

Questions & Answers



WORLD WIDE RIVER EXPEDITIONS

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DESOLATION/GRAY CANYON GREEN RIVER

TRIP INFORMATION

Q. WHERE DOES THE TRIP BEGIN AND END?

A. The Desolation/Gray Canyon Trip begins and ends in Moab, Utah.

Q. WHERE DO I MEET THE TRIP?

A. The trip meets in Moab, Utah and can be reached via Salt Lake City, UT or Grand Junction, CO. It is generally less expensive to fly into Salt Lake, whereas flying into Grand Junction is closer and a much quicker drive to Moab by car. Flight service is also available into Canyonlands Air Field (about 20 miles north of Moab on Hwy 191) through Salt Lake City. Rental cars and shuttle services are available at each airport. Driving time to Moab from Grand Junction is two hours by traveling west on I-70 then turning south on Hwy 191. Driving time from Salt Lake is four hours traveling south on I-15 to the Price/US 6 exit to east I-70 then south on Hwy 191. For directions you can look up our address on google maps, gps, etc, or if you do not have access to those feel free to email or call. We are located at the very end of Riversands Rd. on the left. **Our office is in a residential area so please drive slowly, especially into the parking area**

Q. DO I NEED TO CHECK IN?

A. Please give us a call at our local phone number 435-259-7515 to check in and come by our office when you get into Moab to collect your gear.

Q. WHERE SHOULD I STAY IN MOAB?

A. If you need to stay in Moab the night before or after your trip, a full list of hotels and campgrounds can be found at www.discovermoab.com. If you need recommendations feel free to contact us. You can also find all transfer and shuttle info on the site above if needed. **All overnight accommodations are the responsibility of the client or the travel agent.**

Q. WHAT KIND OF WEATHER CAN WE EXPECT? WILL IT RAIN?

A. The temperatures in the summer generally range from 80-110 degrees during the day with 70-85 degrees at night. July and August are warmer than June. Rain is not common during the summer months. The weather forecast can give you an idea of what to expect. If the forecast indicates rain come prepared because when it rains, it usually rains hard. A light jacket is especially nice for the cool, early morning flight.

Q. WHAT WILL WE BE THE ITINERARY?

DAY 1: The meeting time is approximately 6:30 a.m. at our office. An exact meeting time will be given when you check in the day before your departure. Cars can be parked for the duration of your river trip at our warehouse in Moab. If you don't have a car we can provide transportation to our office. After everyone arrives and cars are securely parked, transportation is provided to Canyonlands Airfield where your scenic charter flight will fly to the airstrip overlooking the Green River at Sand Wash. The trip leader will meet you at the planes to guide you on the 1.5-mile (downhill) trail to the waiting boats, while a baggage truck transports the gear along the longer six-mile route. After your bags are packed and you've had an orientation on river safety, the tour will put on the water for a relaxing day of floating on the river. Depending on the water level, a small motor may be used on the first day.

DAY 2-4: During the course of your 4- or 5-day river trip, activities that you may be involved in are hiking spectacular side canyons, running rapids, camping on the beach, picnics at the river's edge, floating, swimming, water fighting, sunbathing or simply relaxing.

LAST DAY: The takeout on the last day is Swasey's Rapid, just a few miles from the town of Green River, Utah, at about 1:00 p.m. After lunch, van or bus transportation will be provided back to Moab. You will arrive in Moab around 3:00 p.m.

Q. WHAT ARE THE CLASSIFICATIONS OF THE RAPIDS?

A. Desolation Canyon is a class III section of whitewater. We get numerous calls asking about the classification of rapids. Oftentimes, clients have participated in a paddle raft experience on the smaller, mountain streams, located in their areas where the difficulty of the river is graded I-VI, with VI being unrunnable. Such a grading system doesn't work very well on the larger rivers (Colorado & Green Rivers) as we've never encountered a VI, even during periods of extreme high water. What may be classified as a potential six, quickly drops to a five, then a four, three and two. As the summer wears on, the level of the river drops dramatically. The best gauge we can give is that the rivers we operate on are at their highest, fastest and meanest level early in the season, May through June, and at their lowest level in July and August.

Q. WILL WE BE ALLOWED TO SWIM?

A. Swimming will be part of your trip. Your guide will let you know when it is safe to swim. **When exiting the raft into the water always go feet first.**

Q. WHAT KIND OF BOATS WILL WE BE IN?

A. On this section of the Green River we use 18 ft. oar powered rafts where the guide does all the driving and 2-person inflatable kayaks two people work together maneuvering the boat (depending on water conditions). A small motor is used the first day when the water is low.

