

The SAN RAFAEL COUNTRY Travel Guide



Experience The Roads Less Traveled



SAN RAFAEL COUNTRY
EMERY COUNTY



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Mileage figures for each road section will be listed:
GREEN when heading SOUTH and EAST
RED when heading NORTH and WEST

Emergency Numbers

Emery County Sheriff:
 Emergency 911
 Green River 435-564-8111
 Castle Dale 435-381-2404

Utah Highway Patrol:
 Emergency 911
 Green River 435-564-3474

Medical Centers:
 Green River 435-564-3434
 Castle Dale 435-381-2305

Hospital:
 Price 435-637-4800

Bureau of Land Management:
 Price 435-636-3600

Forest Service:
 Ferron 435-384-2372
 Price 435-637-2817

Road Department:
 Green River 435-564-3574
 Castle Dale 435-381-2550



Visitor Information Centers

John Wesley Powell Museum 435-564-3427
 885 East Main Street
 Green River

Museum of the San Rafael 435-381-5252
 96 North 100 East
 Castle Dale

Explore the Roads Less Traveled

San Rafael Country is an outdoor adventure loaded with color and contrast with Majestic mountain peaks; great for summer hiking and winter snow shoeing and skiing adventures. Beautiful desert badlands full of surprises such as: wild horses and wild burros, both survivors of the Old Spanish Trail. Hundreds of Native American rock art panels, many images thousands of years old. As well as thousands of dinosaur fossils, dated over one hundred million years old. Graceful winding canyon gorges twisting a thousand feet below you. There is even an area locally referred to as "The Little Grand Canyon". The awe inspiring mesas and arches towering thousands of feet above you are a photographer's dream. You may even see herds of Pronghorn Antelope (*survivors of the Ice Ages and North America's fastest land animal*). Enjoy spacious wilderness where you and your family can experience quiet and solitude. We maintain accommodating roads to allow for the extreme adventurer as well as the more conservative comfort seeking traveler. There is truly something for everyone in this hidden mountainous desert wonderland: golfing, hiking, biking, kayaking, canyoneering, camping, fishing, boating, rafting, bouldering, geocaching, OHVing, cross country skiing, snowmobile, 4x4, rock hounding, hunting and so much more. This includes scenic auto touring, which we will help you navigate with the detailed map included in this guide.

San Rafael Country is also blessed with landscapes of vast scenic variety, friendly locals, affordable lodging, hundreds of campsites, and NO CROWDS. We are confident you will enjoy a superior vacation experience. Sure, you may see other people. In fact, you might even see a few dozen vehicles during peak seasons. It is "Nature in the Raw". It is experiencing the back country of Utah, before the rest of the world discovers it... Would you like to discover a vacation experience that is getting harder and harder to find? Then get off the beaten path. That is where you will find the roads less traveled.

We really are closer than you think!

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

The San Rafael Swell and vicinity is a region of untamed beauty and ruggedness. According to the latest Bureau of Land Management's San Rafael Route Designation Plan, there are over 2000 miles of roads open to motorized transportation in the San Rafael Swell. Ranging from single track motorcycle/bicycle routes to wild and challenging 4x4 routes. Many routes are so well maintained that travel is possible even for passenger cars.

This travel brochure focuses on various routes accessible by nearly any *carefully driven* standard highway vehicle, though some areas are certainly inappropriate for large RVs.

While service is available in the communities surrounding The Swell, there are NO services in The Swell, and cell phone service may be spotty. Therefore, before you travel, please review the following **PRECAUTIONS**:

- This is a desert. Summertime temperatures can be extreme, and humidity is often in the single digits. These conditions can be life threatening if proper preparation is not considered. Water is critical, take as much as you possibly can. Drink often. Dehydration can cause head and body aches and in extreme cases death. That would certainly ruin your vacation.
- Take only vehicles in good operating condition.
- Have a spare tire, jack and lug wrench. Know how to use them.
- Start your trip with a full tank of fuel. Calculate the distance you will be driving to ensure you have enough fuel for your return trip. Pack additional fuel (recommended safe fuel storage container) if you are not sure of your calculations or you have not traveled this area prior.
- Most roads have blind corners and may be narrow. Drive accordingly. You may not be able to see traffic traveling the opposite direction.
- Toilet facilities are few, and far between. Toilet paper may come in handy. Pack out all paper and solid waste even if described as bio-degradable. It may cause health risks to the local animals.
- Avoid travel in storms. While most roads detailed here are easily traveled when dry, wet roads can be impossible even for a rugged 4x4. Dry wash crossings can quickly flood and become impassable. If caught in a storm, it is recommended you wait it out, desert roads usually dry out quickly.
- Drive reasonable speeds. Especially on downhill grades. Curves on the dirt roads can be dangerous with excess speed due to loose dirt and gravel. Roads can change with each passing storm. Watch for cattle, large rocks, road wash-outs. Be prepared for ANYTHING.
- Leave gates the way you found them-If the gate was closed, then close it behind you.
- **STAY ON ROADS!!!** This is critical! Off-road travel has resulted in many roads being closed to all vehicles. Please help keep the roads open for everyone!

This guide is intended to provide you with accurate information to assist you in visiting this region. However, it cannot predict changing road conditions, weather, road obstacles, road closures, driver error, mechanical failure or any other number of variables. Use this and other brochures, maps and/or books with discretion and common sense.

DO NOT: Vandalize signs, throw garbage into pit toilets, litter, harass livestock or wildlife, vandalize, make etchings in or touch ancient (sacred) Native American rock art panels, steal artifacts or vertebrate fossils which will lessen the experience for those who visit after you. Most of these things, in addition to being highly inconsiderate, are also illegal. Finally, please use common sense. If you observe illegal activities, dangerous road conditions (wash-outs, rock slides, etc.), or if you are in need of assistance, please call the Emery County Sheriff's office or the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) as soon as possible. The telephone numbers are located on page 2.

Thank you, we hope you enjoy your experience in San Rafael Country.

San Rafael Country Annual Events

www.sanrafaelcountry.com

March

Green River Golf Tournament
435-564-8882
www.stateparks.utah.gov

April

Southeastern Utah OHV Club Annual Poker Run
435-381-2244 - 435-749-1600
www.seuohvclub.org

Green River Golf Tournament
435-564-8882
www.stateparks.utah.gov

Green River Trail Ride
435-564-8112 - 435-564-8144
www.ecso.com

Millsite Golf Tournament
435-384-2887
www.millsitegolfcourse.com

May

Green River Golf Tournament
435-564-8882
www.stateparks.utah.gov

Millsite Golf Tournament
435-384-2887
www.millsitegolfcourse.com

San Rafael Swell Mountain Bike Festival
435-653-2500
www.biketheswell.org

Green River Friendship Cruise
435-564-8144 - 435-564-3432
www.ecso.com

Green River Cowboy Caucus
435-564-3427
www.sanrafaelcountry.com

June

Desert Rock Classic Golf Tournament
435-384-2887
www.millsitegolfcourse.com

Green River Golf Tournament
435-564-8882
www.stateparks.utah.gov

Huntington Heritage Days Rodeo
435-687-2436
www.sanrafaelcountry.com

Millsite Golf Tournament
435-384-2887
www.millsitegolfcourse.com

River Rampage Triathlon
www.triutah.com

July

San Rafael Classic Sprint Triathlon
435-381-2052
www.sanrafaelclassic.com

Cleveland Days Celebration
435-653-2310
www.sanrafaelcountry.com

Desertview Pro Rodeo
435-381-2108
www.emerycounty.com/fair

Emery Days Celebration
435-286-2417
www.sanrafaelcountry.com

Heritage Days Celebration
435-687-2436
www.sanrafaelcountry.com

Orangeville Days Celebration
435-748-2651
www.sanrafaelcountry.com

Millsite Golf Tournament
435-384-2887



August

Castle Valley Pageant (during even years)
435-687-2403
www.sanrafaelcountry.com

Elmo Horse & Buggy Days
435-653-2555
www.sanrafaelcountry.com

Emery County Fair
435-381-2108
www.emerycounty.com/fair

Emery County Lamb Fry
435-381-2108
www.emerycounty.com/fair

San Rafael Folk Art Festival
435-381-5252
www.emerycounty.com/
sanrafaelmuseum

Millsite Golf Tournament
435-384-2887
www.millsitegolfcourse.com

Cowboy Poetry
435-749-0041
www.sanrafaelcountry.com

Crandall Canyon Memorial 1/2 Marathon
435-650-0155
www.mammothmarathons.org

September

Arapeen ATV Jamboree
435-381-2600
www.arapeenatvjamb.org

Clawson Days Celebration
435-384-3285
www.sanrafaelcountry.com

San Rafael Swell Mountain Bike Festival
435-653-2500
www.biketheswell.org

Green River Golf Tournament
435-564-8882
www.stateparks.utah.gov

Millsite Golf Tournament
435-384-2887
www.millsitegolfcourse.com

Green River Melon Days
435-564-8225
www.greenriverutah.com

Ferron Peach Days Celebration
435-384-2350
www.ferroncity.org

Little Grand Canyon Marathon
435-650-0155
www.mammothmarathons.org

Working Horse Ranch
435-749-2975

October

Green River Golf Tournament
435-564-8882
www.stateparks.utah.gov

Millsite Golf Tournament
435-384-2887
www.millsitegolfcourse.com

Goblin Valley Ultra Marathon
877-564-3490
www.goblinvalleyultra.com

November

Green River Golf Tournament
435-564-8882
www.stateparks.utah.gov

NEW



OFFICIAL APP
FOR



SAN RAFAEL COUNTRY

“Visitor information”
in the palm of your hand



<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.barz.tourguide.sanrafael>

<https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/san-rafael-country/id591452851?ls=1&mt=8>

You can use the above URLs to install the app if you don't have a QR Reader on your smartphone.

Museums

www.sanrafaelcountry.com

John Wesley Powell River History Museum

885 East Main
Green River, Utah 84525
435-564-3427

Summer hours:
Monday-Sunday: 8am-7pm

Winter hours:
Tuesday-Saturday: 9pm-5pm
Closed Sunday & Monday



This museum, located on the Eastern bank of the wild Green River, pays special tribute to Major John Wesley Powell. Inside you will find exhibits about other early explorers, mountain men, and river runners, a scale model of the Henry Mountains, failed steamboats, and more. Art buffs will enjoy visiting the large art gallery, full of paintings and sculptures created by some of the region's artisans. Inside the expansive "River Experience Theater", you can enjoy an exciting, newly produced high-definition documentary about Major Powell's amazing expedition. The gift shop has a varied and interesting selection of items, and the selection of books and maps dedicated to various aspects of the Colorado Plateau will impress. This museum also boasts the staffed Green River Information Center, which is fully stocked with travel brochures from around the region.

Cleveland-Lloyd Dinosaur Quarry

Near (See Map)
Cleveland, Utah 84518
435-636-3600

Hours:
Monday - Saturday: 10am-5pm
Sunday: 12pm-5pm

Fri-Sun: Early Mar-Memorial Day
Daily: Memorial Day-Labor Day
Fri-Sun: Labor Day-Oct 31



The Cleveland-Lloyd Quarry, administered, staffed and operated by the Bureau of Land Management, is a designated National Natural Landmark and is one of paleontology's great resources. This is the only known dinosaur "predator trap", and the sheer density of Jurassic bones found here is unmatched anywhere, making this the most productive quarry in the world. There have been over 10,000 bones excavated so far, with thousands more yet to be recovered. Bones from over 70 different dinosaurs have been excavated, with over 65% percent of them belonging to Allosaur, a top predator of the Jurassic. Due to the large number of Allosaur found here, this species is the official Utah State fossil, and also one of the best understood of all the different dinosaur species. Display models cast from skeletons excavated here adorn nearly 70 museums worldwide. For more information turn to page 16 of this guide.

Museum of the San Rafael

96 North 100 East
Castle Dale, Utah 84513
435-381-5252

Hours:
Monday-Friday: 10am-4pm
Saturday: 12pm-4pm
Closed Sunday



Located one block off of Main Street in Castle Dale, The Museum of the San Rafael is one of America's premier small museums. The museum features dioramas of many of the Swell's wild denizens in lifelike poses, hundreds of Native American artifacts tastefully displayed, area rocks and minerals that fluoresce in an ultraviolet room, a stunning and unique depiction of the geologic layers that comprise the Swell, numerous dinosaur foot impressions preserved in coal, reconstructed dinosaur skeletons, a cast of a Tyrannosaurus skull, and much more. The museum also has a staffed visitor information center, and a swell little gift shop.

Pioneer Museum

64 East 100 North
Castle Dale, Utah
435-381-5154

Hours:
Monday-Friday: 10am-4pm
Saturday: 12pm-4pm
Closed Sunday



This museum, occupying the second floor of the historic Castle Dale City Hall, houses a large collection of pioneer artifacts including furniture, clothes, a handcart, kitchen wares, tools, schoolhouse items and much more. There are also several large colorful murals, an area devoted to San Rafael Country's colorful outlaws such as Butch Cassidy, and a large pioneer table where you can sit and read the collected memories and stories of San Rafael Country's hardy, resourceful and industrious pioneer settlers.

Golf Courses

www.sanrafaelcountry.com

Green River Golf Course

130 South Fairway Drive
P.O. Box 637
Green River, Utah 84525
435-564-8882
stateparks.utah.gov



Photo Provided by State Parks



Photo Provided by Flying Sensors

Green River State Park golf course is a golf oasis on the banks of the Green River, with the Book Cliffs towering in the distance. The elevated tees and greens add character to a leisurely round of golf. The course offers fairways lined with mature cottonwood trees and water hazards from the meandering Green River. Surrounded by natural wonders, this nine-hole classic was designed to challenge the experienced player, but remain playable to newer golfers. This Golf Course is affordable, and coupled with a fantastic layout and superb greens, it is fast becoming a destination spot. The pro shop offers club and cart rental, clothing, accessories, and refreshments. After the challenge of nine holes, rest under a canopy of cottonwood trees on the banks of the Green River. The park is a starting point for boaters adventuring through Labyrinth and Stillwater canyons. Annual events include the 184-mile Friendship Cruise on Memorial Day weekend and Melon Days which is held the third weekend in September.

