



## SUNRISE/SUNSET ARCHES - ESCALANTE



**Rating:** Easy hiking

**Length:** 2-3 hours

**Maps:** King Mesa, UT; Sooner Bench, UT

**Season:** Any, although summers can be hot, and the roads difficult in the winter.

**Waypoints:**

Trailhead

12S 495707mE 4138453mN  
N37° 23' 34" W111° 02' 55"

Sunset Arch

12S 495711mE 4136625mN  
N37° 22' 35" W111° 02' 54"

Sunrise Arch

12S 495803mE 4136240mN  
N37° 22' 22" W111° 02' 51"

## Hype

Are you a bit of an arch bagger? This short hike visits two very different arches. Sunset arch appears to be an Entrada sandstone arch while within sight of it, several hundred meters away, sits Sunrise arch in a different sandstone layer altogether.

Surprisingly, given the distance down the Hole-In-The-Rock road needed to reach the trailhead, you often see these arches photographed in calendars and magazines. I think evening light is particularly dramatic for photographs.

**Tags:** *hike, dog friendly, access: high clearance*

## Trailhead

Head east out of the town of Escalante about 5 miles on highway 12 until the well signed Hole in the Rock road.

- Turn onto the Hole In The Rock Road and reset your odometer. ( 12S 453596mE 4175370mN / N37° 43' 28" W111° 31' 36" )
- Travel down the Hole in the Rock road for 36.4 miles to the signed 40 Mile Ridge road on the left. (Note: Dance Hall rock is less than a mile past this turn off if you continue down the Hole in the Rock road, and makes an interesting place to visit.) ( 12S 489833mE 4135054mN / N37° 21' 44" W111° 06' 53" )

- Follow the 40 Mile Ridge Road road for 4 miles to a tee where a short, steep road goes up the hill on the left to the Coyote Gulch trailhead. This is the trailhead. Any vehicle should be able to reach the trailhead in most conditions. ( 12S 495706mE 4138453mN / N37° 23' 34" W111° 02' 55" )

## Route

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From the trailhead, hike back down to the junction with 40 Mile Ridge Road. Look south toward 50 Mile Mountain and the Hole in the Rock road. On the left, off in the distance, is Cave Point. Head across the sagebrush flat for about 20 minutes toward Cave Point until you are close to some small hoodoos and towers. Just before those hoodoos and towers, you can see a slickrock area to the south. The two arches are visible when you reach this area. (30-40 minutes from the car to the arches.)

Return the way you came. By parking on the small hill, you can see your vehicle for most of the return.

