




TOM'S UTAH CANYONEERING GUIDE

Archive

Lower Calf Creek Canyon • Upper Escalante Canyons

Rating:	II-III Class 1 
Best Season:	Spring, Summer or Fall.
Time:	2 to 6 hours.
Access:	Route starts and ends at Calf Creek Campground off Hwy 12.
USGS 7.5' Map:	Calf Creek
Permit:	Not Required for day use, but entrance fees may apply.
Equipment:	Bathing suit (if wading).
Drinking Water:	Bring plenty.
Flash Flood Risk:	Low.
Difficulties:	None. Some mud may be encountered due to beaver dams.

Lower Calf Creek is a classic family hike on a flat, graded path up a lush red rock canyon to a beautiful 110 foot waterfall. Zowie! Can you ask for anything more?



Lower Calf Creek

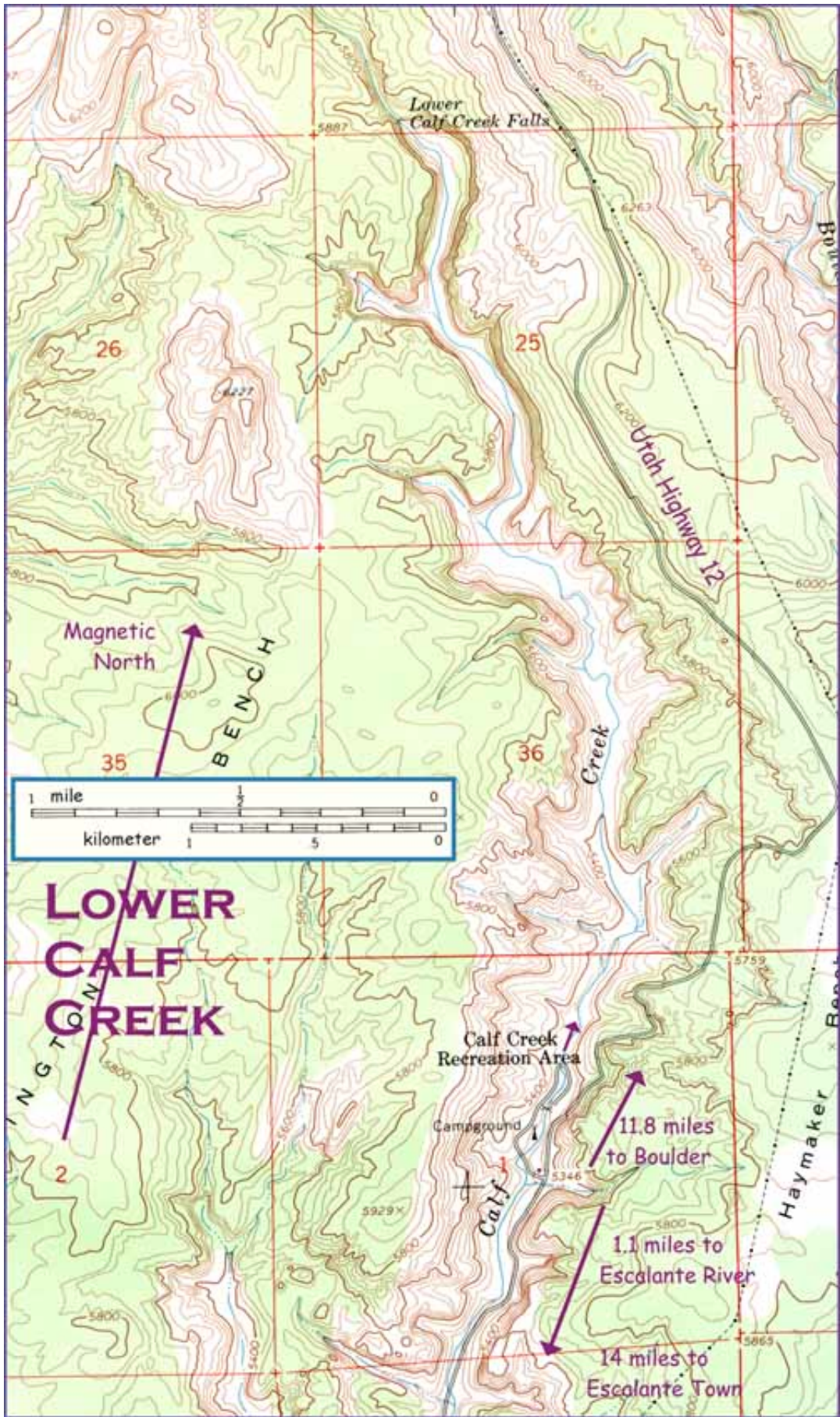
Getting There: turn off Highway Twelve 11.8 miles south of Boulder, or 14 miles north of Escalante. This is the BLM Calf Creek Campground - bathrooms and water available seasonally. Parking next to the bathroom is designated for day hikers.

The Business: Park at the designated spot, make sure all the little hikers hit the potty, fill up your waterbottles and head up canyon. Hike the road 1/4 mile to the trailhead, then follow the graded path into the canyon. The hiking is mostly very easy, with occasional resting benches at the sides. A brochure is available with some interpretative stuff.

At 2.3 miles, the canyon dead ends at a waterfall and pool in a lush little box canyon. I keep saying lush. What a wonderful word.

I've seen people fishing in the river, and I suspect a little swimming takes place below the waterfall. The beaver dams make for a lush riparian habitat that just adds to the wonderful delightfulness of this canyon. Rumor has it some ruins and ancient art are up those side canyons on the other side (east side) of the river about a third of the way up the canyon. May be worth exploring.

This is a heavily traveled area, so if it's hot, be sure to wear your bathing suit or river shorts so you can take a dip in the big pool beneath the falls.



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