Tee Times: (435) 564-8882 / Accepted seven days a week, and recommended on weekends and holidays. To schedule a group, corporate outing, or tournament at Green River State Park Golf Course, please contact us.

Visit www.sanrafaelcountry.com for aerial footage of this beautiful golf course.

Millsite Golf Course

3000 West Canyon Road
Ferron, Utah 84523
435-384-2887
millsitegolfcourse.com



Photo Provided by Mike McCandless



Photo Provided by Tom Bell

Millsite Golf Course is one of the most majestic courses in the State of Utah! From picturesque desert views to a magnificent waterfall this course is sure to be a challenge and can make for one of the most entertaining rounds of golf you'll ever experience! Located right next to the Millsite Reservoir & State Park, this area is surely one of Utah's hidden treasures! Millsite opened in 1988 and is a nine-hole course built in the mountain area of Castle Valley. Ferron City owns and operates this 36 par target style golf course. We will be expanding to an 18 hole course in September of 2010! Our hole #7 is rated one of Utah's top 18 holes by the State of Utah! The facilities include a practice putting green and modern club house with a full-service pro shop and snack bar. The typical golf season is mid-March to the first of December.

Tee Times: (435) 384-2887/Accepted seven days a week. To schedule a group, corporate outing, or tournament at Millsite Golf Course, please contact us at least two weeks prior.

Visit www.sanrafaelcountry.com for aerial footage of this Golf Course.

State Parks



Photo Provided by Flying Sensors

Photo Provided by State Parks

Goblin Valley

PO Box 637
Green River, UT 84525

435-275-4584
Fee Required
Elevation: 4900 ft.

Facilities/Activities:

Visitor Center
Camping
RV Sites
Picnic Areas
Water
Showers

Group Camping
Disposal Station
Group Pavilion
Rest Rooms
Winter Activities

The vast landscape of sandstone goblins may have visitors wondering if they're on Mars or in Utah. The movie *Galaxy Quest* was filmed at Goblin Valley State Park because of its unearthly scenery. Scores of intricately eroded creatures greet visitors to Goblin Valley. Explore the geology, and camp among the nooks and gnomes in the established campground. Hike amidst these mystical rock formations in haunting coves.

The Visitor Center is filled with maps, brochures, and information for endless fun in San Rafael Country. Souvenirs and cold drinks are also available.

Adjacent to the park, off-highway vehicle enthusiasts will find hundreds of miles of dirt trails to explore.

View video footage of the park on our website www.sanrafaelcountry.com.

Goblin Valley Visitor's Center: 8am - 9pm Late Spring - Early Fall



Photos Provided by State Parks

Green River

PO Box 637
Green River, UT 84525

435-564-3633
Fee Required
Elevation: 4100 ft.

Facilities/Activities:

Camping
RV Sites
Picnic Areas
Water
Showers
Boating

Group Camping
Disposal Station
Group Pavilion
Rest Rooms
Fishing

An oasis on the west bank of the Green River is where you'll find yourself resting in the shade of the tall cottonwood trees and lush green lawns. The park is a starting point for boaters adventuring through Labyrinth and Stillwater canyons. It is also a great base camp for seeing scenic Southeastern Utah with easy access off I-70 (detailed on page 24). The park sports a nine hole golf course with meandering fairways, lakes, and sand traps which makes this a favorite for golfers of all ages and skill levels.

View video footage of the park and golf course on our website at www.sanrafaelcountry.com.

Green River Golf Course: To reserve a tee-time phone 435-564-8882

Visit Utah's State Parks Online for more information and to reserve camping spaces www.stateparks.utah.gov or call toll free 800-322-3770.

State Parks



Huntington

PO Box 1343
Huntington, UT 84528

435-687-2491
Fee Required
Elevation: 5800 ft.

Facilities/Activities:

Camping
RV Sites
Picnic Areas
Water
Swimming
Boating
Winter Activities

Disposal Station
Group Pavilion
Rest Rooms
Showers
Fishing
Watchable Wildlife

This beautifully landscaped park with cinnamon-colored buttes is 237 acres of boating, swimming, and fishing fun. Popular with locals, this warm-water reservoir is also ideal for waterskiing and crawdad fishing. Huntington State Park is a great weekend destination or a perfect picnic spot. It is located just outside Huntington on Utah State Route 10.

View video footage of the park on our website www.sanrafaelcountry.com.

The annual San Rafael Classic Sprint Triathlon is held here in June.



Photo Provided by Flying Sensors

Millsite

PO Box 1343
Huntington, Utah 84528

435-687-2491
Fee Required
Elevation: 6100 ft.

Facilities/Activities:

Camping
RV Sites
Picnic Areas
Water
Swimming
Boating
Winter Activities

Disposal Station
Group Pavilion
Rest Rooms
Showers
Fishing
Watchable Wildlife

Enjoy the quiet campground, as well as boating and fishing on the blue waters of Millsite Reservoir. Golf on a nearby municipal course or bring your off-highway vehicles and mountain bikes to enjoy miles of trails in nearby Ferron Canyon. The Arapeen Trail System can also be accessed from the park. Contact the US Forest Service or an area information center for your own copy of the Arapeen OHV Trail System map.

View video footage of the park and golf course on our website at www.sanrafaelcountry.com

Millsite Golf Course: To reserve a tee-time phone 435-384-2887

Visit Utah's State Parks Online for more information and to reserve camping spaces. www.stateparks.utah.gov or call toll free 800-322-3770

Utah State Route 10

San Rafael Country is a land of wide-open spaces, stunning panoramas, and rugged beauty without equal. The interior portions of San Rafael Country have defeated all attempts at settlement, and today the only permanent human presence is found at the far outer edges of this vast untamed region. This road log will focus on the small communities found in Western San Rafael Country. Like pearls on a necklace, **Utah State Route 10, US Route 6** (detailed on the map), and **Interstate 70** (detailed on page 22) connect nearly every town in Emery County, with few exceptions. Without **Utah State Route 10, US Route 6 / Green River** (detailed on the map), and **I-70** (detailed on page 22) linking these communities and fostering an economic lifeline in the form of necessary services for both residents and visitors, San Rafael Country would be even less populated.

This route covers **Utah State Route 10** from **US Route 6 / Green River** (detailed on the map) to the town of **Emery**. Along the way, it passes near **Elmo**, through **Cleveland, Huntington, Castle Dale**, near both **Orangeville** and **Clawson**, and through **Ferron**. Important intersections and several Historic Markers are also present. However if you stay on **US Route 6 / Green River** (detailed on the map) it will take you to another town of Emery County which is **Green River**.



4 Mile 13.6 Mile 44.9 This road log continues straight past this intersection. The side road leads to the small town of **Elmo**. **Elmo**, features a Post Office, Library, and Park with Picnic Tables. **NO SERVICES**. **Note:** **Elmo**, founded in 1904, received its name from the initials of four pioneer families: Erickson, Larsen, Mortensen and Oviatt. The estimated population in 2009 was 368.

5 Mile 17.4 Mile 41.1 You are at the intersection of Center and Main streets in **Cleveland**. The town of **Cleveland** features a Convenience Store/Fuel, Post Office and Library. They also have a City Park with Picnic Tables and a Historical Marker. At this point on the road log you will turn right (West) and head back to **Utah State Route 10** where you will find many services like lodging, fuel, and more. If you decide to go straight (South) after stopping though, it will lead you towards the **Cleveland-Lloyd Dinosaur Quarry** (detailed on page 16). If you chose the Quarry you will drive for about two miles and turn left (East) at the "Y" after stopping. Then turn right (South) onto a gravel road (follow the signs). You will then meet up with the **5** on your map. **Note:** In **Cleveland** you'll find a wonderful outside museum that will take you back to the pioneer days. A gentlemen named Owen Olsen, his family and several volunteers have worked hard to reconstruct some of the old log cabins from around the community. Please don't miss your chance to visit O'Ville (see town hall).



6 Mile 22.1 Mile 36.4 Utah State Route 155 intersects with **Utah State Route 10**. Southbound, turn left (South); Northbound, turn right (North) and this will take you back to **US Route 6 / Green River** (detailed on the map). Going (West) through this intersection you will find **Huntington State Park** (detailed on page 9). **Note:** There are also three Historical Markers here that briefly describe the vanishing towns of Desert Lake/Victor, Hiawatha and Mohrland.

7 Mile 24 Mile 41.1 Utah State Route 31 "**Huntington Canyon**" (detailed on page 13), also known as the Energy Loop, Huntington and Eccles Canyon's Scenic Byway, heads West at this intersection. Half a mile up this road is the Crandall Canyon Miners Memorial, dedicated on September 14, 2008. On this route you will also pass by the Huntington Power Plant, Electric Lake, both Cleveland and Huntington Reservoirs, and Fairview Lakes. Along the way you will find several Campgrounds, Hiking Trail Heads, and more. This route also intersects with Skyline Drive, which is a breathtaking drive along the high spine of the Wasatch Plateau and located west of Huntington Reservoir.

8 Mile 24.6 Mile 33.9 You are in the center of **Huntington** which features nearly all necessary amenities, including food, gas, lodging, and more. They also have a Post Office, Library, and City Park which is located directly behind the Library. **Note:** The community, first settled in 1879, was named after Mormon explorer and frontiersman William Huntington. Just on the West side of Main Street is a large building that was, until the 1960's, North Emery High School. A Historical Marker is also present that recounts a little history about the Huntington meetinghouse. It was the first structure to be erected in **Huntington**, and was a 40'x60' building constructed with logs-the largest log building ever built in the county. It had rough plank floors, mud-chinked walls, and a dirt roof, with benches made from split logs. By 1890, the structure had been expanded and featured a shingled roof, plastered walls, and a new floor. The meetinghouse continued to serve **Huntington** as a social hall until it was consumed by fire in 1918. **Huntington** is the most populous town in Emery County. In 2009 the population was estimated to be 2,131.

1 Mile 0 Mile 59.3 Off **US Route 6 / Green River** (detailed on the map) you take the **Utah State Route 10** exit. For the next several miles, Southbound travelers will notice the homes and residences becoming fewer in number, and natural gas pumping rigs becoming more common to the West. These rigs are tapping the reserves of the **Ferron** Sandstone coal bed gas fairway. This underground layer of gas is from six to 10 miles wide and stretches over 80 miles from North of Price to South of **Emery** town. The total recoverable gas deposits are estimated to be between four and nine TRILLION cubic feet. In addition to these unimaginably vast gas reserves, San Rafael Country is the location of a number of coal mines and coal-fired power plants. After over 120 years of heavy coal mining, coal reserves in San Rafael Country are still estimated at 2.4 billion tons. Energy related industry has long been a major economic force in San Rafael Country, and will continue to provide energy to Utah, the United States, and beyond for many decades to come.

2 Mile 8.7 Mile 49.8 This point marks the boundary separating Carbon County to the North and Emery County to the South.

3 Mile 11.3 Mile 47.2 Just South of milepost 57 and the **Cleveland-Lloyd Dinosaur Quarry** (detailed on page 16) Sign is an intersection. Southbound traffic wishing to follow this road log should turn left onto Utah State Route 155. Over the next several miles, the road continues in a straight line past fields, farms, cattle and sheep.



Utah State Route 10

- 9 **Mile 30.3 Mile 28.2** Utah State Route 29 branches off to the West, and will provide alternate access to the town of **Orangeville** and **Joe's Valley** (detailed on page 15) or stay on **Utah State Route 10** to the town of **Castle Dale** to continue this road log.
- 10 **Mile 32.2 Mile 27.3** The **Green River Cutoff Road**, (detailed on the map) providing access into the Northern San Rafael Swell and vicinity heads East at this point.

- 11 **Mile 33.4 Mile 26.1** Situated one block South of here are the Emery County Fairgrounds, Park, and Picnic area. The Emery County Fair & Rodeo are held here each year. This is also the staging area for the Castle Valley Pageant held on even years.



- 12 **Mile 33.7 Mile 25.8** You are in the center of **Castle Dale**, the county seat of Emery County. Like **Huntington** the town of **Castle Dale** also features food, gas, lodging, and more. Plus, a Post Office, Library, City Park, Swimming Pool, 2 Museums, and Fair Grounds. **Note:** Originally intended to be named "Castle Vale", the first Post Office was misnamed **Castle Dale** in 1879, and the town has remained so ever since. The estimated population in 2009 was 1,618. The large structure on the North side of main street is the Emery County Courthouse. Directly in front of the Courthouse stands another Historical Monument. It commemorates the Wilberg Coal Mine disaster. On December 19, 1984 fire broke out at one of the entrances around 9pm. One miner escaped, but 27 miners (26 men and 1 woman) were trapped in thick smoke and gases. The fire raged for two days before rescuers were able to briefly reenter the mine, but it was too late. The small communities of Emery County had lost 27 hard-working souls, a loss that still echoes throughout the region.



The Museum of the San Rafael (detailed on page 6) is located just East of this Monument. The museum houses displays of Dinosaur Fossils, Native American Artifacts, local works of Art, wildlife in their natural habitats, rock collections and more. In addition, the museum offers an Information Center and features books of local interest for sale.

Just across the street to the North of the Museum of the San Rafael is the **Pioneer History Museum** (detailed on page 6). This is housed upstairs in the Castle Dale City Hall building. The museum features Pioneer-Era Artifacts in historically accurate dioramas. It affords visitors a fascinating glimpse into the lives of San Rafael Country's hardy Pioneer Settlers.

- 13 **Mile 33.8 Mile 25.7** This intersection, at the corner of Main and Center, is the location of one of the first two story buildings built in **Castle Dale**, an adobe and wood structure constructed in 1887. Turning right (North) at this intersection and then right (East) on 800 North will take you to the newly built Emery County Aquatic Center. This intersection is also the preferred starting point for the **Joe's Valley** route (detailed on page 15).

- 14 **Mile 36.4 Mile 23.1** Just East of here is the massive coal-fired Hunter Power Plant. This landmark is easily visible from many miles away, and is an extremely important component of San Rafael Country's energy industry. As of 2006, this is the largest power plant in the state, generating 1,472 megawatts and consuming approximately 14,000 tons of coal per day.



