

Grand Canyon Rapids and Camps

See remarks for suggested routes - Note: Scouting highly recommended on rapids rated at 5 or above.

Day	Date	Mile	Possible Camp	Rapid	Height Drop	Ratng Raft	Rating Kayak	Remarks (Note rapids ratings 1-10)
		8		Badger	15'	6	6	Lf.. of Center
1	9/05/96	11	Soap Creek	Soap	17'	5	5	Lf. to Rt.
		17		House Rock	10'	7	7	Lf. to Rt. K-Eddy High Rt. except hi flo, big hole bott. lf.
2	9/06/96	20.5	North Canyon	North Canyon	12'	5	5	Center of channel (l.h.s of river bed)
		21		21 Mile	5'	5	4	Varies, More difficult at low & high
		23		Indian Dick		5	3	
		24		24 1/2 Mile	9'	5	5	Varies, More difficult at low & high
		25		25 Mile	8'	5	4	Varies, More difficult at low & high
		25		Cave Springs	6'	5	5	Hole Rt. Cntr, Run Lf
		26		Tiger Wash	7'	4	3	
3	9/07/96	30.5	South Canyon					
4	9/08/96	47	Saddle Canyon					
		52		Nankoweap	25'	3	3	
		56		Kwagunt	7'	6	5	Biggest at medium flow rate
5	9/09/96	58	Below Kwagunt					
		65		Chuar	4'	4	3	
		68		Tanner	20'	4	4	Run right of center.
6	9/10/96	72	Above Unkar	Unkar	25'	6	7	Big hole in channel at low flow
		75		Nevills	15'	6	6	Pourovers on lf. bottom at med. flow
		77		Hance	30'	9	8	Lf. to Cntr. to Lf.
		78		Sockdolager	19'	9	7	Explo.wave at top at high flow can be avoided lf, but stay out of lf eddies
7	9/11/96	81.5	Above Grapevine	Grapevine	18'	8	7	Avoid lf holes at bottom
		83		83 Mile	7'	4	3	
		84		Zorooster	5'	6	5	Violent at low flow, run right.
		90		Horn Creek	10'	8	9	Violent at low flow ,Good kayak route on left at high flow. Center to left at medium flow. Right at low flow
8	9/12/96	93	Granite	Granite	17'	9	9	If enter on ramp rt.,will hit violent diagonals. Move off ramp to left posbl but very difficult. Runs farther left must avoid holes and pourovers. Avoid eddy on bottom right.
Day	Date	Mile	Possible Camp	Rapid	Height Drop	Ratng Raft	Rating Kayak	Remarks
		95		Hermit	15'	9	8	Bigger at high flow. Cntr. then Rt., Big ride on left.
		98		Crystal	17'	10	5/9(left	Sneak Rt. of hole, stay Rt.,avoid cntr.
		99		Tuna Creek	10'	6	5	
		101		Sapphire	7'	7	6	
		102		Turquoise	2'	4	4	

		104		104 Mile		6	4	
		106		Serpentine	11'	7	6	
9	9/13/96	108	Bass Camp	Bass	4'	4	4	
		112		Waltenberg	15'	7	5	Holes at low flow
10	9/14/96	123	Forster Canyon					
		125		Fossil	15'	6	5	
		129		Specter	4'	6	6	Avoid eddies r.h.s. against wall. High flow -diagonal wave at top pushes rt.
		130		Bedrock	7'	8	4	Big Rock in Cntr. miss Rt.
		132		Deubendorff	15'	8	7	Center at high flow. Avoid rock l.h.s.
11	9/15/96	134	Tapeats Creek	Tapeats	15'	6	5	
12	9/16/96	136	Deer Creek					
		137		Doris		6	5	
		139		Fishtail	10'	8	7	Huge hole at low flow
		150		Upset	15'	8	7	Unaligned holes at low flow. Left to right at high flow.
13	9/17/96	151.5	Ledges					
14	9/18/96	166.5	National Canyon					
		179		Lava	37'	10	10	Rt. of Cntr hole, move Lf.
15	9/19/96	181	Below Lava Falls					
16	9/20/96	202	Big Eddy					
		205		Kolb	13'	7	5	Lft. of center
		209		209 Mile		7	6	Stay Lf. of big hole on Rt.
		217		217 Mile	16'	7	5	Rt.
17	9/21/96	220	220 Mile Canyon					
18	9/22/96	225.5	Diamond Creek					Take Out on Left

By John Kobak & Steve Ingalls

Grand Canyon Hikes

The hikes out of **Badger(8)** and **Soap Creek(11)** are supposed to be nice, although I've not done either. **North Canyon(20)** is a nice hike, I've only gone up a way but it's pretty. **South Canyon(31)** is another that is nice although straight up; you can get all the way out and you sometimes see backpackers right there at the mouth. **Silver Grotto(29)** is one I would recommend too, although I haven't been there in a few years. Difficult of access but worth it. Another is the **Emminence Break trail(44)**, which is right below **President Harding** rapid. It's on the left; the Eminence Break fault breaks down the Redwall there and you can get out on top of it. **Saddle Canyon(47)** is another that I've done many times, very nice. There's a loop hike possible around **Carbon Creek(64.5)**; I've not done it but know many guides who have, you stop above it and then the boats go on down to Carbon Creek and wait. **Lava Canyon(65.5)** maybe?

