









Options include smooth water to large rapids.

For Immediate Release

Whitewater Season is Here, and Echo Canyon River Expeditions has a Trip for Everyone

CAÑON CITY, Colo., June 15, 2020 - Now that Colorado's whitewater rafting season is here, people are asking the question "What's the right trip for me, my friends, my small children, my parents, grandparents, etc.?"

<u>Echo Canyon River Expeditions</u> on the Arkansas River near Cañon City's Royal Gorge can answer that question and more. As the state's largest rafting outfitter, Echo Canyon offers trips suitable for first-timers, bigwater fans and everyone in between.

The company has instituted protocols to maximize the health and safety of rafters and guides because of Covid-19. Neinas recommends all guests review <u>protocols online</u> so that they arrive ready to raft.



Multi-generational trips are common.

"The Arkansas is the most popular rafting river in the United States for good reasons," said Andy Neinas, owner of Echo Canyon. "Whether it's a family friendly float trip or a splashy, raucous rafting adventure in the Royal Gorge, this is quintessential summertime fun that can go a long way in improving your mood and awakening your senses, especially during these trying times."

Located eight miles west of Cañon City on U.S. 50 and within sight of the entrance to the Royal Gorge Bridge & Park, Echo Canyon has been in business for 43 years. The company offers luxury cabins and glamping tents, a restaurant and event space.

Rafting trips:

The **Bighorn Sheep Canyon** trip is recommended for families with children six and up as well as intermediate rafters. The trip combines mild whitewater with calm stretches featuring wildlife watching in a spectacular natural setting. Rates are \$77 for half-day trips and \$129 for full-day trips. Full-day trips include a gourmet boxed lunch.

The Gentle Family Float is a half-day, five-mile excursion that also takes place in the Bighorn Sheep Canyon. This trip is suitable for multiple generations, including kids as young as four and grandparents. Easy Class II and gentle Class III rapids are mixed with plenty of floating time. Rates are \$77 per adult and \$67 for kids ages four to six.

Experienced rafters looking for an adrenaline rush can choose the **Royal Gorge Rafting Trips**. With rapids ranging from challenging Class III up to Class V, this trip makes its way through the 1,000-feet deep Royal Gorge of the Arkansas. Suggested minimum age is 14. Rates are \$89 for 10-mile, half-day trips and \$149 for 20-mile, full-day trips. Full-day trips include gourmet boxed lunch served at a scenic private site overlooking the river.

Rafting season with Echo Canyon typically begins in late April and ends in September, and whitewater experiences change significantly during the season. Spring snowmelt results in fast river flows, and early-season rafting is a favorite time for adrenaline junkies. Summer brings calmer waters, making it a perfect season for families and soft adventure travelers.

Echo Canyon provides all rafters with a personal flotation device and helmet and offers rentals of water shoes, wetsuits and splash jackets. Echo Canyon pioneered the use of GoPro cameras mounted on all rafts, enabling both photos and videos to be captured throughout the trip. Due to advanced technology at Echo Canyon headquarters, rafters can view and purchase photos and videos of their adventures shortly after they arrive back to the office.

Located across the street from Echo Canyon River Expeditions are the Royal Gorge Cabins, a complex of one- and two-bedroom Luxury cabins with fully equipped kitchens, living areas and private outdoors spaces, and queen and double-queen Glamping Tents with private patios and fire rings.

The <u>8 Mile Bar and Grill</u> is currently open on weekends and features a 16-tap bar with Colorado brews and popular favorites as well as a menu offering salads, burgers, sandwiches and entrees. More than half of the restaurant's seating is outside, and large bay doors allow for plenty of fresh air.

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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 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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