- 15 **Mile 40.7 Mile 18.8** Just East of **Utah State Route 10** is **Clawson** town. **Clawson**, features a Post Office and City Park with Picnic Area. **NO SERVICES.** **Note: Utah State Route 10** once ran through this small town. Originally, the settlement was located two miles farther East of **Clawson**. This earlier community, sometimes referred to as Kingsville or Poverty Flat, was abandoned due to the soil becoming too alkaline to grow crops. In 1902, a L.D.S. Bishop from Ferron was instructed to assist settlers in selecting a new town site. A local story relates how an essential clip on the Bishop's buggy broke. He repaired the clip, but as soon as he restarted his trip another clip broke. The Bishop then stated: "This is proof enough for me. This is the right place", which echoed Brigham Young's statement in 1847. The town of **Clawson** has been situated here ever since. **Clawson** was named in honor of L.D.S. Apostle Rudger Clawson. The population in 2009 was estimated at 154.



- 16 **Mile 44.7 Mile 14.8** You are now in the tidy community of **Ferron**. **Ferron**, features food, gas, lodging, and more. Plus, a Post Office, Library, and City Park with picnic tables.

Note: Ferron was named after Ferron Creek, which in turn was named after A.D. Ferron, a surveyor. The first settlers arrived near here in November 1877 and constructed crude dugouts along the banks of Ferron Creek. The first white child born in San Rafael Valley occurred here a year later, in November 1878. Two years later, concerns that this first settlement would turn swampy led to the decision to relocate to the present location-an area so densely covered with prickly pear cactus that "no dog or horse could be forced to go through them".

In 1882, the first brick in Emery County was manufactured here. This may seem insignificant now, but in the development of these far-flung and primitive communities manufacturing your own bricks was a major milestone. The estimated population in 2009 was 1,576.

Utah State Route 10

- 17 Mile 45.1 Mile 14.4** At this intersection the road to the West leads you (after a four mile drive) to **Millsite State Park** (detailed on page 9) & Golf Course (detailed on page 7).
- 18 Mile 50.1 Mile 9.4** Just South of milepost 22, the newly paved **Moore Cutoff Road** (detailed on page 34) is to the East of **Utah State Route 10**. This route is fairly scenic and provides access to **Interstate 70** (detailed on page 22).
- 19 Mile 55.6 Mile 3.9** The road to the East will take you to the **Rochester Creek Rock Art Panel** (detailed on page 35). You can also access the **Moore Cutoff Road** (detailed on page 34) from this route as well.
- 20 Mile 56.5 Mile 3.0** A Historical Marker to the West talks about the history of "The Tunnel Builders". Unfortunately, the marker doesn't have enough space to give a comprehensive account of this massive endeavor, but this publication will attempt to explain the history a little more thoroughly.

In 1885, settlers were attracted to this land the town of **Emery** now occupies. However, there was not enough water, even for drinking, let alone farming. In order to provide water, a canal four miles long would have to be constructed along the base of the mountains. The largest obstacle in the canal's path is a large shale hill. To go around the hill would lengthen the canal by two miles, but more critically, it would bring the water to a lower bench level, thus reducing the amount of land that could be irrigated. It was decided to build a tunnel through the hill, which also required a dam to be built across a ravine in order to deliver water to the tunnel.



Photo Provided by Emery County Archives

To quote Edward Geary, author of "The History of Emery County" (which has been an invaluable asset in the creation of this road log): "The building of the **Emery** Tunnel required both ingenuity and tenacity. Existing in a subsistence economy, with no capital to speak of, no trained engineers, nothing but the most rudimentary tools, the settlers labored for two years to complete the tunnel... They calculated the proper fall with a homemade water level and sighted over lighted candles to keep the tunnel correctly aligned. To expedite the work, they sank a shaft in the center of the hill so they could work from four ends at the same time. When the various segments met, they were almost perfectly aligned."

When the water was finally introduced into the tunnel in 1888, the settlers were immediately confronted by a new problem: The shale the tunnel was bored through, ordinarily hard and tightly compacted, softens and begins to crumble when exposed to air. Repeatedly, rockfalls blocked the tunnel. It was decided to timber the sides and top the entire length of the tunnel, which required several more months to complete. Unfortunately, the rocks continued to tumble, except now they also broke the timbers. The newly timbered sides made clearing each rockfall more difficult as there was no longer any room to push the rocks to the side.

This made it necessary to carry the rocks all the way to the end. One giant rockfall in the center of the tunnel filled the upper half with mud three feet deep. This required six weeks just to remove. After much debate, it was decided to remove the timbers, and then they converted the lower half of the tunnel to an open cut, effectively halving the tunnel's length. This undertaking required almost an additional year to complete.

As the community was holding a celebration for the completion of this project, they were interrupted by a loud roar, signifying the collapse of the dam across the ravine. This, of course, left the tunnel high and dry. The settlers responded by picking up their shovels and picks, then constructing a new canal above the ravine.

The newly shortened tunnel was easier to keep clear and continued to serve the community of **Emery** for some 75 years before being replaced by an open cut constructed with heavy equipment.

- 21 Mile 59.3 Mile .2** This is the Northern end of the town of **Emery**. Just to the South of Mile Marker 13 is 300 East. Going down that road, which is paved the entire way, will take you through Miller Canyon Road and on to **Interstate 70** (detailed on page 22).
- 22 Mile 59.5 Mile 0** You are in the center of **Emery** town at a Rest Stop with an information kiosk. The town of **Emery** features a Convenience Store /Fuel / Towing Service, Post Office, Library, and Park with Picnic Tables.



Note: Emery, both the town and the county, were named after George Emery, the former Governor of the Utah territory. To the South, 100 yards on Main Street are memorials to every Emery County service man and women who made the ultimate sacrifice, including such conflicts as Grenada, Panama, Desert Storm and others.

Emery town was founded by the same hardy and industrious settlers that completed the canal and tunnel. The town actually had residents four years before the arrival of water, with the town being platted in 1884. Then in the 1890's, **Emery** town was the wealthiest community, per capita, in Emery County. This was primarily due to the large number of livestock owned by residents. Work commenced on a wood-framed L.D.S. Church in 1898, and the well-preserved structure still stands. This is the oldest church remaining in Emery County, and the only major public building dating back to the pre-1900s. It's far from the only old structure in **Emery** though. The estimated population in 2009 was 308.

As **Emery** is the Southern most community on **Utah State Route 10**, this is the ending point for the road log. Continuing South for just under 13 miles will take you to **Interstate 70** (detailed on page 22). Alternatively, you may take the Miller Canyon Road for a more interesting and scenic drive.

Huntington Canyon

This road log details a pleasant 30-mile drive up heavily wooded **Huntington Canyon**, via Utah State Route 31. This is only the first half of the Huntington-Eccles Scenic Byway (www.byways.org), also known as the Energy Loop Scenic Byway. The Manti-La Sal National Forest offers numerous Campgrounds, Hiking, Biking, Horseback Riding, Cold Reservoirs, top-notch Fly Fishing, Snowmobiling / Cross-Country and Skiing in Winter. **Caution:** Due to the fire of 2012 the condition of the forest is constantly changing and there's possible flood danger, please contact the forest service before camping or hiking in this area 435-637-2817.

5 Mile 14.8 Tie Fork Canyon intersects Huntington Canyon at this point. A stroll up this canyon rewards hikers with solitude, wildlife and an amazing variety of plant life including over 14 different species of trees.

Tie Fork Canyon received its name in the early 1900's, when trees were harvested here to provide railroad ties for the Denver and Rio Grande Railroad.

6 Mile 20.5 The historic Stuart Guard Station, originally constructed in the early 1930's to house a Forest Ranger and his family, now it is a visitor center and museum. Stop in and step back in time! The Stuart Guard Station is open on weekends and holidays, June through September.

1 Mile 0 This is the intersection of Utah State Route 31 and **Utah State Route 10** (detailed on page 10), on the Northern end of Huntington. To follow this road log, head West on Utah State Route 31.

2 Mile 0.5 This is the Crandall Canyon Miners Memorial, dedicated on September 14, 2008. "HEROS AMONG US!"



August 6, 2007, The Crandall Canyon mine located 6 miles up **Huntington Canyon** collapsed. It created a seismic wave that measured close to 4.0. Trapped a mile deep inside the mountain were six miners working the night shift. Ten days later, on the evening of Aug. 16, the mine rumbled and collapsed again, killing three and injuring several other rescue workers trying to save their family, friends & colleagues. Despite the willingness of rescue crews to continue, the search was halted due to the danger and instability of the mine.

This monument bears witness to the dangers miners face on a daily basis. It honors the heroism that prompted rescuers to risk their own lives re-entering an unstable mine in hope of saving their lost brothers. Finally, this monument proves the legacy of heroes is the memory of a great name and the inheritance of a great example.



3 Mile 7.5 This is the coal-fired Huntington Power Plant. This is one of a few such power plants found within San Rafael Country and one of the reasons that this byway is called the "Energy Loop". With a generating capacity of 944 megawatts, this plant has been creating power since 1974.

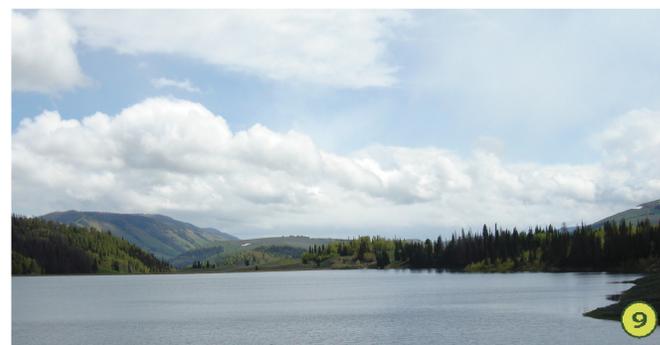
7 Mile 21.1 This is Old Folks Flat and is now a DAY USE ONLY site due to possible danger of flooding. Please contact the Forest Service before planning to hike in the area.

8 Mile 26.6 You are now at Electric Lake Reservoir, which was created in order to provide water to the Huntington Power Plant down the canyon. Far beneath the waters lie the ghost town of Connellsville, which was an old coal-mining town. Already a ghost town before the creation of the Electric Lake dam, the buildings and coal-fired kilns now slumber in perpetual darkness.

4 Mile 8.8 The Bear Creek Campground awaits large and small groups. This particular campground features some spaces capable of accommodating larger RVs and is the first of several developed campgrounds you pass before reaching Electric Lake. Huntington

Electric Lake, like most reservoirs and lakes in San Rafael Country, offers boating, swimming, fishing and summer fun to area residents and visitors.

9 Mile 28.6 Cleveland Reservoir is located just South of Utah State Route 31.



10 Mile 29.9 This is the end of this road log. The intersection for the **Miller Flat Road** (detailed on page 14), heads south at this point. This road connects with the **Joe's Valley** road log (detailed on page 15). Those wishing to continue on the Huntington-Eccles Scenic Byway are advised to continue heading West an additional 10.1 miles to the intersection of Utah State Route 264, which then travels through Eccles Canyon, past Scofield Reservoir and **US Route 6 / Green River** (detailed on the map).

Photo Provided by Tom Bell

Miller Flat

This generally smooth dirt road connects with Utah State Route 31, also known as **Huntington Canyon Scenic Byway** (detailed on page 13). Utah State Route 31 offers three reservoirs (Electric, Cleveland, and Huntington) within a few miles of this Northern intersection. While to the South end it leads you to **Joe's Valley** (detailed on page 15) and Utah State Route 29. These numerous reservoirs provide excellent grounds for anglers to hone their skills. The **Miller Flat** road passes through sun-dappled meadows, stands of tall timber, numerous beautiful shady campsites, and waterways. Plus, you will encounter herds of deer or elk on occasion. This route also offers a large network of developed ATV trails on the Arapeen Trail System. The Lake Canyon Trail System that forks from the main trail will lead to innumerable vistas and adventurous loops. Snow-loving visitors can experience fantastic snowmobiling or cross-country skiing as well. When the desert is broiling over 4,000 feet beneath you in the harsh summer sun, this splendid Miller Flat valley will provide a cool welcome reprieve.

3 Mile 3.3 Miller Flat Reservoir sparkles like a blue jewel just to the East of the road. This is the perfect spot to cast your line and have a picnic while you enjoy the view (photo below).



4 Mile 10.7 At this intersection, if you chose the road heading West, it will take you to Potter's Ponds and on to the Skyline Drive. Potter's Ponds is a relaxing fishing hole with fifteen camps sites, two ponds, and is the perfect base camp for OHV adventures on the Arapeen Trail.



5 Mile 12.8 The **Miller Flat** road is a little narrower and rougher South of this point and frequently travels alongside Indian Creek. Keep heading South to continue this road log.

East of this point you will find another route. Heading East you will come to one more intersection where you can turn North to get to the delightful Indian Creek Campground or South to go through Cottonwood Canyon.

6 Mile 19.2 At the Lowry Water intersection, travelers should continue South to the next intersection.

7 Mile 21.1 This is the Southern end of the **Miller Flat** road, where it intersects with the paved Utah State Route 29 and **Joe's Valley** (detailed on page 15). Turning West at the intersection will take you to the Marina and Campground at **Joe's Valley**.

Driving East on Utah State Route 29 will take you to **Orangeville** and **Castle Dale**. The city of **Orangeville** (detailed on page 15) offers a Repair Shop and Convenience Store with fuel, food, and supplies. While the city of **Castle Dale** (detailed on page 11) features two Museums, food, gas, lodging, and swimming pool.

1 Mile 0 This is the Northern end of the **Miller Flat** Road. It intersects Utah State Route 31 between Huntington Reservoir (photo below) to the West and Cleveland Reservoir to the East. Once on Utah State Route 31, driving West will take you to the Skyline Drive and the Northern portion of the Huntington-Eccles Canyons Scenic Byway (detailed on page 13). Heading East will take you down the canyon on the Southern end of the byway and on to the town of **Huntington** (detailed on page 10). This town features nearly all necessary amenities, including food, gas, lodging, and more.



Photo provided by Tina Carter

2 Mile .1 At this intersection an information kiosk is a very short distance East of this main **Miller Flat** Road. Travelers are encouraged to keep straight at this intersection.