I've hiked a ways up into **Nevills Canyon(75)** and it was beautiful. There is a nice short hike up the canyon of Mile 75 Creek (usually dry) above **Nevills** rapid. Even better, you can start the hike up river, climbing gently tilted layers that rise above the river until you come to the mouth of the side canyon looking down on Nevills rapid from several hundred feet above. The trail then follows the rim of the side canyon away from the river until the floor of the canyon rises to the rim. You scramble down an easy 12 foot pitch with good hand holds into the side canyon and back down the floor of the narrow canyon to the river. The canyon has beautifully sculpted Shinumo quartzite walls. also hiked (illegally!) up toward **Hance's** asbestos mine right by Hance Rapid. Great views from

there but the NPS has closed it due to danger from asbestos (as if Hance didn't mine the stuff and then live til he was damned near 90). Likewise the hike up **Red Canyon(77)** right there is supposed to be nice. **Unkar(72.5)**, incidentally, is also closed, at least the downstream side, by the NPS because of cultural values or somesuch. **Clear Creek(84)** (on the right, in the Inner Gorge above **Phantom(88)**) is a great hike to a nice waterfall.

Likewise illegal, sez the NPS, is the hike to **Bass' old camp on Shinumo Creek(109)**, because of the potential for vandalism of his camp. Not that anyone on r.b.p. would do anything like that! But it's hot. The **Monument Creek(93)** hike someone mentioned is the old Hermit Trail, built by Bass and Louis Boucher around the turn of the century and still walkable. The walk up **Crystal Creek(98)** is interesting, to backtrack a bit, if only to marvel at the power of debris flows; that canyon is scoured.

The **Royal Arch Creek/Upper Elves Chasm(116.5)** is great; land on the left about a mile above Elves; I think the Trails Illustrated map of the Grand shows the trail and where to land. **Blacktail Canyon(120)** is a great walk to a good view of the Great Unconformity and a quiet, cool grotto; in fact some companies do a silent walk up there which is very neat.

Where am I? Hmm, if you haven't stopped and clambered around the **Doll's House by Bedrock(130.5)** it's worth it. **Stone Creek Canyon(132)** is short (or longer) and not well known, but well worth the hike. I concur, the hike up to as close to the source as you can get (about 2 miles) is beautiful and the view spectacular; I had a mystical experience there once involving a king snake and a rocky perch. What was her name? No, just kidding, it's a great walk. To get away from the tourist walk to the first waterfall you have to look for serpentine (green rock) on the right side of the trail.

I won't comment on the **Thunder River/Surprise Valley Death March(133.5)** (as it's known) since everyone else has done so; suffice to say the first time I did it I came out of Deer Creek in the dark, which was exciting. I was more worried about the poison ivy near the river than the walk through the Muav grotto. **Upper Deer Creek** is also nice, just did that last week. The upper spring is increasingly called **Dutton Spring**. I could take a sack of beans and coffee and a couple of good books and spend the winter in the valley of **Deer Creek(136)** and think deep thoughts. One of my favorite places on earth. One of the most amazing is to go to the source of Thunder River and go into the underground river all the way to the underground lake. Take waterproof headlamps and rope, and warm clothing: when you get in it is totally black and pretty chilly after a while. Go to the Green Room under the falls in **Tapeats**.

Kanab Creek(143) is also a nice walk, and you can go as long as you want; you can walk all the way to Kanab, Utah if you care to, it's only 75 miles. I always tell folks if they have any complaints about the company (which is based in Kanab) we'll drop them off and they can go right to the office. No takers. I've never walked up 150 Mile canyon (Upset Rapid) although I've always wanted to; I'm not sure how far you could get. **Matkatamiba(148)** I love, when I was there last week I kept thinking of a phrase I read recently in a book about Glen Canyon: "I felt that I had entered the great glowing heart of the world, and found it good." **Matkatamiba** is great: if you keep going past where it is easy there is a pristine pool about 18' deep; the rock making the basin is very light so the water is clear/blue.

The rope was still there at the mouth of **Olo Canyon(145.5)**; is WONDERFUL, but difficult. I've never been there but heard it's nice. Of course **Havasu(157)**; I've never gotten past the pools near the bottom although I've set out more than once with good intentions and been distracted by a beautiful blue swimming hole or one full of bathing beauties (Natural Wonders of the Canyon). **Tuckup(164.5)** is also supposed to be nice, never been there. **National Canyon(166.5)** is one of my favorites, that blue limestone little grotto, I think about it on cold wintery days or during boring supervisors meetings. **Fern Glen(168)** has a nice little walk up to a large wall of springs and (natch!) ferns and monkey flower; I've seen deer there before, not sure where they came from. Supposedly you can climb all the way out of **Stairway Canyon(171)**. If you've never spent any time near Lava Falls (besides nervously scouting) it's worth a stop, for the springs and fantastic vegetation on the left side, and the walk up **Prospect Canyon(179)**. Hot and black but inspiring.

The **Whitmore trail(188)** leads to spectacular views, but it's exposed to the sun and hot. **Parashaunt(198.5)** is a nice walk, now that the burros are gone. I love **Granite Park(209)**, and would walk around there. There's a climb to an old cabin

foundation that's neat right across from **Pumpkin Sprin(213)**, with a good view too; better than sitting in the stinking mineral pool, as so many want to do. Why sit in a hot pool when it's 100 degrees outside? Never did figure that out. There's a really nice walk at **Three Springs(215.5)**. An old faint trail leads to some old mines, about a mile or two from the river. Someone showed it to me, I'm not sure I could find it again.

After about 220 the granite closes in and there's not as many hikes until you get below Diamond Creek and onto the lake (Mead). But I won't go on, this is too long already and it's worsening my already bad day (back from the river I always get grouchy).

From Internet