


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.