The **Miller Flat** road has many ATV trails crossing your route near this point (photo below). Please be cautious! For more information and maps on the Arapeen trails, please contact our area information centers (detailed on page 2) or visit www.arapeenatv.com.



Joe's Valley



Photo provided by Joe's Valley Marina

This route will take you on a drive from **Castle Dale**, through the North end of **Orangeville**, and up a narrow scenic canyon. You will then wind past whispering Ponderosa pines and shimmering Aspens surrounding the sparkling 1,100 acre **Joe's Valley Reservoir**, located high above the desert heat at 6,990 feet. The reservoir & marina offers swimming, boating, trout fishing, a boat ramp, cabins, and a large 49-space campground. To reserve a camp site visit www.recreation.gov. In addition, the immediate vicinity is an excellent hot spot for world-class boulder climbing ("Bouldering"). Bouldering enthusiasts come from around the globe to challenge themselves right here in Utah's San Rafael Country.

- 4 **Mile 11.1** The road to the right leads up Cottonwood Canyon and Indian Creek campground.
- 5 **Mile 11.8** You have now entered the Manti-La Sal National Forest. As you continue up canyon, there will be several opportunities for anglers to try their luck trout fishing in the turbulent waters of Cottonwood Creek.
- 6 **Mile 12.9** You are at an Historical Monument memorializing early coal production and the Oliphant and Black Diamond Coal mines.

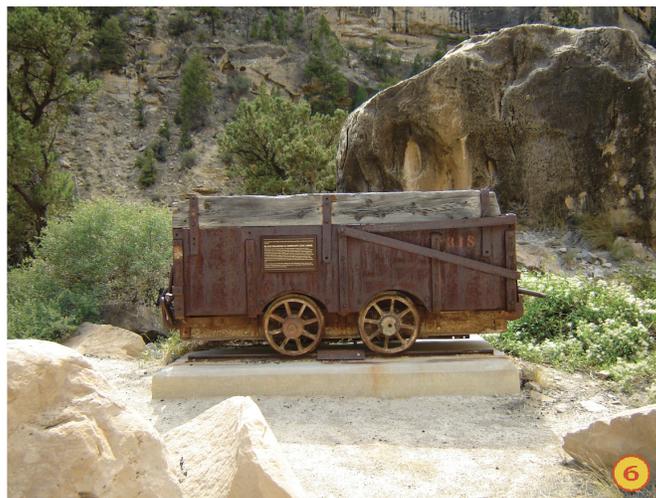
1 **Mile 0** The start of this road log leaves Main Street of **Castle Dale** and heads North on Center Street. Keep straight to follow this road log or turn right (East) on 800 North and enjoy the newly built Emery County Aquatic Center with outdoor water slides, picnic tables, and a group pavilion (detailed on page 11).

2 **Mile 1.1** At this point Center Street intersects with Utah State Route 29. You will turn left (West) onto Utah State Route 29.

3 **Mile 3** This is the junction of Utah State Route 29 and Main Street in **Orangeville**. To reach **Joe's Valley Reservoir & Marina**, turn right (North). Turning left (South) will take you through Main Street of **Orangeville**. This town features a Convenience Store with fuel, food, groceries, and supplies. They also have a Library, Post Office, and City Park.

Note: The first settlers in what would become **Orangeville** and **Castle Dale** arrived here in 1877, making these two communities the oldest in San Rafael Country. The town of **Orangeville** was platted in 1880, but was originally known as "Upper Castle Dale" while **Castle Dale** was "Lower Castle Dale" until 1882. In that year, Upper Castle Dale was renamed **Orangeville** in honor of one of the principal settlers and organizers, Orange Seely. However, Orange Seely lived in Lower Castle Dale and the post office, which served both communities, was located in Upper Castle Dale. The estimated population in 2009 was 1,349.

Over the next 13.4 miles, the route will gradually climb in elevation, and the vegetation will change from desert to a mixed Ponderosa Pine/Aspen forest colony.



7 **Mile 16.4** You are now at an earthen dam, which holds back the waters of **Joe's Valley Reservoir**. Ground was broken in 1962, and the dam was dedicated in 1966. Besides the obvious recreational uses, the reservoir has the critical function of providing enough water to serve the communities and farms of Western Emery County during the many droughts that afflict the region.

8 **Mile 19.1** At this intersection, another road heads North up **Miller Flat** (detailed on page 14) road past several small lakes, eventually joining with Utah State Route 31, which is a portion of the Huntington-Eccles National Scenic Byway (detailed on page 13).

9 **Mile 19.5** This parking lot provides OHV enthusiasts with easy access to the Arapeen OHV trail network. For more information and maps on the Arapeen trails, please contact our area information centers (detailed on page 2) or visit www.arapeenatv.com.

10 **Mile 21** At this junction, a road heads to the left (East) off Utah State Route 29 towards the campground and boat ramp. To follow this road log, turn left (East). If you continue straight, the road becomes a well-maintained dirt road that will take you further into the Manti-La Sal National Forest.

11 **Mile 22** You have arrived at the campground, boat ramp, and marina. **Joe's Valley Marina** offers a Cafe for lunch and dinner, a Convenience Store, and Information Center to serve all your needs. Seasonal

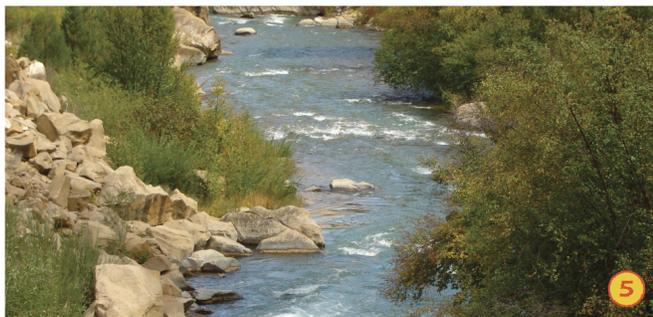


Photo Provided by Tina Carter

Cleveland-Lloyd Dinosaur Quarry

This road log details the route from the future site of the Buckhorn Information Center (on Buckhorn Flat) to the **Cleveland-Lloyd Dinosaur Quarry**. This is not the only way to access the quarry. You may also access it from **Huntington, Cleveland or Elmo**.

- 1 Mile 0** This route starts at the 4-way intersection on Buckhorn Flat, at the future site of the Buckhorn Information Center. This Information Center will have picnic tables, restrooms, OHV ramps, and over 15 information kiosks. The road West is part of the **Green River Cutoff Road** (detailed on the map) and leads to **Castle Dale** and **Utah State Route 10** (detailed on page 11). The road South leads to the **Wedge Overlook** (detailed on page 19). The road East leads to the **Cottonwood Wash / Buckhorn Wash** (detailed on page 20) intersection and also to **US Route 6 / Green River** (detailed on the map) via the **Green River Cutoff Road** (detailed on the map). The road North leads towards the **Cleveland-Lloyd Dinosaur Quarry** your destination on this road log.
- 2 Mile 3.3** Just to the North of this fence line is another less-traveled road. This road leading East along the base of **Cedar Mountain** (detailed on page 17) is the **Old Railroad Grade** (detailed on page 18) road.
- 3 Mile 5.6** You are passing the site of Buckhorn Reservoir to the West. In wet years the reservoir can get quite large. The little stream that feeds the reservoir, use to flow down through the Buckhorn Wash.
- 4 Mile 7.1** At this intersection you will turn right (Northeast) to get to the quarry. If you continue straight (Northwest) at this intersection, you will reach the town of **Huntington** (detailed on page 10).

- 5 Mile 9.3** You are now at another large 4-way intersection. To reach the quarry, continue straight (North). The road to the West will lead you to the town of **Cleveland** (detailed on page 10). To the East lies the **Cedar Mountain Overlook Road** (detailed on page 17).
- 6 Mile 13.4** You have reached yet another intersection, you should turn right (East) which will take you to the Quarry. If you continue North, you will reach the Desert Lake Waterfowl Management area and the town of **Elmo** (detailed on page 10).
- 7 Mile 19.6** You have arrived at the **Cleveland-Lloyd Dinosaur Quarry** National Natural Landmark (designated a National Natural Landmark in 1966). There have been well over 10,000 bones excavated from this location, and there are many thousands more awaiting excavation and study. There is also a skeleton reconstruction of an adult allosaur (and other bones) on display in the visitor center. Mostly due to the abundance of allosaur bones found here, *allosaurus fragilis* is the official Utah State Fossil. This park features water, picnic tables, fire pits, (photo below) and restrooms. They also have several hiking trail options. The "Rock Walk" is a 1.4 mile loop which gives hikers some idea of the geology, natural history, and human history of the immediate area. The "Raptor Point" trail starts just over the hill to the north of the quarry building. This trail is a steep climb some 180 feet up to the viewpoint at the top of Raptor Point. For those interested in even more scenic walking, the "Rim Walk" takes off from the Raptor Point trail a few hundred feet west of Raptor Point. From the sign marking its start, the Rim Walk extends to the southwest for a mile before a small loop sends you back to the start.



Cedar Mountain

This road climbs gently, first across the plains covered with low brush and grasses and then through a dense pygmy forest of Pinyon Pine and Utah Juniper. Eventually you will reach an altitude of 7,664 feet and a breathtaking vista of the entire Northern San Rafael Swell. This is a truly sublime panorama!

Navigation on this road is very straightforward. Once you start on it, the road will lead you directly to your destination.

- 1 **Mile 0** This road log begins at a large 4-way intersection. To the North lies the **Cleveland-Lloyd Quarry** (detailed on page 16). To the West is the road that leads to the town of **Cleveland** (detailed on page 10). To the South you will find the future home of the Buckhorn Information Center, there you will find picnic tables, restrooms, OHV staging area, and over 15 information kiosks. You should drive East from this point though, to reach the **Cedar Mountain Overlook** (photo below).



- 2 **Mile 13.31** Welcome to **Cedar Mountain Recreation Area**. Here you will enjoy picnic areas and spectacular overlooks. You have less than one mile until you reach the **Cedar Mountain Overlook**.



- 3 **Mile 14.7** You have reached the overlook. There is a map at this location to help orient you to the major landmarks of the Northern Swell and vicinity.



Mile 15.3 This is a fantastic picnic area, with fire grates, picnic tables, pit toilets and garbage cans. There is **NO WATER** available here, however. Walking through the picnic areas and on the short nature trail is especially enjoyable and older children will absolutely love this place! There are also many splendid overlooks to enjoy, with plenty opportunities for landscape photographers. After your picnic is finished and you have hiked around the different paths you can return using the same route by which you came.



During your drive to this location you will encounter different types of wildlife from the antelope to the jack rabbit. You will also see horses and cattle from time to time.



Old Railroad Grade

This route, also known as the Lower **Cedar Mountain** Road, follows the general route of an early railroad grade. The main route is not suitable for passenger cars and some short spur trails may require 4 wheel drive. This road offers nice scenery along the foot of **Cedar Mountain** (detailed on page 17), but the chief attractions are several Fremont Indian rock art panels.

The mileage figures given here are only for the main road, not for the short spur trails. Note that there are several side routes not mentioned in the road logs—these undocumented roads only lead to small livestock reservoirs that collect the runoff from **Cedar Mountain** (detailed on page 17).

The narrow-gauge railroad grade was constructed in the very early 1880's at a cost of over \$200,000, using primarily local men. A man without a team of horses earned the princely sum of \$2 a day, while a worker with a team of horses earned \$3 a day. The route was to have stretched from **Green River** to **Cleveland**, a distance of 50 miles. However, it appears that the railroad grade suffered from faulty engineering estimates—the overall grade was determined to be too steep, and the project was abandoned without one foot of tracks ever having been laid.

1 Mile 0 This route heads East from this point, at the junction with the **Cleveland-Lloyd Dinosaur Quarry** road (detailed on page 16).

2 Mile 0.1 The route goes through a gate and fence line. Leave the gate the way you found it!



3 Mile 2.7 A short road heads North towards the base of **Cedar Mountain** (detailed on page 17). The length of this side road is .2 miles. Note that there is a wash crossing .1 mile up this road which may require 4 wheel drive, though the remaining distance makes for an easy walk. There are several very nice panels, including the Silent Sentinel, at the end of this side route that makes this a worthy visit. These panels are nearly pristine—please don't destroy area history.



4 Mile 3.2 The second site on this road log is called Daisy Chain. Look for a large prominent boulder North of the road. There are several images here, but the most prominent are three Fremont human glyphs holding hands (the "Daisy Chain").



5 Mile 3.5 A road spurs North from here towards the third stop, called "45 Degree Rock". The side road heads North .15 miles towards a boulder inclined at about 45 degrees. There are some petroglyphs on the North side of the boulder, including what may be a kokopelli image.

6 Mile 4.0 At this point another road spurs North .2 mile towards a large pile of boulders. This site is called "Railroad Rock" and it features numerous historic inscriptions from 1881, left behind by the hard-working men who constructed the never-to-be-completed railroad grade. There are also several more petroglyphs to be found here, including a rare image of a duck. Please remember that these inscriptions are part of Emery County's historical legacy. Some of the men that carved their names in stone 120+ years ago still have family in the region. Vandalizing this site by adding your own inscription will only serve to remind others you are disrespectful.



7 Mile 4.0 At the fence line you should turn South. This road will then connect with the **Green River Cutoff Road** (detailed on the map). If you continue East through the fence the road condition rapidly erodes, but makes for an interesting walk. Along the way you will come across this old lime kiln constructed during the 1920's and still in excellent condition.

Wedge Overlook

Navigation and travel on this road is easy, and the views at the end are highly recommended! As you travel Southward, you gradually gain elevation as you ascend the Northern slope of the San Rafael Swell. As you climb, the vegetation transforms until you are in the midst of a dense "pygmy forest" of Pinyon Pine and Utah Juniper. The forest will cut off all views until you reach your destination. The stunning **Wedge Overlook**, also known as Utah's Little Grand Canyon, offers unparalleled views of the San Rafael River's deep gorge in the Northern Swell! There are picnic tables, restrooms, and camping areas available at this facility, but **NO WATER**.



