264. Follow 264 for about another ten miles and you will come upon a turnout and interpretive signs, along with a view of Burnout Canyon and Electric Lake.

**Suggested time at this stop:** 15 minutes

Electric Lake was constructed to provide power for the Huntington Power Plant. Old mines and kilns that were once part of the historic mining town of Connellsville lie at the bottom of the lake.

- **Stop 2: Scofield**

**From previous stop:** 25 minutes / 17 mi (27.2 km)

**Directions:** Take Highway 264 northeast for 12 miles to State Highway 96. Go north for 5 miles until you reach Scofield.

**Suggested time at this stop:** 3 hours

Scofield was once the largest town in all of Carbon County. On May 1, 1900, one of the worst mining accidents in U.S. history claimed the lives of hundreds of miners. Visit the old cemetery to see the gravestones of the miners lost on that tragic day. A little further north, Highway 96 runs beside Scofield State Park and Reservoir, which provides good fishing for trout.

- **Stop 3: Sanpete Valley Overlook (UT)**



**From previous stop:** same location

**Directions:** Leaving Scofield, go south on Highway 96, back to the junction of Highways 264 and 31. Follow Highway 31 southeast for approximately 7 miles.

**Suggested time at this stop:** 15 minutes

The Sanpete Valley Overlook offers an expansive view of this lush valley.

- **Stop 4: Joes Valley Overlook**

**From previous stop:** 15 minutes / 8 mi (12.8 km)

**Directions:** Go south on State Highway 31 for approximately 8 miles.

**Suggested time at this stop:** 15 minutes

This turnout provides interpretive signs and a view of Joe's Valley below, a popular recreational area for local Utahns.

- **End: Huntington (U.T)**

**From previous stop:** same location

**Directions:** Follow Highway 31 south until you reach the town of Huntington.

At the south end of the Byway, this community is one of the three main communities on the Energy Loop, and it is the last place on your itinerary. If you have extra time, explore the community and all it has to offer.

**Totals for Day 1**

**Total Distance Traveled:** 45 miles / 72.0 km

**Total Travel Time:** 1 hour 10 minutes

**Total Stopping Time:** 3 hours 45 minutes