



Echo Canyon opened glamping tents and luxury cabins this year.



For Immediate Release

Central Colorado Tourism Leaders Extend Travel Season with New Lodging, Year-Round Attractions

CAÑON CITY, Colo., Aug. 24, 2017 - Central Colorado's Royal Gorge region isn't just a summer-season rafting destination anymore. With the opening of the luxury <u>Royal Gorge Cabins</u>, an array of year-round attractions and location in one of the warmest winter spots in Colorado, the region west of Colorado Springs is quickly becoming a year-round destination.

Just as Andy Neinas had hoped. Long-time owner of <u>Echo Canyon Rafting</u> <u>Expeditions</u>, the region's largest tourism company, Neinas expanded the company's offerings this season with the addition of luxury cabins and glamping tents, all with expansive views of the Sangre de Cristo mountains and an array of amenities.

Many of Echo Canyon's guests' first adventure in the <u>region</u> is whitewater rafting, said Neinas. Without diverse lodging options in the area, though,

The Royal Gorge Cabins are great for families and couples.

travelers often drove back to their homes or hotels in Colorado Springs, Denver or Pueblo the same night.

"We've seen far more visitors this summer linger in the region for more than a day now that there is a high-end lodging option," said Neinas. "Our overnight guests spent the summer evenings relaxing around the patio firepit at the 8 Mile Bar & Grill instead of driving back home, and many of them stayed in the region for several days exploring the many other attractions in the region."

The cabins are located within minutes of the historic town of <u>Cañon City</u> as well as year-round attractions such as the <u>Royal Gorge Route Railroad</u>, the <u>Royal Gorge Bridge & Park</u>, the <u>Dinosaur Experience</u>, <u>Winery at Holy</u> <u>Cross Abbey</u>, <u>fly fishing</u> in the Arkansas River, rock climbing, golf, jeep touring and hiking.

The region is known as Colorado's "Banana Belt." With typically moderate winter-season temperatures - sometimes as warm as 60 degrees, but nearly always in the 40s and 50s - and plenty of sunshine.

This microclimate occurs because the Arkansas River Valley on the lee side of the mountains and the upslope and downslope winds divert moisture away from the region.

About the Royal Gorge Cabins

Open year-round, the cabins are equipped with kitchens, indoor/outdoor fireplaces and plenty of living space, and they offer visitors an appealing place to spend the night after a day of adventure. A highlight of each cabin is an ambiance-maximizing double-sided gas fireplace that can be enjoyed inside and outside and 400 square feet of outdoor living space featuring drought-tolerant plantings such as blue fescue and Karl Forster grasses.

Each cabin also offers two private parking spaces, covered entry way, hammock and outdoor grills. All of the cabins have expansive southwest-facing views of the Sangre de Cristo Mountains.

During the winter, rates start at \$279 for single cabins and \$339 for cabins with two bedrooms.

Summer Offerings

During the summer season, Echo Canyon operates a variety of rafting adventures on the Arkansas River, the <u>8 Mile Bar and Grill</u>, <u>glamping</u> <u>tents</u>, and a campground with RV and tent sites. Additionally, the resort offers an array of <u>group services</u> with special event space and an innovative teambuilding platform.

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Echo Canyon River Expeditions is the leading whitewater destination resort in central Colorado, and one of the country's top adventure resorts, according to U.S. News & World Report. The resort is located west of Cañon City, Colo. on U.S. Route 50. Drive time is approximately two and one-half hours from Denver and one hour from Colorado Springs. The Colorado Springs Airport (COS) offers non-stop service from several major cities throughout the country including Dallas, Houston, Los Angeles, Chicago and Phoenix.

Contact Echo Canyon by email at <u>info@raftecho.com</u> or by calling 1-800-690-3246, or follow the resort on <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Twitter</u>, <u>YouTube</u>, <u>Instagram</u> or by signing up for the resort's <u>newsletter</u>.

Travelers can also read about visitors' experiences on $\underline{\text{TripAdvisor}}$ and see why Echo Canyon is consistently named the No. 1-rated tour in Cañon City.

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