- 1 Mile 0** The **Wedge Overlook** Road begins at this 4-way intersection and heads South. To the North is the **Cleveland Lloyd Dinosaur Quarry Road** (detailed on page 16) and going East to West is the **Green River Cutoff Road** (detailed on the map). This is the future site of the Buckhorn Information Center. This Information Center will have picnic tables, restrooms, OHV ramps, and over 15 information kiosks.
- 2 Mile .5** At this intersection, the Fuller Bottom Road heads to the right (West). You should continue on the main road heading South.



- 3 Mile 6.1** You have arrived at the edge of Utah's Little Grand Canyon, with the tiny San Rafael River twisting along the canyon bottom. To the South, across the canyon, is the remote Sid's Mountain Wilderness Study Area, while the view down canyon towards the Southeast takes in Window Blind Peak and the Southern Buckhorn Wash area. From this point, roads head East and West, providing more spectacular views for either drivers or hikers. Watch for wildlife.



Photo Provided by Mike McCandless



Photo Provided by Tom Bell

Cottonwood Wash / Buckhorn Wash Roads

This road log covers the **Cottonwood / Buckhorn Wash Roads**. While this sounds like two different roads, it is actually one single continuous road. The San Rafael River is the boundary - Buckhorn Wash lies North of the River, Cottonwood Wash to the South. The Southern section, Cottonwood Wash, is a wide-open rolling high desert, with low rocky bluffs studded with distant towering buttes. This road is well maintained and is generally a safe road to drive, even for carefully driven RVs. Although flat tires are unlikely, there are some small but sharp rocks-make sure you have a spare!

Watch for small herds of wild burros just north of the sink hole near Jack Ass Flats. If you don't see them, you may notice signs of their presence along the road. The burros are descendants of maverick donkeys that escaped along the **Old Spanish Trail** (visit oldspanishtrail.org). The Buckhorn Wash portion of this route is especially scenic, with canyon walls rising many hundreds of feet above you, enigmatic Native American rock art panels, a well-preserved dinosaur track, and more!

There are many side roads along this route, but the navigation of this road is easy-when in doubt, stay on the main road!

- 1 Mile 28.3 Mile 0** This is where the Cottonwood Wash Road intersects **I-70** (detailed on page 22) and heads North towards Buckhorn Wash.
- 2 Mile 26.2 Mile 2.1** This is a Sagebrush test area, used to study the effects of grazing by livestock. The Western section of the enclosure was fenced off in 1937, while the Eastern section was enclosed in 1961.
- 3 Mile 23.3 Mile 5.0** You are at Sinkhole Flat, with the actual sinkhole surrounded by a circular log fence. The sinkhole is of little scenic value, and is included here only as a landmark.
- 4 Mile 10.8 Mile 17.5** Massive Window Blind Peak is to the East of the road, with the smaller Assembly Hall Peak to the North of it. Rising to an elevation of 7030 feet, it is the tallest free standing monolith in America, one of the largest in the world. It is called "Window Blind" because some of the rock formations near the top on Northeast side look like windows with the blinds closed. Assembly Hall was named for its resemblance to the original L.D.S. Assembly Hall in Salt Lake City.



Photo Provided by BA Grimes

- 5 Mile 10 Mile 18.3** To the West, slender Bottleneck Peak rises to an elevation of 6401 feet above sea level.
- 6 Mile 9.2 Mile 19.1** This is the bridge over the San Rafael River, and it is the boundary between Cottonwood Wash and Buckhorn Wash roads. Just to the south of the river is the San Rafael River Campground, maintained by the Bureau of Land Management. It offers many fine campsites, picnic tables, fire rings, and pit toilets. There is no drinking water available. North of the river are several sandy campsites under the cottonwood trees.



The swinging bridge located to the West was built by the Civilian Conservation Corps in 1938, and was the only bridge over the river until the early 1990's. Though you can no longer drive on the bridge, it is perfectly safe to walk on. This is also one of the stops for the San Rafael Swell Mountain Bike Festival held May and September each year. For more information visit www.biketheswell.org.



Photo Provided by Emery County Archives

- 7 Mile 7.4 Mile 20.9** Calf, Cow, and Pine Canyons enter from the East.

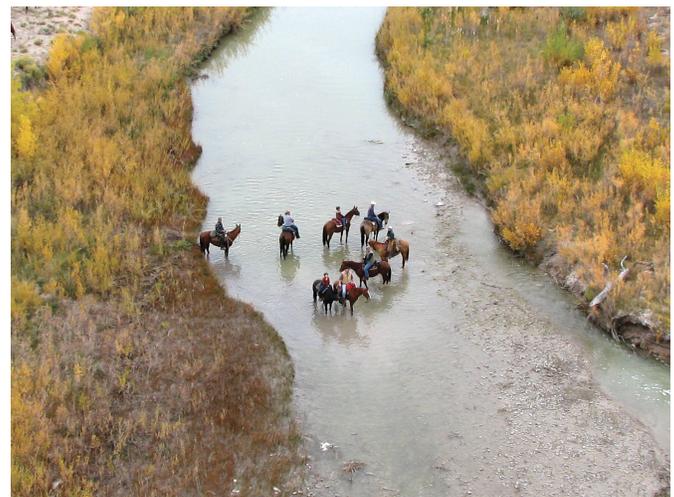
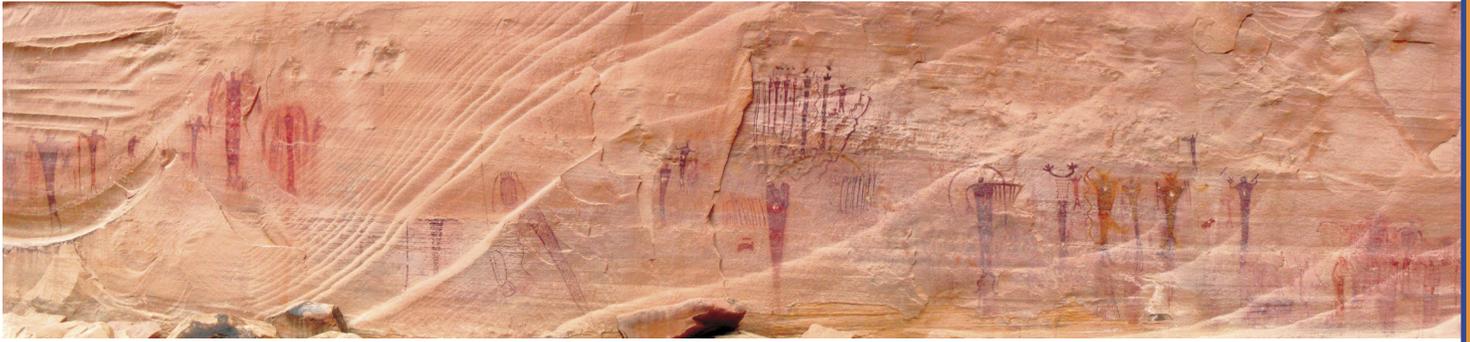


Photo Provided by Tom Bell

Cottonwood Wash / Buckhorn Wash Roads



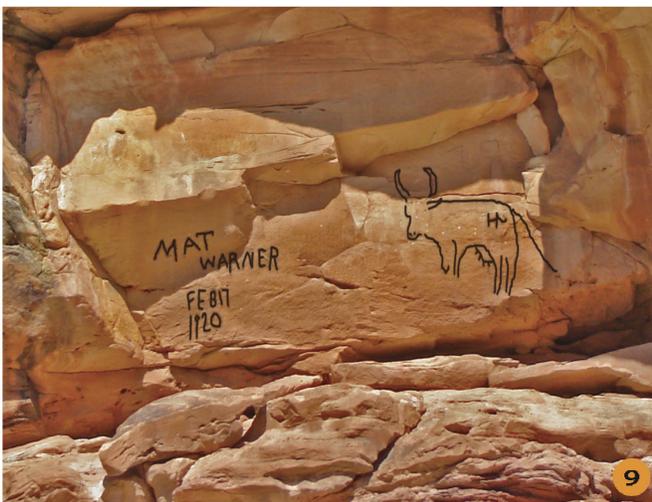
8 Mile 5.5 Mile 22.7 One of the highlights of the entire San Rafael Swell is the mysterious Buckhorn Wash pictograph panel spanning over 130 feet. A pictograph is painted onto a surface, and a petroglyph is carved or pecked into the stone. There are some faint petroglyphs here, but the red pictograph figures are the stars of this site! The main panel was painted well over 2,000 years ago, by a culture archeologists have named "Barrier Canyon Culture". The Barrier Canyon people were an archaic age hunter-gatherer society, living in caves or brush shelters.

The red pigment was created using powdered hematite, and possibly mixed with animal fat, eggs, or some other fluid. For a brush, they may have used fingers or brushes made from animal fur or slender grasses. When painted on freshly exposed sandstone, the stone absorbs the pigments, thus preserving them for thousands of years.

The images here are fascinating, and defy interpretation. It is crucial to remember that sites such as these are irreplaceable, and are considered sacred by many indigenous Americans. Treat these ancient links to the past with honor and respect.

There is also a boulder here carved with the names of the same hard working CCC boys that built the swinging bridge over the San Rafael River.

9 Mile 4.2 Mile 24 Above a sandstone ledge, about 40 feet above the road, is the Matt Warner inscription, dated Feb. 17 1920. Matt was a very colorful outlaw that operated (on occasion with Butch Cassidy) from New Mexico to Washington State for over 18 years. During that period, he frequented **Green River**, operating a saloon and brothel there. After his arrest and three year incarceration in the Utah State Prison, he was released and led a much more wholesome life, eventually becoming a Justice of the Peace and Deputy Marshall in Price. He died in 1938.



10 Mile 2.3 Mile 25.9 Just South of this cattle guard is a parking area. Park there, and notice the trail heading to the East, up a steep hill. There is a large panel of petroglyphs that are only visible once you hike up to them.

11 Mile 2.1 Mile 26.1 To the East of the road is a small canyon. A short distance up this canyon, on the southern canyon wall, is an interesting petroglyph that can be seen from the main road. It can be hard to spot, so look for a series of bullet holes where some fool shot his initials (T.K.G.) onto the cliff. Look left of the letters for a large, light colored crack running vertically. The petroglyph is just left of the crack.

12 Mile 1.6 Mile 26.6 A very clear and large dinosaur track can, with a little searching, be found near here. On the East side of the road is a ledge of sandstone about 10 to 15 feet above the road. There are several paths up to the ledge. Once on top of the ledge, look for a larger flat area of bare sandstone at your feet. The footprint is on this large sandstone area, although you may have to move some flat rocks to uncover it. People often cover the track with rocks to help slow down erosion and prevent vandalism. Unfortunately this habit is also "sanding away" the edges of the track. If you need to uncover the track, lift the sandstone, do not slide it.



Also, please DO NOT try to make a cast. Besides being illegal every attempt, even by professionals, damages the track to varying degrees, slowly destroying it. Dinosaur tracks are a vanishing resource of history and they are not making any more of them, certainly. Don't let selfish desires lessen a future generation's vacation.

13 Mile 1.4 Mile 26.8 A short canyon, named Furniture Draw, is East of this road. There is an easy hike up the canyon.

14 Mile 0 Mile 28.3 You are at the intersection with the **Green River Cutoff Road** (detailed on the map). West will take you to **Utah State Route 10** (detailed on page 10) and the future site of the Buckhorn Information Center. East will lead you to **US Route 6**.

Interstate 70

This road log describes 61 spectacular miles of roadside scenery options for you on I-70. It goes from the Miller Canyon Road at Exit 99 to **Green River** at Exit 160 (detailed on the map). In many visitor's minds, this is the most scenic expanse of interstate in the entire country.

- 1 Mile 0 Mile 61** Exit 99 - This exit marks the Southern end of the scenic and paved Miller Canyon Road, which winds through the Coal Cliffs and provides access to the town of **Emery** (detailed on page 12) and **Utah State Route 10** (detailed on page 10).
- 2 Mile 17 Mile 44** Exit 116 - To the North this exit provides access to the **Moore Cutoff Road** (detailed on page 34) and to the South the Copper Globe Mine Road (not suitable for passenger cars after two miles). It also provides access to the Eagle Canyon Rest area, with nice views into the massive canyon below.
- 3 Mile 27 Mile 34** Mile Marker 122 - These rest areas provide travelers with nice views of Ghost Rock, to the South of I-70. On the rare foggy day, fog can hide the base of Ghost Rock, giving the appearance that it is floating on a cloud. Ghost Rock was an important landmark for early cowboys and sheep herders, especially in bad weather. To the North of I-70 is an area known as Secret Mesa. Cut through with sheer canyons, caves, and heavily wooded highlands, it was a superb place for outlaws to hide from the law. Today, it offers many opportunities for fit hikers to experience solitude and OHV enthusiasts to explore the wild back country.



- 4 Mile 32 Mile 29** Exit 131 allows easy access for nearly all vehicles to the very center of the San Rafael Swell. To the North are the **Cottonwood Wash / Buckhorn Wash Roads** (detailed on page 20). To the South is the **Heart of Sinbad Road** (detailed on page 26) and many other roads which are covered in this brochure.

The interesting cone shaped peak Northwest of I-70 is called "The Wickiup". A Wickiup is a crude brush dwelling used by ancient Native American hunter-gatherer societies.



- 5 Mile 43 Mile 18** Mile Marker 142 - While both view areas offer fine views of the San Rafael Reef from the backside, the East one offers postcard views of I-70 as it cuts down through Spotted Wolf Canyon, with the La Sal Mountains towering in the far distance. The West view area offers aspects into the **Black Dragon Wash** (detailed on page 23). Both view areas are real treats for those interested in geology. The photo below is looking Eastbound from Spotted Wolf Canyon Rest Stop.



Warning for Eastbound Travelers: Just minutes from this exit, the freeway has a sharp 45 M.P.H. curve. Do not take this curve too quickly, or tragedy may result. The freeway and concrete barriers here bear MANY scars as the result of countless accidents.

- 6 Mile 49.5 Mile 13.5** Mile Marker 14 - This view area is only accessible for Westbound travelers. It provides awe-inspiring views of the Eastern face of the San Rafael Swell. This cliff line is known as the San Rafael Reef. Long ago, the Navajo Sandstone was horizontal. When the San Rafael Swell was uplifted, the sandstone along the eastern edge was tilted up to a 70 degree angle.