Q. DO WE HAVE TO WEAR LIFEJACKETS ALL THE TIME, AND CAN WE BRING OUR OWN?

A. Lifejackets are an absolute necessity any time you are in the water, including time in camp when you want to play in the river. We are required to use Coast Guard approved, Type V, whitewater jackets, so please don't bring your own.

Q. WHAT PERSONAL EQUIPMENT DO I NEED FOR THE TRIP?

A. Each guest should bring the clothing and personal toiletry items they would need to for the duration of their trip. A camera stored in two zip-lock bags for protection is a great thing to bring. Don't forget to charge the batteries and bring an extra memory card. A complete packing list is available on our website. It is best to bring the items in a soft sided nylon bag or duffel no bigger than 12"X12"X24".

Q. ARE TENTS PROVIDED?

A. Your guides will bring along enough tents for two people per tent plus a few extra for those traveling alone. These are comfortable, roomy tents available for your use. As the guides have the communal camp to set up, passengers will set up their own tents.

Q. WHAT EQUIPMENT WILL I RECEIVE?

A. Water-resistant rubber bag (dry bag)
Sleeping bag, foam pad or cot, tarp
Small Personal dry bag
A souvenir mug you may keep
The small dry bag is 7.5"Wx13"H. It is the storage unit on the raft that is available to you during the course of the day. The dry bag, which contains your soft nylon bag items, sleeping bag and foam pad will be secured to the raft during the day and not accessible except in camp.

Q. WHEN WILL I RECEIVE MY CAMPING GEAR?

A. The camping gear will be already packed with your sleeping bag and ground cloth and will be given to you when you come by our office the day before your departure. The bags are numbered for your convenience. Once you take a bag you will need to remember the number so you will be able to claim your personal equipment each evening.

Q. WHAT ARE THE TOILET FACILITIES LIKE?

A. For your comfort and convenience, a portable toilet is set up in camp. Usually it's in a "John" tent, but sometimes it's in a secluded place behind a large rock or clump of trees. The toilet is available each evening and morning and for emergencies during the day. Our guides (both male and female) are sensitive to the unique challenges that may be encountered by women while traveling in a wilderness area. Please don't hesitate to ask if there are questions concerning these issues. It is helpful for women to wear 2 piece swimsuits and/or have a skirt or wrap around sarong to wear while on the trip for more privacy. Ziploc bags are handy for storage and disposal of feminine hygiene products.

Q. ARE THERE CREEPY CRAWLIES AND CRITTERS ON THE RIVER?

A. Typically, this part of the river does have issues with mosquitoes throughout the summer. Good quality repellent is a must on all trips and sometimes later trips benefit from mosquito head netting, long sleeve shirts and pants.

Q. CAN WE TAKE A SHOWER?

A. The only clean water we bring is for drinking and cooking. You can bathe in the river using biodegradable soap if at all possible. When the water is cold baby wipes work well for getting the major dust and river water off.

Q. CAN WE HAVE A FIRE IN CAMP?

A. Campfires are not part of our program unless the weather is unusually cold. If a fire is needed the guides will be the ones to set it up. Most summers we are under state fire restrictions by the middle of June. It also does not get dark until almost 10 pm, with the sun setting about 9:15 pm.

Q. WHAT DO WE DO IF ONE OF OUR GROUP NEEDS FIRST AID?

A. Our guides are all trained in Advanced Wilderness First Aid, CPR and will have a first aid kit with them. Protocols are in place in the event of an emergency while on the river.

Q. IS WATER PROVIDED?

A. Water is available on the boats each day and lemonade is available in camp. You may bring other beverages. Because of limited space available on the rafts, we recommend only bringing 2 six-packs of cans per person. Drinks are placed in a drink cooler as space is available. Other drinks like coffee, tea or hot chocolate may be available in camp, in addition to the water and lemonade. Any wine or liquor will need to be packed in your dry bag.
PLEASE TRY NOT TO BRING GLASS.

NOTE: Consumption of too much alcohol by some individuals can destroy the full enjoyment of a wilderness river trip for other passengers. A person has less control in dangerous situations when excessive amounts of alcohol have been consumed. If you view excessive consumption of alcoholic beverages an essential element in your wilderness experience, we suggest that you charter a private trip.

