



Echo's Royal Gorge Cabins feature glamping tents that have quickly become popular.

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It's Hiring Season at Echo Canyon River Expeditions and Royal Gorge Cabins

CANON CITY, Colo., February 17, 2020 - Echo Canyon River Expeditions, Royal Gorge Cabins and the 8 Mile Bar & Grill are hiring for the summer.

One of the <u>top adventure resorts in the country</u>, Echo Canyon opened its luxury Royal Gorge Cabins - including one- and two-bedroom luxury cabins as well as Glamping Tents - in 2017. The resort also offers guided whitewater rafting adventures on the Arkansas River and operates the 8 Mile Bar and Grill for lunch and dinner throughout the summer.

Every year Echo Canyon hires several people to work as river guides and in other resort operations. Most of the kitchen, dining room and retail employees are locals from the Cañon City area. The rafting guides,



The new cabins are the nicest accommodations in the area.



The 8 Mile Bar & Grill is the gathering spot at the end of a day on the river.

however, come from all over, and the criteria used to evaluate them can be surprising.

Operations manager Jessica Smith interviews dozens of potential new whitewater guides to join the senior guides who are critical to the success of Echo Canyon. When she first interviews prospective guides by telephone Smith asks a series of questions that reflect upon a guide's character, work ethic and ability to work within a team. But rarely does she ask about previous boating experience.

"Like the basketball coach who cannot teach a player to be tall, we view character as more important than existing rafting skills," said Smith, a long-time Echo Canyon River Expeditions employee who began as a summer-season guide herself. "We can teach rafting skills, but it's all a waste if they are not right for the job."

Smith typically receives more than 200 applications - mostly through employment sites that specialize in seasonal jobs - for around two dozen positions. She will interview 75 or more applicants by phone and invite the best candidates to become guide trainees. Of those invited, 20-25 applicants will travel to Echo Canyon for a month-long, unpaid training program while living in their own tents and recreational vehicles in the "guide village" behind the Echo Canyon River Expeditions headquarters.

Because they must invest in their own personal equipment such as a personal flotation device, helmet, whistle, throw bag and dry bag, prospective guides are demonstrating a commitment and forward-thinking attitude.

Guides who complete the training course and receive a job offer will continue to work closely with more seasoned guides, and as their skills are enhanced, so are the opportunities to lead more challenging whitewater trips.

The guide culture at Echo Canyon is one of support, perseverance and friendship, and it is often on display after hours as guides and guests mingle at the 8 Mile Bar and Grill, look through the images taken from every boat and relive the day.

How to Apply

For more information and to apply for a job with Echo Canyon River Expeditions, go <u>online</u>.

About the resort

Situated near the famous <u>Royal Gorge Bridge & Park</u>, Echo Canyon operates a variety of rafting adventures on the Arkansas River, the popular <u>8 Mile Bar & Grill</u>, luxury cabins, glamping tents and campground. 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 <u>adventure resorts</u>, 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 <u>TripAdvisor</u> and see why Echo Canyon is consistently named the No. 1-rated tour in Cañon City.

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