This view area also contains a memorial to Utah Highway Patrol Trooper Dennis Lund. Tragically, Trooper Lund lost his life during a high speed pursuit in 1993.

- 7 Mile 48 Mile 13** Mile Marker 147 - **Black Dragon Wash** (detailed on page 23) road access. *For Safety:* Eastbound travelers are advised to take Exit 149, then return on the Westbound side to Mile Marker 147.

Warning: Use extra caution exiting and entering I-70 here. This is not an Official Exit. This is just a pull-off on the North side of the freeway, through a wire gate. Turn to page 25 for more detail on **Black Dragon Wash**.

- 8 Mile 50 Mile 11** Exit 149 - On this exit going South on Utah State Route 24 will take you to **Goblin Valley State Park** (detailed on page 8), Hanksville, or Capitol Reef National Park. The Buckmaster Draw Road heads North from this point. Buckmaster Draw is suitable for all passenger vehicles under normal conditions. Some of the roads it connects with though may require high clearance 4x4 vehicles. Sorry, Buckmaster Draw is not detailed in this brochure.

- 9 Mile 59 Mile 2** Exit 158 - This exit gives you access to **US Route 6 / Green River** (detailed on the map). This route will take you on to Salt Lake City, passing through different cities along the way. It is also the route to access the Eastern end of the **Green River Cutoff Road** (detailed on the map).

- 10 Mile 61 Mile 0** Exit 160 - This is the entrance to the West side of **Green River**.

Black Dragon Wash

This section details a short access road with pictographs in **Black Dragon Wash**. This road is only 1.2 miles long one way. Visitors will get an unforgettable view of the San Rafael Reef, and there are several hikes along several different canyon bottoms in the near vicinity.

- 1 Mile 0** This road begins 50 feet West of Milepost 147 on **I-70** (detailed on page 22), just West of a large red rock outcropping. Go through the gate, and close it behind you.



- 2 Mile .7** Continue North on the main road. An optional road spurs West from this point, and continues for several hundred yards towards some cottonwood trees. There are three canyons within the San Rafael Reef near this point that provide some fairly varied hiking. Contact local information centers for more information.

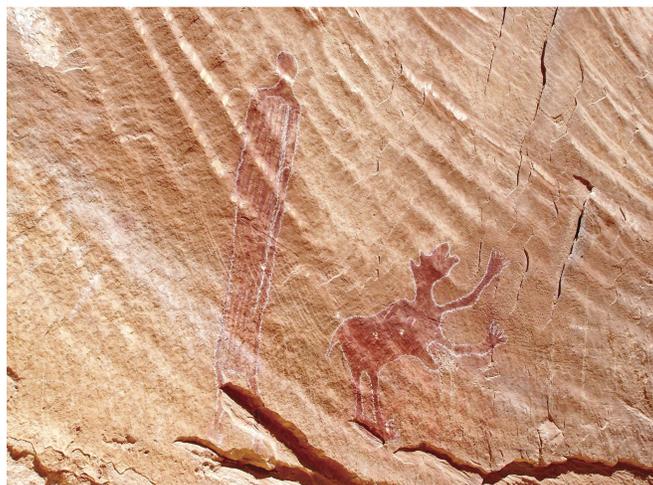


Photos Provided by Mike McCandless

- 3 Mile 1.0** Turn left (West) here, and drive towards the mouth of the canyon. Park at the mouth of **Black Dragon Wash** and enjoy a beautiful .2 mile stroll along the canyon's bottom. Those with a high-clearance vehicle may drive this distance, if desired. There are several pictograph panels on the North wall of the canyon. The trail leading up to these pictographs would be for experienced hikers ONLY. Please Use Caution when taking this trail!

There is some evidence suggesting that these images were part of an ancient calendar system. There are more scenic hikes if you continue up the canyon.

When you are finished, return the way you came. USE CAUTION when re-entering the freeway!



Little Wild Horse Road



This is a very easy, very well maintained road. Its scenic value is fair, but it is included as it is the access for the Little Wild Horse and Bell Slot Canyon hike. The most popular hike in the Swell!

Below is a photo of the northern edge of Little Wild Horse Butte. The fine sandstone layers are testament to a tidal mud flat that disappeared over 100 million years ago.



1 Mile 0 The route starts at the intersection with the **Goblin Valley Road** (detailed on page 25), and heads West.

2 Mile 4.2 You are at the top of a hill. Over the next mile, you may see shiny objects glittering on the ground resembling broken glass. This is actually Selenite, which is a type of gypsum.



3 Mile 5.4 This is the trail head for Little Wild Horse and Bell Slot Canyon loop hike. Hikers are advised to obtain more information on this hike, which is approximately 8 miles total distance, and will take an average person 6-8 hours to complete. Do not start this hike without adequate information, adequate water and adequate fitness. A shortage of any could result in tragedy.



There is a BLM information kiosk here that usually has maps of the route. There are also BLM maintained toilet facilities available.

The road does continue beyond this point, but is not covered in this brochure. Proceed at your own risk.



Photos Provided by Mike McCandless

Goblin Valley State Park Road

This road doesn't require much in the way of navigating, as it is paved the entire distance with no confusing intersections. It will provide access to the surreal, other-worldly Goblin Valley State Park, a crown jewel in the Utah State Park's system. Thousands of cocoa-brown toadstools, faces, turtles, goblins, and "who-knows-what" await your imagination. No trip to Utah is complete without a visit to this most bizarre of destinations!

- 1 **Mile 0** This is the intersection where the **Heart of Sinbad Road** (detailed on page 26) begins. Head South to follow this road log.
- 2 **Mile 1.6** The low brown formations to the East are the Gilson Buttes. The two large flat-topped mesas in the middle distance have the obvious name "The Flat Tops". They were and still are crucial landmarks for the area's cowboys and cowgirls. Outlaws also used these land marks while heading towards the Robber's Roost area.



- 3 **Mile 2.7** The brown butte you see is Molly's Castle. The mountains looming to the South are the Henry Mountains. These mountains have the distinction of being the last mountain range in the lower 48 states to be discovered and mapped. They also harbor America's only herd of bison (Buffalo) that can be hunted.



Photos Provided by State Parks

- 4 **Mile 3.4** The large butte to the South is Wild Horse Butte, which looms over the Goblin Valley parking area.
- 5 **Mile 5.8** Here, as you cross a cattle guard, is the boundary of Goblin Valley State Park. This is a fee area for both day use and camping. This park has a gift shop, toilet facilities, and campers who stay at the park also have access to hot showers and an RV dump. The actual Valley of the Goblins is 1.9 miles down the road.



- 6 **Mile 6** The **Little Wild Horse Road** (detailed on page 24) heads West from here.
- 7 **Mile 7.7** You have reached the parking area overlooking the Valley of the Goblins.



The small valley is home to thousands of intricately eroded brown stone "goblins" that will set your imagination whirling! Although there are some actual hiking trails, the valley is perfect for freestyle wandering and exploring. Kids will adore this park. Nearly anybody can, and should, spend time just walking around the place. The odd scenery and almost total lack of plant life make this a very alien like landscape. In fact, Goblin Valley doubled as another planet in the 1999 film "Galaxy Quest", starring Tim Allen and Sigourney Weaver. Goblin Valley also appeared in "City Slickers 2, The Legend of Curly's Gold," starring Billy Crystal and Jack Palance.



Heart of Sinbad Road

This route details the 24 miles from the large 4-way intersection between Temple Mountain and Utah State Route 24 to Interstate 70 at Exit 131. The road is fine for passenger vehicles, and offers stellar views of the Southern San Rafael Reef and Temple Mountain. This road also provides access to other terrific routes in the Southern Swell.

Temple Mountain, which looms above the campground, is riddled with uranium mines and artifacts from the mining era. This entire area is a great place to explore on bike, ATV, 4x4, horseback or your own two feet!

1 Mile 24.2 Mile 0 You are at a large 4-way intersection. To the North is the road for North Temple Wash, and to the South is **Goblin Valley State Park** (detailed on page 8) and the **Wild Horse Road** (detailed on page 24). The **Heart of Sinbad Road** heads West from here.

2 Mile 23.6 Mile .5 This is a newly constructed group camp area complete with two large pit toilets. This camping area can easily handle large motor homes and camp trailers. This is also an excellent OHV staging area.



Photo Provided by Tina Carter

6 Mile 21.9 Mile 2.3 This is the intersection with the **Behind the Reef Road** (detailed on page 27). That road offers good scenery and access to some adventurous hiking.

Over the next several miles, Southbound visitors will have splendid views of the Reef, the Henry Mountains to the South, and other area landmarks. Northbound visitors should get out once in a while and take in the panorama.

7 Mile 12.9 Mile 10.4 This is the intersection for the **McKay Flat / Hondu Arch Road** (detailed on page 28). That road will give you access to the **Hidden Splendor Mine Road** (detailed on page 29), and the South end of the **Reds Canyon Loop** (detailed on page 30).

8 Mile 10.1 Mile 13.2 This is the intersection of the Taylor Flat Road which will lead you to **Rod's Valley** (detailed on page 31).

9 Mile 5.0 Mile 18.2 The road heading West is alternate access for the **Swasey's Cabin Road** (detailed on page 32).



10 Mile 4.0 Mile 19.2 This is where the **Swasey's Cabin Road** (detailed on page 32) heads West.

11 Mile 0 Mile 24.2 The Heart of Sinbad Road has intersected **I-70** (detailed on page 22) at Exit 131. The road goes under **I-70** and becomes the **Cottonwood Wash / Buckhorn Wash** road (detailed on page 20).

3 Mile 23.2 Mile .9 To the North of the road is a large parking area with a big metal pipe sticking out of the ground. From the parking area, look North under an overhang on the cliff face-there are several Barrier Canyon style pictographs here, as well as one Fremont Indian pictograph. The Fremont pictograph is the horned figure at the far left of the panel and probably dates back nearly 1,000 years. The Barrier Canyon figures date back at least 2,500 years. This panel is damaged, but mostly due to natural erosion. Unfortunately, the panel has also been vandalized by nit-wits. Don't be one!



4 Mile 22.8 Mile 1.4 This is where the road changes from paved to dirt. Keep your eyes open for antelope, wild horses, and burros.

5 Mile 22.1 Mile 2.1 To the North is another new group camping area, with pit toilets. There are also several historical stone buildings that were constructed in the very early 1900's during a radium mining boom.

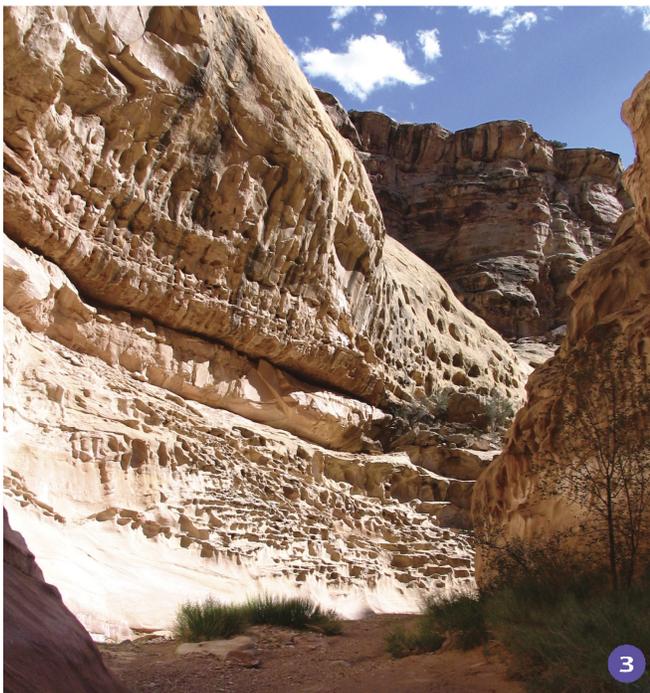
Behind The Reef Road

This scenic drive is for those who would like to see the San Rafael Reef a little bit more “up close and personal”. The very scenic road also provides access to several fine hiking opportunities-Please inquire at local information centers for more information on these excellent hikes! Under normal conditions, this road is passable to all standard passenger vehicles. There are some primitive campsites along this road, as well.

The photos below are from our annual Arapeen ATV Jamboree held every September. For more information on this event visit www.arapeenatvjam.org.



- 1 Mile 0** This is where the Behind the Reef road intersects with the **Heart of Sinbad Road** (detailed on page 26).
- 2 Mile 1.6** The break in the cliff line of the Reef is Wild Horse Wash (NOT to be confused with Little Wild Horse Wash). The road heading South/Southeast from this point leads toward the top of this canyon.
- 3 Mile 4.1** Another break in the cliff line, another road heading South. This road leads to the mouth of Crack Canyon. This is also a great Canyon to hike in. Again take plenty of water. Excellent “Swiss Cheese” rock (geologists call this phenomena “tafoni”) can be found near the top of this canyon.



- 4 Mile 6.3** The road log ends here at the mouth of Chute Canyon, which is broader than Crack canyon, but not so wide as Wild Horse Wash. The road continues for a distance beyond this point, but becomes a rough ATV trail and is beyond the scope of this publication.



McKay Flat / Hondu Arch Road

This road will take you through the untamed back country before ending at the towering Hondu Arch. This is a must for any natural arch enthusiast! This route also intersects with the end and then the beginning portion of **Reds Canyon Road** (detailed on page 30) at stop 3. If you loop around through **Reds Canyon Road** you will find one of the most scenic loop drives on the entire Colorado Plateau (high clearance vehicle advised to drive the entire loop). The **McKay Flat / Hondu Arch Road** is normally fine for most passenger cars. However, road conditions can change after storms. Check with local information centers for up to date road conditions.

- 1 **Mile 0 Mile 18** You are now at the intersection of McKay Flat and the **Heart of Sinbad Road** (detailed on page 26). The McKay Flat Road heads West at this intersection.



- 2 **Mile 2.7 Mile 15.3** The **Rod's Valley Road** (detailed on page 31) heads North from here. This road log continues heading Southwest from here.
- 3 **Mile 3.7 Mile 14.3** To the North is **Reds Canyon Road** (detailed on page 30). You will continue driving Southwest for this road log.
- 4 **Mile 12.3 Mile 5.7** The **Hidden Splendor Road** (detailed on page 29) heads South at this intersection. The 5 miles between this intersection and the South end of the **Reds Canyon Road** intersection will occasionally have steep grades. Drive accordingly!



