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For Immediate Release

Echo Canyon River Expeditions Hiring Rafting Guides for Summer 2021

CAÑON CITY, Colo., Feb. 5, 2021 - The largest whitewater rafting outfitter on Colorado's Arkansas River, <u>Echo Canyon River Expeditions</u>, is seeking to <u>hire</u> enthusiastic team members to guide rafting trips this summer, including experienced guides as well as those with no previous guiding experience.

The family-owned company offers a variety of <u>guided rafting trips</u> including high-adventure trips through the Royal Gorge and family-friendly float trips through the Bighorn Canyon. Rafting typically begins in April and continues through around Labor Day.

New rafting guides will join the team's group of senior guides in an intensive training program beginning in mid-May during which trainees learn all the skills needed to be a successful rafting guide.



Guides complete a thorough training program before guiding rafting trips.

"Our objective is to find exceptional people, and we do not factor boating ability in that quest," said Jessica Smith, operations manager. "A prospective guide's character, work ethic, enthusiasm and ability to work within a team are far more important to us than existing rafting skills."

Smith has worked with Echo Canyon River Expeditions for nearly two decades, and she began her career as a summer-season guide herself. She oversees the intensive training program, which begins with basic skills like wilderness first aid and progresses to rafting skills including reading and navigating the river.

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.

River Culture

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 <u>8 Mile Bar and Grill</u>, look through the images taken from every boat and relive the day.

Echo Canyon River Expeditions welcomes scores of return guides year after year. Smith was one of them. Upon finishing her final college semester in recreation therapy, the lowa native and a friend found their way to the Arkansas River in anticipation of a summer of adventure as whitewater rafting guides.

Like many guides, Smith fell in love with the community and the river valley as much as the sport itself.

"I get to work with these awesome outdoor professionals and watch them grow and strengthen not only as river rafting guides but also as people," she said. "Rafting guides may go on to do other things in life, but their lives will be richer because of their time on the river."

Foodservice, Reservations and other Positions Available

In addition to guides, Echo Canyon hires several people - usually locals from the Cañon City area - to work in the kitchen, dining room, retail and other departments.

How to Apply

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

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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. The region offers an array of outdoor adventures and attractions including whitewater rafting on the Arkansas River, mountain biking on an acclaimed trail system and the Royal Gorge Bridge & Park. 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 info@raftecho.com or by calling 1-800-690-3246, or follow the resort on Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, Instagram or by signing up for the resort's newsletter. Travelers can also read about visitors' experiences on TripAdvisor and see why Echo Canyon is consistently named the No. 1-rated tour in Cañon City.

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