

## Tom's Utah Canyoneering Guide Archive

## Chute and Crack Canyons Loop San Rafael Swell, Eastern Reef

Rating: III Class 2

**Best Season:** Winter, spring or fall.

Time: 4 to 8 hours.

Access: Starts and ends at the head of either Crack or Chute Canyon as it enters the

Reef; great loop hike or run. Spotting a car saves about 2 miles.

**Permit:** Not required.

**Equipment:** No technical equipment required.

Map: USGS 7.5' Temple Mountain, Horse Valley, Little Wild Horse Mesa and Goblin

Valley. Carry a map to find the correct entrance to Chute Canyon.

**Cold Protection:** None required; after recent rain expecting wading and muddy conditions.

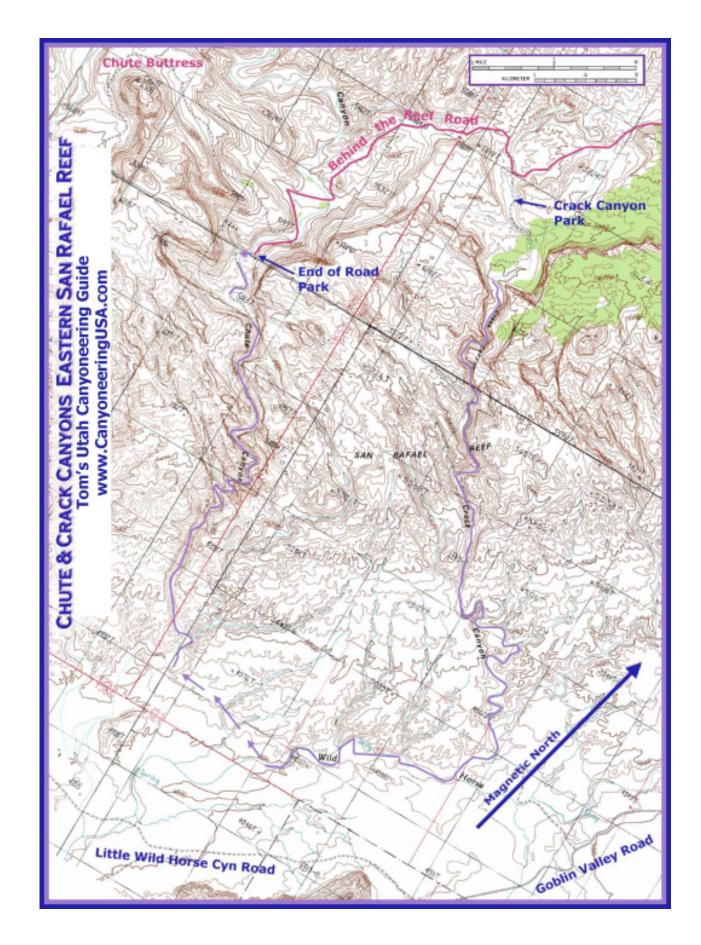
**Drinking Water:** Bring plenty.

Flash Flood Risk: High—do not descend with thunderstorms in the area, this canyon has extensive

headwaters area that is not visible from the trailhead.

**Skills Required:** Off trail hiking, and a few boulder problems in Crack Canyon.

Crack and Chute Canyons make a decent loop hike and a fine winter run. The canyons are spectacular, and the 2-3 miles of stinking desert to connect each end can be tolerated if its not real hot out. Spotting a car or bike at Chute and starting at the top of Crack is probably the best attack. Heading down Crack and up Chute is recommended. Total mileage about 13 miles.



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