- 5 **Mile 17.3 Mile .7** You are at the intersection of the South end of **Reds Canyon Road** (detailed on page 30). Continuing West on this road log will take you to Tomsich Butte which is the large sandstone monolith just West of this intersection.

You will also pass by the old Dirty Devil uranium mines over the next .7 miles.



DON'T ENTER THE MINES! Rockfalls, old dynamite, radioactive dust and gases, and deadly drop-offs are but a few of the perils.

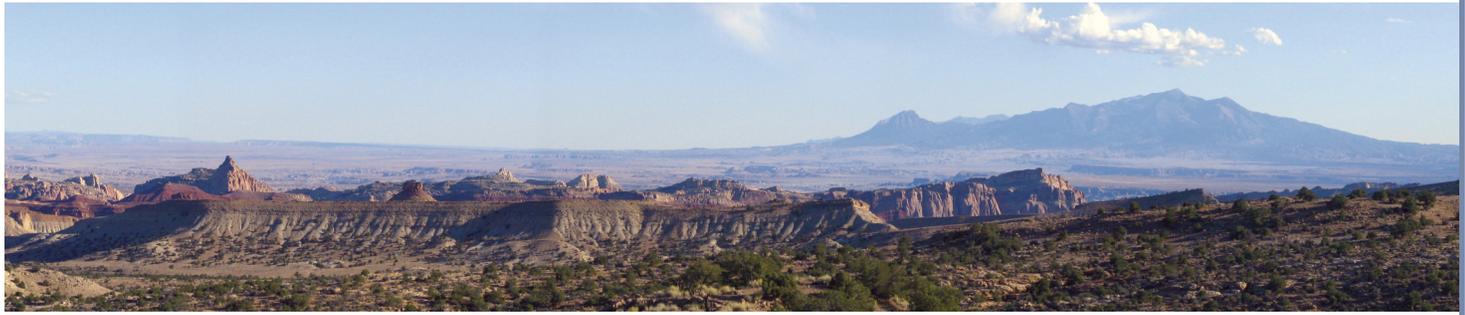


- 6 **Mile 18 Mile 0** You have reached the Hondu Arch which towers to the South. The opening of Hondu (commonly spelled "Hondoo") Arch reminded early explorers of the knot in a cowboy's lariat, which the Spanish call a Hondoo.



Photos Provided by Tina Carter

Hidden Splendor Road



This route provides many scenic panoramas of the Southern San Rafael Reef, as well as access for some wonderful camping and hiking in the area. If you are lucky, you may also see some of the many wild horses that dwell in the Swell. In addition, this road has an elevation of 6,554 feet at the Northern end and 4,878 at the South end—a drop of nearly 1,700 feet over 4 miles. Make certain your brakes are in good shape. You may want to shift into a lower gear for some downgrades.

4 Mile 10.0 You have reached Hidden Splendor Mine Area, also known as the “Delta” mine. At one time this was the top producing uranium mine in the Swell. There is a large green pile of tailings next to the road, it would NOT be a good idea to let children play on them or collect them! In addition, there are some concrete foundations in the area.

1 Mile 0 You are at the intersection on the **McKay Flat / Hondu Arch Road** (detailed on page 28). The **Hidden Splendor Road** heads South from here.



There is a dirt landing strip which is still used by small aircraft from time to time. There are primitive campsites in this very scenic location, but very little firewood. Camping on the dirt runway is prohibited. In fact, interfering with aircraft or aircraft operations is a Federal Crime.

There are also several great hiking and horseback trails starting from this point. Please inquire at local information centers for more information. Hidden Splendor Mine Camp (photo below).

2 Mile 3.7 At this point, the road begins a long descent. Control your speed, and be cautious on blind corners.

3 Mile 7.6 The downhill portion of this road log has ended.



Photo Provided by Mike McCandless

Reds Canyon Road

This road, when combined with the **McKay Flat / Hondu Arch Road** (detailed on page 28), forms the scenic and enjoyable **Reds Canyon Loop**. This road provides access to a rugged and remote back country that will delight your senses! However, due to the nature of this road (long stretches are in a wash bottom), driving a high-clearance vehicle is strongly advised.



- 1 **Mile 0 Mile 15.3** This is the intersection with the **McKay Flat / Hondu Arch Road** (detailed on page 28). Tomsich Butte is to the West.



- 2 **Mile 2.7 Mile 12.6** Tomsich Butte is to the South behind the cab of this old truck. The large butte to the West is named North Butte.

- 3 **Mile 5.9 Mile 9.4** The road heading West at this intersection goes to the Lucky Strike mining area. That road ends in .9 mile at an old settlement. There are several old cabins and other artifacts of the uranium boom here, in a spectacular setting. This is definitely worth a visit.

These represent a quickly vanishing part of history. PLEASE do not vandalize these structures or collect any historical artifacts!



- 4 **Mile 11.2 Mile 4.1** The bottom of a long grade. Those going North/ East begin heading uphill.

- 5 **Mile 13.6 Mile 1.7** The top of a long grade. Those heading South/ West begin a long descent. Watch your speed!

- 6 **Mile 15.3 Mile 0** This is the North end of the **McKay Flat / Hondu Arch Road** (detailed on page 28).

Rod's Valley

This road log details the 6.6 miles from the **Swasey's Cabin** area (detailed on page 32) to **McKay Flat / Hondu Arch Road** (detailed on page 28). Although there are worthwhile scenic vistas, the main reason for driving this route is as a shortcut between the **Swasey's Cabin** (detailed on page 32) and the **Reds Canyon Road** (detailed on page 30). Due to the challenging .3 miles of a steep graded road, this route requires a high-clearance 4x4 .

- 1 **Mile 0 Mile 6.6** This route heads South from the intersection of the **Swasey's Cabin Road** (detailed on page 32). Keep your eyes open for herds of wild horses and burros that live in the Swell.



- 2 **Mile .5 Mile 6.1** You are at the edge of a forest of Utah Juniper and Pinon Pine. If you are driving South, you will occasionally be in thick stands of the pygmy forest for the next 1.3 miles.



- 3 **Mile 1.3 Mile 5.3** A confusing intersection for those traveling South. At a rough spot in the road, another route heads to the West. Continue heading South for this road log though. Visitors heading North may not even notice this intersection.



- 4 **Mile 1.5 Mile 5.1** If you are traveling South you have reached the challenging part of this road and may want to consider shifting into a lower gear.



Photo Provided by Mike McCandless

- 5 **Mile 1.8 Mile 4.8** You are now past the steep grade. For those heading North, the next .3 miles will be the roughest spot on your journey. For those driving South, you have reached the northern edge of **Rod's Valley**. Your trip just became much easier!



- 6 **Mile 3.5 Mile 3.0** A spur road heading West leads to an old uranium mine.

- 7 **Mile 6.1 Mile .5** You have reached the South end of the **Rod's Valley** Road. Turn East at the intersection onto the Taylor Flat Road. Continue West for this road log.

- 8 **Mile 6.6 Mile 0** Here is the intersection of **McKay Flat / Hondu Arch Road** (detailed on page 28). If you continue left (East) on **McKay Flat / Hondu Arch Road** you will meet with the **Heart of Sinbad Road** (detailed on page 26). Going right (West) the **McKay Flat / Hondu Arch Road** will intersect with the **Reds Canyon Road** (detailed on page 30).

Swasey's Cabin Road

This road log details the route to **Swasey's Cabin**, and provides access to several other very worthwhile sites in the area. The drive is scenic, but the destination is even more so. Under normal conditions, this road is fine for most passenger cars. Recent rains can leave some muddy sections.

- 1 Mile 0** This is the intersection with the **Heart of Sinbad Road** (detailed on page 26). The **Swasey's Cabin Road** goes West from this point.
- 2 Mile .2** The road passes just South of a pond. During drought years, it often dries up.
- 3 Mile 1.0** At this intersection, the road heading Southeast will join with the **Heart of Sinbad Road** (detailed on page 26). You should continue heading West.
- 4 Mile 4.5** You have reached the intersection that will take you under **I-70** (detailed on page 22) to the **Dutchman's Arch / Head of Sinbad** (detailed on page 33).



- 5 Mile 6.1** The road heading West will take you to the Lone Warrior pictograph panel. It is worth a look, but the road is prone to erosion. High clearance vehicles are advised! If you decide to visit the site, you will reach the panel after only .5 mile. NOTE: The panel is found at the SECOND log fence, but you will need to hike in past the first fence.
- 6 Mile 6.9** The road heading South from this intersection is the **Rod's Valley Road** (detailed on page 31). To access **Swasey's Cabin**, turn West here.



Photo Provided by Tina Carter

- 7 Mile 7.6** You have reached **Swasey's Cabin**, and the Broken Cross pinnacle that towers just to the Southwest of the cabin. The cabin was built in 1921, but the wild Swasey Boys (including Joe, Sid, Charley, and Rod) started running cattle out here decades before they finally built the cabin, usually sleeping in the open or in shallow caves. The Swaseys are responsible for naming many landmarks in the Swell, including Joe and His Dog, the Sid and Charley pinnacles, Rod's Valley, Eagle Canyon, Sid's Mountain, Cliff Dweller Flat, and MANY more. Some of their exploits were remarkable, including the one that occurred at a place appropriately named "Sid's Leap", where Sid bet his brother Charley a small herd of cattle that Sid, on horseback, could jump 12 feet across the San Rafael River. Of course, the river was 80 feet below! Sid was successful and the cows were his.



The road does continue beyond this point, but quickly becomes a more rugged 4x4 trail as it descends into Eagle Canyon-car based SUVs not advised! There is an immense natural arch (Eagle Arch) 1.5 miles down the canyon (photo below).



Photo Provided by Tina Carter

Dutchman's Arch / Head of Sinbad

This route will take you to the **Dutchman's Arch** and the **Head of Sinbad** Pictograph Panel. The arch is seldom visited and the panel is a must see for those fascinated by Native American Rock Art! The last .3 mile may be eroded, requiring careful tire placement in places. Passenger cars should not attempt this route. A high clearance vehicle is required.



Photo Provided by Tina Carter

5 Mile 2.5 You have reached the **Head of Sinbad** Pictograph Panel. These very mysterious images are attributed to the Barrier Canyon Culture, and are at least 3,000 years old. They are also among the finest examples of prehistoric art in the world. In January 1980 they were featured in National Geographic's Magazine as National Treasures and they truly are.

Please do not touch them and let's help them last at least another 3,000 years.

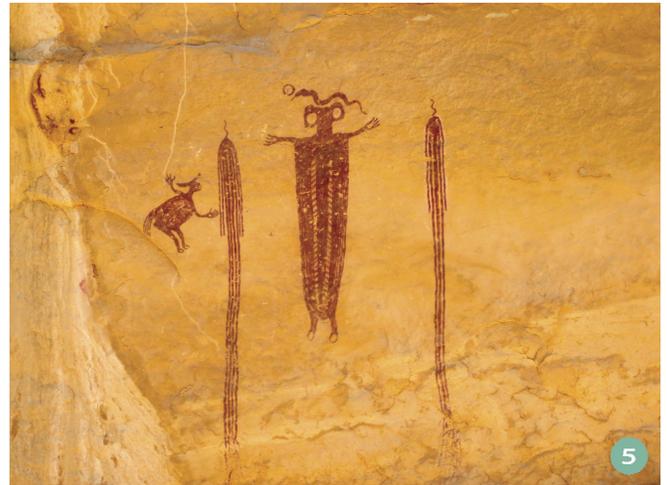


Photo Provided by Tina Carter

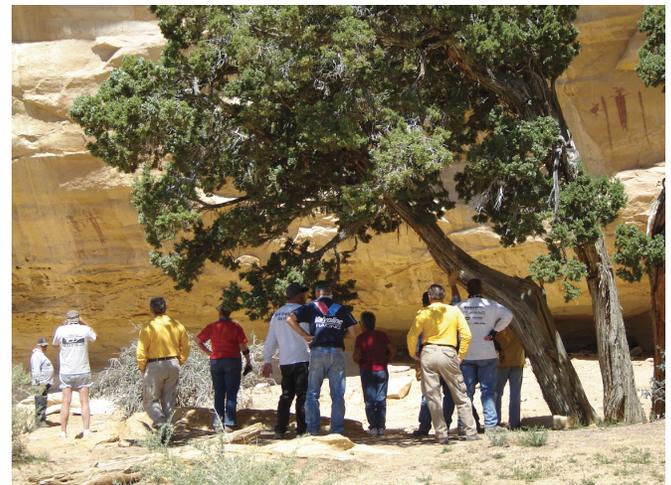
- 1 Mile 0** The road heads North, towards **I-70** (detailed on page 22). Drive underneath **I-70** and continue North.
- 2 Mile .5** At this intersection head West. This will take you to **Dutchman's Arch**.
- 3 Mile 1.1** You have arrived at **Dutchman's Arch**. Though plainly visible from **I-70** (detailed on page 22), few highway travelers ever notice it. Please do not camp here. Camping at this location is a selfish act as other visitors don't enjoy photographing and wandering through your campsite.



Photo Provided by Mike McCandless

For a nice photograph, the central figures can be framed between the trunks of the Juniper tree that stands before it. There is also a panorama to the South that is quite nice.

Please use caution and return the way you came.



The road does continue past this point, but quickly becomes a difficult OHV trail. Those interested in hiking (the length and difficulty are up to you-BRING WATER) can do so from this point. The scenery is amongst the finest to be had in the San Rafael Swell with incredible panoramas and cliff-edge views.

- 4 Mile 1.6** Continuing East from location **2** on your map. This will take you to the **Head of Sinbad** Pictograph Panel. Turn North towards the sandstone bluff.

Moore Cutoff Road

This scenic road on the Western bulge of the San Rafael Swell is newly paved. There are some very fine petroglyphs, a set of dinosaur tracks, and some wonderful vistas!

- 1 **Mile 19.7 Mile 0** The **Moore Cutoff Road** meets **I-70** (detailed on page 22) here at Exit 116.
- 2 **Mile 13.7 Mile 6** The Red Ledges are South of here. There is also a slender arch along the edge of the cliffs.



