

Khetwala Canal Hike

Rating: Easy

Best Time to Go: Any time but Monsoon

Length: 2 hours

Distance: Varies

Description:

This hike is not suitable for small children, as there are frequent steep drops along the trail. It is an interesting hike because one gets to see the water development projects in action. 2 km of the trail runs along canals. Villagers have very interesting and sometimes conflicting stories about the canal system. The canal begins at the Wynberg Allen School pumping station on Midlands's stream. There are two possible ways to get there. One is to go down to Midlands stream via Dhobi Ghat just below Woodstock School and then follow the stream down till the irrigation system begins. It is also possible to hike to Wynberg Allen School gate and go down the cement path to the left. The gateman will be able to give directions on how to get to the pumping station. This path leads to the Lower Road (which runs between Mussoorie and Jabarkhet); just after it reaches the lower road there is a branching path down, starting near the employees housing. It is a fairly major path and is partially cemented. This path goes past the Muslim burial site and a shrine. It extends further down all the way to the pumping station. There is an easier way to cross the stream and get to the irrigation canals slightly upstream among the cement tanks.

Walking on the canals is fairly easy with a few exhilaratingly scary parts where either the rocks hang over the path and one must crawl underneath them, or where the drop is steep and it would be wise to walk inside the canal rather than on the edge of it. These canals are marked for distances since the villagers use them for walking. It is 2 km to Khetwala village, but one can go further to Company Bagh, from where the path towards the top of Jahripani Falls begins. It will take about an hour to get to the falls.