

# Olsen Trail

Submitted by members of the [Back Country Horsemen of Utah](#)

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***Disclaimer: The following trail description was kindly submitted by BCHU horsemen. Use this information at your own risk. As with all horse related activities, trail riding is a sport with a considerable amount of inherent danger and risk. No guarantee is either stated or implied that you will find any of the information listed below to be accurate.***

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**Name of the Trailhead:** Black Canyon

**Name of the Trail:** Olsen Trail

**Direction to trail entrance from parking area:** West

**Elevation at trailhead:** 7655 ft

**Trailhead Latitude and Longitude:** N 39 23' 4.470" W 111 16' 31.840"

**Property of:** USFS

**Camping and use restrictions at the trailhead and along the route:** use weed free hay, clean up manure and dropped hay. Primitive Camping. If it came with the horse take it back with you. Keep the area clean.

**BCHU Chapter:** San Rafael Utah Back Country Horsemen

**Difficulty:** Difficult

**To complete this route, horses need to be:** Very Fit

**Directions to the Trailhead from:** Orangeville UT

Go West from Orangeville on Rt 29 to the Millers Flat Road (N 39° 20' 7.061", W 111° 16' 36.017") which is on the right of a curve that is on the far side of Joes Valley Reservoir. Go 1.8 miles to the second dirt road on the left which is the Lowry water dirt road (N 39° 20' 52.170", W 111° 16' 8.789"). Travel 3.3 miles to GPS coordinates (N 39° 23' 4.470", W 111° 16' 31.840") which is the bottom of Black Canyon. There are several shaded camping areas with good room to park trailers.

**Parking instructions:** Park at camping areas on right side of road, along creek.

**TRAIL-ROUTE DIRECTIONS AND DESCRIPTION:** Black Canyon trail starts .3 miles south west of parking or camping area along road. Olsen trail will be 3 miles up Black Canyon trail on the right side (N 39° 22' 54.325", W 111° 16' 45.795".) Trail winds up side canyon for 1.5 miles to (N 39° 23' 31.640", W 111° 17' 54.956"). Return back down Olsen trail to Black Canyon Trail. You can also take the Black Canyon trail to the top which meets up with Skyline Drive Road (7.5 miles one way.) First 2 miles up Black Canyon trail is somewhat rocky and a good climb. Grassy openings in trees start about 2 or so miles up trail.

**Type of route:** out and back

**Length of entire route:** approximately 10 mi

**Estimated ride duration:** 5-6 hours

**Attractions:** scenery, conditioning, wildlife, creek along trail, fishing at camping or parking area.

**Months of accessibility:** Jul - Nov

**Normal ranges of ambient comfort during the recommended months of use:**

Winter - NA

Spring - NA

Summer - cool to hot

Fall - cool to cold

**Description of the Route:**

General - Path

Predominant Surface- Dirt

Other surfaces - Loose rock

**Hazards that can be found on this route.** Mostly dirt trail except for first 2 miles, which is dirt and rock. Good footing,

**Obstacles** - one slide area with fair trail for 50 feet.

**Features** - water for stock (bring drinking water), grazing, fishing,

**Current Level of use by:**

Hikers: Low

Bicyclists: NA

ATV's: NA

**High = greater than 7 groups; Low = less than 3**

**Area Tack and Equipment Dealers:**

1. IFA in Price

**Hospital: Price**

**Police/Fire/Ambulance: 911**

**Road Conditions:** Asphalt good some curves, Dirt roads somewhat rough - not for cars

**\*\*\*Additional notes:** For more info call or contact San Rafael Chapter of BCHU

**Maps:** South Tent Mountain (1:24,000), Joes Valley Reservoir (1:24,000), Price Utah (1:250,000)

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**Remember always to use your best judgment. Always take a moment to consider the suitability the weather, trail conditions, your horsemanship skills, the skill of those in your party, and perhaps most important...the physical and mental condition of your horses before each trip.**

**Safe Trails !!!**