


# TOM'S UTAH CANYONEERING GUIDE

## Archive

### Chute Canyon San Rafael Swell, Eastern Reef

<b>Rating:</b>	II-III Class 2 
<b>Best Season:</b>	Spring or fall.
<b>Time:</b>	2 to 5 hours.
<b>Access:</b>	Starts and ends at the head of Chute Canyon as it enters the Reef; out and back hike.
<b>Permit:</b>	Not required.
<b>Equipment:</b>	No technical equipment required.
<b>Map:</b>	USGS 7.5' Temple Mountain, Horse Valley, Little Wild Horse Mesa and Goblin Valley. Easy navigation.
<b>Cold Protection:</b>	None required; after recent rain expecting wading and muddy conditions.
<b>Drinking Water:</b>	Bring plenty.
<b>Flash Flood Risk:</b>	High—do not descend with thunderstorms in the area, this canyon has extensive headwaters.
<b>Skills Required:</b>	Off trail hiking.

Chute Canyon offers a fine, easy stroll through a dramatic sandstone canyon. Were it not for the finer canyons on all sides, this would receive a somewhat higher rating. For those not seeking danger and adventure, this makes a grand way to spend a pleasant afternoon in the Swell.

Crack and Chute *can* be combined for a 13 mile round trip. However, this is not the most charming way to visit these canyons. The couple miles of travel across the front and back of the reef are not human being friendly. Finding the front of Chute requires good map reading skills. But it makes rather a fine run, in cool weather.

**Approach:** From Temple Junction, drive north through the Reef on Temple Mountain Road 2.2 miles to the unmarked Behind the Reef Road. Turn left and drive 6.1 miles to the end of the road at Chute Canyon. (UTM 12S 0520394E 4276096N) There are possible continuations of the road toward Little Wild Horse Canyon, but they are very rough.

**Fun Stuff:** head into the canyon. Walk as far as you wish. Enjoy large Wingate, then Navajo walls. Return.