Q. WHAT MEALS ARE PROVIDED AND WHAT KIND OF FOOD WILL WE HAVE?

A. Meals start with lunch the first day and end with lunch the last day. Lunch each day may consist of a make it yourself sandwich buffet, with lunch meats, cheese, tomatoes, lettuce, onions, pickles, breads, etc, bean wraps or chicken wraps. We also serve fruits, chips, cookies and lemonade. Breakfast might be blueberry pancakes, sausage, melon, or French toast, continental which is yogurt, cereal, oatmeal, fruit, etc., or egg mcrivers consisting of an English muffin, eggs, and sausage. Dinner may include a pasta night, chicken night, steak night, green salad, vegetables and dessert, which is served about an hour after dinner. You will not go hungry and we do our best to keep you from standing in long lines for your meals.

Q. WHAT IF WE HAVE FOOD ALLERGIES?

A. If we know about food allergies in advance we can make accommodations to our menus for the safety of those with allergies. If your food allergy is severe, we suggest you bring a few of your favorite food items and we can help you transport them on the river for you to use when necessary. The only peanut products we use are peanut butter for sandwiches. Those with a peanut allergy can go through the lunch line first. For those with gluten allergies we suggest bringing your own favorite brand of gluten free bread, noodles for pasta night, and supplemental breakfast items.

Q. WILL I NEED MONEY ONCE I LEAVE THE HOTEL?

A. River maps, t-shirts, sunglasses, sunscreen, squirt guns, and other items are available in our company store before and after your trip. You may want to keep some money with you for gratuities for your guides. Do not bring anything that you cannot afford to lose - airline tickets, car keys, wallets, jewelry, etc. We suggest bringing a photo ID and a credit card for emergency purposes only.

Q. ARE THERE MAPS AVAILABLE TO PURCHASE BEFORE THE TRIP?

A. There is an excellent waterproof map available through our office. It provides a mile-by-mile description of the historical and some geological aspects of the river. The map covers a much larger section of the river than we actually run and is a beautiful and useful souvenir of your trip. This is the same map your guide uses. This map is available in our office at the beginning of your trip.

Q. WHAT ABOUT GRATUITIES?

A. You should never feel that a gratuity is automatically expected from you, but it is a great way to acknowledge excellent service. Our guides work hard to make each expedition a memorable and rewarding experience for you. May we suggest \$10-\$20 per person per day given to your trip leader who will then distribute it evenly with the guides on your trip.

Q. WHAT DO I DO WITH MY EXCESS LUGGAGE?

A. Excess luggage may be stored at your hotel. If your hotel does not provide storage, we can arrange for storage at our office. If you are driving to Moab, luggage can be locked in your car and parked at our warehouse parking area during your river trip.

Q. WHEN IS OUR PAYMENT DUE AND CAN WE GET A REFUND IF WE NEED TO CANCEL?

A. A deposit is due at the time of the reservation and full payment is due 30 days prior to your launch date. We will gladly refund your deposits and full payments, less a \$50.00 per person cancellation fee, for written (email) notification of cancellation received 60 days prior to your departure date. Should you cancel between 60 and 21 days prior to your departure date, you will forfeit your deposits. If you cancel within 21 days of tour departure, you will forfeit all monies received by WWRE. No refunds for no shows. Our cancellation policy applies in every instance. We strongly encourage you to purchase trip cancellation insurance. For policy information and to sign up go to www.travelinsured.com. Cost of insurance is based on the age of the insured and the amount being insured.

Q. CAN WE CHANGE OUR RESERVATION TO A DIFFERENT DATE?

A. A reservation can be changed to another date for a \$25 per person change of date fee. The reservation must be used by the next full season from the time the original reservation was made. We reserve the right to cancel any trip, with a full refund due to weather, water conditions, or insufficient reservations.

Release forms: Although World Wide River Expeditions takes every precaution when it comes to passenger safety, whitewater rafting has some inherent risks. Each participant will be required to sign an acknowledgment of risk form before participating. Parents must sign with minor children.

Please note your Client Responsibilities: 1) all clients will be required to follow the safety policies and procedures of Raft Moab, Inc. DBA World Wide River Expeditions ('WWRE') and their guides' instructions during activities. 2) All clients will be required to sign a Participant Release of Liability, Waiver of Claims, Assumption of Risks and Indemnity Agreement in favor of WWRE before departing on any trip; and 3) each client agrees and acknowledges when they sign up for a WWRE activity that they have significant responsibility for their own safety and that they agree they are ULTIMATELY RESPONSIBLE for their own safety during participation in an activity.

If you have additional questions that need to be answered, including inquiries regarding weather, scheduling, equipment or pricing, please feel free to contact us.