

# **Escalante Area Day Trips**

The Escalante River links a diverse array of agencies, elevations, and ecosystems, providing endless challenges and rewards for the prepared visitor. This guide represents several opportunities on public and surrounding lands.

These lands hold a special place in the soul of pioneers, explorers, Native Americans, and travelers from all walks of life. It is not an easy place to visit — it is primitive, remote and unforgiving. Because of these qualities it is also rewarding. With your care it will retain those elements of challenge, untrammeled beauty, and frontier spirit.

### Your safety is your responsibility. Be prepared and know your limits.

- Very few routes are marked or maintained.
  Keep yourself oriented.
- Road conditions change rapidly. High clearance or 4WD may be required.
- Summer temperatures in the desert can be lethal. Avoid hiking in the heat.
- Flash floods are a significant danger. Do not enter canyons if rain threatens. Dangerous thunderstorms often produce torrential rain that leads to flash floods, sometimes miles away from the storm.
- · Respect wildlife. This is their home.
- Soil crust is alive and should not be trampled.
  Stay on existing routes.







# 1-2 Hours

## Hikes

Escalante Petrified **Forest State Park** 

> Climb a picturesque mesa to hike among rainbow-hued petrified wood.

Distance from Escalante Visitor Center: 2 miles Hiking Distance: 1 to 13/4 miles roundtrip loops









#### Posey Lake Overlook

Escape the desert heat by taking a short, steep hike through aspen and pine forest to a Civilian Conservation Corps-era gazebo for views of Posey Lake.

Distance from Escalante Visitor Center: 18 miles Hiking Distance: 11/2 miles roundtrip







# Half to Full Day Hikes

#### Escalante Natural Bridge

Crisscross the **Escalante River** through a lush canyon to a towering natural bridge.

Distance from Escalante Visitor Center to trailhead: 15 miles Hiking Distance: 4 miles roundtrip







#### **10** Lower Calf Creek Falls

Temporarily closed beginning July 8, 2024 for Calf Creek Recreation Site Improvement Project, For more information about re-opening, visit the Monument Homepage at http://on.doi.gov/3PK2sri



#### Barker **Recreation Area**

**Explore trails that** meander around lovely aspen and conifer-ringed lakes and meadows.

Distance from Escalante Visitor Center to trailhead: 20 miles Multiple trails of varving distances



#### Dry Fork Slots (Peekaboo & Spooky)

Squeeze, push, and pull your way through a series of fun and challenging slots requiring a 12-foot climb and maneuvering through 10-inch-wide gaps.

Distance from Escalante Visitor Center to trailhead: 33 miles Hiking Distance: 3 miles roundtrip











# **Points of Interest**

#### 3 Hole-in-the-Rock **Escalante Heritage Center**

Learn about the 1879 Holein-the-Rock Expedition-- a treacherous six-month. 200-mile expedition that involved navigating wagons down a 1,200-foot vertical cliff to the banks of the Colorado River.

Distance from Escalante Visitor Center: 2 miles







at the site.

Anasazi State

Park Museum

archaeological site,

tour a replica-900-year-

old dwelling, and learn

about the lifeways of

this sizable Ancestral

Puebloan community

Distance from Escalante

through artifacts found

View an original







#### **Long Canyon Slot**

Experience the towering walls and narrow perspectives of a slot canyon on this short but beautiful walk.

Distance from Escalante Visitor Center to Burr Trail Road turnoff: 28 miles Distance from turnoff to Long Canvon Slot: 11.2 miles Walking distance: 1/4 mile



# **Points of Interest**

#### n Devil's Garden

Explore, play, or picnic in a garden of whimsical sandstone rock formations.

Visitor Center to Hole in the Rock Road turnoff: Distance from turnoff to Devil's Garden: 12 miles

Distance from Escalante



**Drives** 



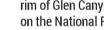
#### n Dance Hall Rock

Imagine Mormon pioneers enjoying a rest from this unforgiving wild landscape to dance and sing in this natural amphitheater

Distance from Escalante Visitor Center to Hole in the Rock Road turnoff: 6 miles Distance from turnoff to Dance Hall Rock: 37 miles







Hole-in-the-Rock

crevice on the western rim of Glen Canyon, listed on the National Register of Historic Places for its significance as the 1879 route for Mormon pioneers

Visit this narrow and steep

Distance from Escalante Visitor Center to Hole in the Rock Road turnoff: 6 miles Distance from turnoff to Hole in the Rock: 56 miles









#### 6 All American Road Scenic Byway 12

**Encounter surprises around** each bend on Utah's only All American Road designated for its diverse, remote, and stunning landscapes that range from desert canyons and hoodoos to narrow ridges and lush forests.

Distance from Escalante Visitor Center: 65 miles eastbound to HWY 24 59 miles westbound to HWY 89





#### Pine Creek Road to Hell's Backbone Road

Experience hair-raising heights on Hell's Backbone Bridge, a one-lane bridge that stands 1,500 feet above a gaping gorge north of Box-Death Hollow Wilderness.

Distance from Escalante Visitor Center to turnoff: 1 mile Distance from turnoff to Hell's Backbone Bridge: 26 miles Distance from bridge to Scenic Byway

12 near Boulder: 16 miles



## Burr Trail Road

Travel through Navajo Sandstone domes, drop into the rich and sinuous Long Canyon, and explore the heart of the vast Circle Cliffs region on this beautiful backcountry drive.

Distance from Escalante Visitor Center to turnoff: 28 miles Distance from turnoff to Capitol Reel National Park boundary: 30 miles



# North Creek Road

of ecological zones, climbing out of the desert to a highelevation aspen forest. The road ends at Barker

Wind through a progression

Recreation Area, where a peaceful congregation of lakes and meadows awaits. Distance from Escalante Visitor

Center to turn off: 4 miles Distance from turn off to Barker Rec Area: 17 miles



#### R Hole-in-the-Rock Road

Explore natural wonders, see historic places along the route of the Hole-in-the-Rock Expedition of 1879, or access trailheads for hiking and backpacking excursions in the Escalante Canyons.

Distance from Escalante Visitor Center to turnoff: 6 miles Distance from turnoff to end of the road: 56 miles









#### Smoky Mountain/Alvey Wash Road to Left Hand Collet Road

Drive a spectacular loop that leaves from Escalante, climbs up and across the isolated and rugged Kaiparowits Plateau, descend the steep and narrow Left Hand Collet Canyon, and opens onto sagebrush benchlands below the stunning Straight Cliffs. Distance from Escalante Visitor Center to turnoff: 1/4 mile

Distance of round trip loop: 63 miles











Chriss Lake

Ascend through

while enjoying

region below.

Distance Escalante

Visitor Center to

aspen stands and

excellent views of

the vast Escalante

mountain meadows

trailhead: 37 miles Hiking Distance: 2 miles roundtrip