2

Photo Provided by Mike McCandless

- 3 **Mile 9.3 Mile 10.4** Here you will find quite a few dinosaur tracks that were discovered during the paving of the **Moore Cutoff Road**. Here are a couple of examples. Please do not disturb these tracks, so others can enjoy them as well.



3



3

Photos Provided by Tina Carter

- 4 **Mile 7.1 Mile 12.6** At this point, as the road bends around a bluff, there is a pull out to the North that ends near several boulders with Fremont Indian petroglyphs upon them. There are two especially nice snake images, one over 10 feet in length.



4



4

Also, a short distance East of these boulders is a massive, sloping boulder with a long set of dinosaur tracks upon it. They are on the upper surface. The tracks are not well defined, but are a long series of regularly spaced rounded bumps.

- 5 **Mile 3.7 Mile 16** Paved intersection. You have reached the farming hamlet of **Moore**. At this point, those heading to **Utah Highway 10** (detailed on page 10) and **I-70** (detailed on page 22) continue West and then turn left, while those heading towards **Utah Highway 10** and **Ferron** turn right.

If you are interested in viewing the **Rochester Creek** (petroglyph) **Panel** (detailed on page 35), head West at this intersection for 2 miles, until you come to the **Rochester Creek Panel** road sign.

- 6 **Mile 0 Mile 19.7** This is the intersection of the **Moore Cutoff Road** and **Utah State Route 10** (detailed on page 10), near milepost 22. The town of **Ferron** is just to the North, and the town of **Emery** is South.

Rochester Creek Rock Art Panel



This graded road is included in this guide for one very good reason-It leads to the fantastic **Rochester Creek Rock Art Panel**! The road is only 5.5 miles one-way, followed by a fairly easy one-mile, round trip hike. Some rock art experts attribute the panel to the Fremont Culture, while others believe it was created by the Barrier Canyon Culture. In any case, it is one of the most unusual rock art sites in the entire state. This should be a highlight of any trip to the San Rafael Swell!

To access this road, either approach it from the East via the **Moore Cutoff Road** (detailed on page 34) or from **Utah State Route 10** (detailed on page 10), at milepost 16. If approaching from **Utah State Route 10** (detailed on page 10), continue east for another .25 mile, where you will reach a graveled road, with a sign pointing the way to your destination. The road log begins at that intersection.

5 Mile 5.5 This is the trail head for the **Rochester Creek Rock Art Panel** hike. The hike is not too difficult. The trail is narrow, but very easy to follow to the rock art location. There are some rocks that are embedded in the trail, so watch your footing, or you may trip yourself! At times, the trail drops off steeply at one side. Those nervous about heights may appreciate a steadying hand. The hike is only .5 miles one way and is fine for people with average mobility. The panel is well worth the walk with it's many unique characters!

- 1 Mile 0** Head south from this intersection on a gravel road.
- 2 Mile 2.0** Turn left onto another graveled road.
- 3 Mile 3.6** The road forms a "Y" at this point. Go left, towards the radio tower.
- 4 Mile 4.8** At this intersection, go to the right, and up a small hill.



Camping / OHV



Photo provided by: State Parks

Camping

The camping possibilities are endless throughout San Rafael Country. All with amazing views you don't see everyday.

Commercial Campgrounds:

A/OK RV Park - 435-564-8372
a-okrvpark.biz

Esquire Estates Park - 435-381-2778

Green River KOA - 435-564-3651
koa.com/campgrounds/green-river

Shady Acres - Green River - 800-537-8674
shadyacresrv.com

Shady Acres - Huntington - 435-687-9261

State Park Campgrounds:

Goblin Valley State Park - 800-322-3770
stateparks.utah.gov

Green River State Park - 800-322-3770
stateparks.utah.gov

Huntington State Park - 800-322-3770
stateparks.utah.gov

Millsite State Park - 800-322-3770
stateparks.utah.gov

OHV

If you are looking for quality OHV trails that offer a variety of riding conditions and skills, you won't find anything better than those located in Utah's San Rafael Country. The region includes popular off-road vehicle routes that climb high mountains, descend steep canyons, cross rugged desert and roll over extensive sand dunes.

The famous Arapeen Trail System runs along the tops of the Manti-La Sal National Forest on the western edge of San Rafael Country. It includes a large network of interconnecting trails. Some follow Skyline Drive, on the top of the Wasatch Plateau, while others run up and down adjacent canyons.

You can get onto the Arapeen Trail from Ferron and Huntington canyons and from the Joes Valley area. Joes Valley Reservoir is a key hub - several excellent trails converge there.

To the east, ATV trails cross many portions of the San Rafael Swell. Fun trails run out to The Wedge Overlook (Little Grand Canyon), down Buckhorn Draw and across Cedar Mountain.

In addition to the dunes, most backcountry roads in the White Wash area are open to ATVs. You can ride to Crystal Geyser, the Green River and other points of interest.

Guides & Rentals:

San Rafael ATV Rentals - 435-381-7433
hurdz@hotmail.com



Photo provided by: Tina Carter

Rafting / Fishing

Rafting

Want an adventure of a lifetime? Whether you like to float through calm waters taking in the scenery and snapping pictures or going to the extreme with exciting whitewater we have just what you desire here in San Rafael Country. Let our experienced Guides tailor the rafting trip you've always dreamed of.

Then head back to the John Wesley Powell River History Museum. Learn about their River Runners Hall of Fame and read about the exciting history and what these individuals did to be represented there.

Guides & Rentals:

Colorado River & Trail Expedition - 800-253-7328
crateinc.com

Holiday Expedition - 800-624-6323
BikeRaft.com

Moki Mac - 800-284-7280
mokimac.com

Museum & Info Center:

John Wesley Powell River History Museum - 435-564-3427
jwprhm.com



Photo provided by: Holiday Expeditions

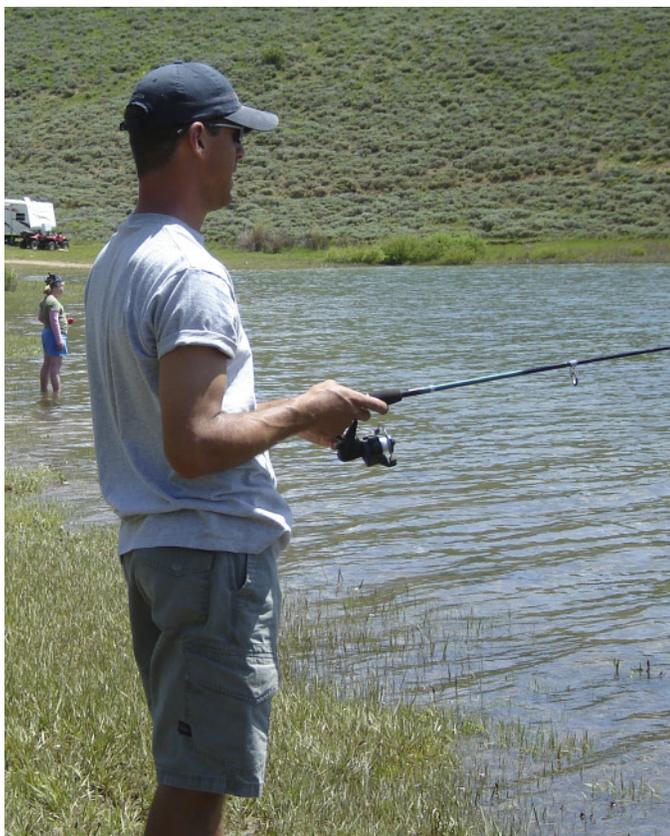


Photo provided by: Tina Carter

Fishing

San Rafael Country has wonderful blue ribbon mountain streams and lakes to challenge every level of fisherman. The fish stocked in these streams and lakes vary with rainbows, cutthroat, tigers, browns and splake.

The scenic areas around these streams and lakes also have plenty of recreation opportunities nearby. Hiking, biking, OHVing, canoeing and boating just to name a few.

The Utah Division of Wildlife Resources stocked some tiger muskellunge (hybrid muskellunge x northern pike) into Joe's Valley Reservoir to add a sport fish and to help control the larger chubs, which out-compete with the trout for food at fingerling size. Hopefully they'll take to the habitat and grow to trophy size.

Guides & Rentals:

Castle Valley Outdoors - 800-586-6503
castlevalleyoutdoors.com

Biking / Hiking

Biking



Photo provided by: Lamar Guymon

This group of bikers are getting ready to ride The Good Water Rim Trail which is considered one of the best mountain bike trails in Utah. Ride along the canyon rim filled with stunning views, and endless twisting turns. The trail length is 15 miles for those who don't follow the loop back, and 21 miles for those who need to get back to where they started. Watch the incredible video on our website.

The San Rafael Swell Mountain Bike Festivals are geared to a wide-range of mountain biking enthusiasts - from the novice to the seasoned; from the occasional to the frequent; from the single rider to the family of riders; and from the rider(s) whose sole interest is the picturesque surroundings to the rider(s) whose sole interest is in the merits of the bike. Rides vary in degree of difficulty, each offering a different perspective of the beautiful San Rafael Swell. There really is a ride for every interest.

Guides & Rentals:

Holiday Expedition - 800-624-6323
bikeraft.com

San Rafael Country Adventures - 435-749-5300
SanRafaelCountryAdventures@gmail.com

Hiking

The San Rafael Swell offers some of Utah's best hiking trails, yet the area is not overrun by enthusiasts. Trails range from mild kid-friendly to intense mega-adventures.

Little Wild Horse/Bell Loop (detailed on page 24) is one trail in San Rafael Country that is rated moderate strenuous. From the trailhead it's an 8 mile loop (4-6 hours).

This eight-mile loop can be completed by going up either Bell or Little Wild Horse first followed by a connection on a dirt road and then coming down the other canyon. From the parking lot, follow the trail along the wash for 0.5 miles (10-15) minutes, where a small sign indicates that Little Wild Horse is on the right. Head up either canyon. When you exit the canyon, walk 1.6 miles along Behind The Reef Road until you connect with the other canyon. Once you return to the fork, follow the wash back to the trailhead and your car.

Little Wild Horse and Bell Canyon Loop is a moderately strenuous hike. Although it doesn't require technical canyoneering skills, hikers should be in good physical condition. Sections of this hike require basic scrambling skills and the use of both hands and feet to maneuver around obstacles.

Guides:

Old Utah Trails - 435-749-1741
oldutahtrails.com

San Rafael Country Adventures - 435-749-5300
SanRafaelCountryAdventures@gmail.com

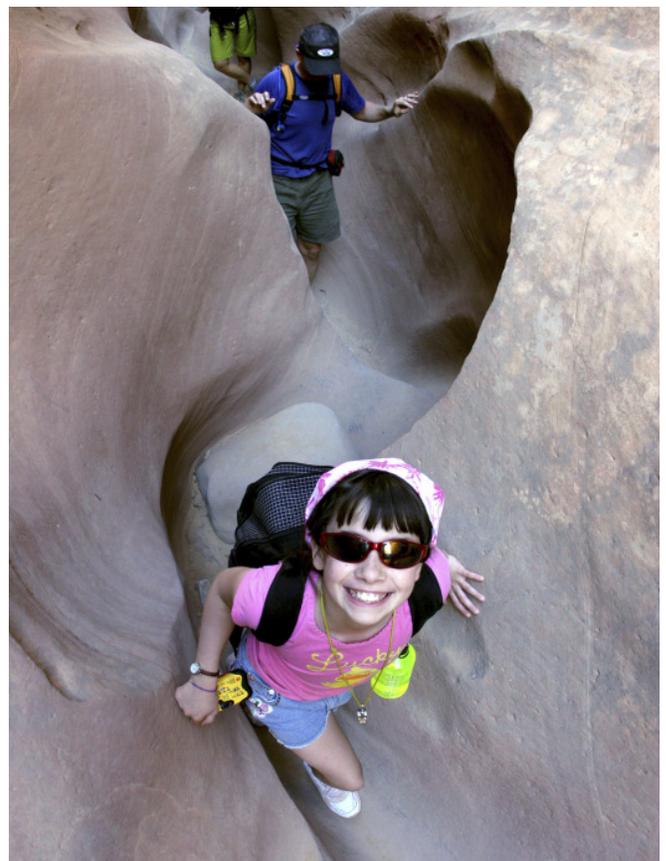


Photo provided by: Monique, Outdoor Utah

Equestrian / Scenic Driving Tours

Equestrian

Discover San Rafael Country with its spectacular views or retrace trails taken by the infamous Butch Cassidy, the Sundance Kid, Kid Ricketts and others. . . all by horseback! The Swell offers much opportunity to explore its many vistas in the old West tradition.

Many trails are available throughout all the Swell. From the southern part of Emery County with its colorful rock canyons to northwestern part with its pine retreats. The opportunities are endless for horseback riding throughout San Rafael Country and its outstanding scenery.

Boarding:

Emery Animal Hospital - 435-381-2539

Boarding & Rentals:

Green River Stables - 435-820-6206
tcoppin13@gmail.com

Guides & Rentals:

Castle Valley Outdoors - 800-586-6503
castlevalleyoutdoors.com

Trail Information:

bchu.com - "San Rafael" link



Photo provided by: Wayne Ludington



Photo provided by: Tina Carter

Scenic Driving Tours

The San Rafael Swell is filled with incredible scenic views that will take your breath away. One of these is the Wedge Overlook (detailed on page 19) nicknamed by locals as the Little Grand Canyon.

The Swell is known for its scenic sandstone formations, deep slot canyons, desert streams, and expansive panoramas. The San Rafael Swell is a rare outdoor museum of geology, archeology, and modern-day history. For years local people and visitors have found that this priceless piece of public land is ideal for exploring, camping, OHVing, hiking and much more. For those discovering this area for the first time, the possibilities for recreation and learning are endless.

Guides:

Old Utah Trails - 435-749-1741
oldutahtrails.com

San Rafael Country Adventures - 435-749-5300
SanRafaelCountryAdventures@gmail.com

We Hope You've Enjoyed Your Tour,
Come Again Soon!




SAN RAFAEL COUNTRY
EMERY COUNTY
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Photo by: Chris Noble, Holiday Expeditions