



# Family Rafting in Utah

Flaming Gorge on the Green River

July 19-21, 2017







## HIGHLIGHTS

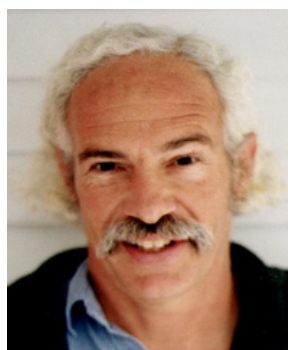
- Fun Class II whitewater
- Ideal trip for kids as young as 4
- Classic Wild West history
- Stunning scenery & abundant wildlife
- World-class trout fishing

## ADVENTURE OVERVIEW

Below Flaming Gorge Dam, the crystal-clear Green River offers splashy Class II rapids, interspersed with calm sections that inspire swimming, watching for wildlife and gazing at the canyon scenery. The river is teeming with trout, which has earned it the reputation of one of the country's finest trout fishing streams. Flaming Gorge is an ideal section of river for first-time rafters and young families.

## WILLIAMS STUDY LEADER

David Dethier, professor emeritus of geosciences, will be lending his expertise to this family rafting trip. David is an experienced travel-study leader, having previously led numerous rafting and expedition-style trips for Williams College.



## QUICK FACTS

### DESTINATION

Vernal, Utah

### PRICES

\$735 adult; \$675 youth

### ADVENTURE TYPE

Whitewater Rafting

### MINIMUM AGE

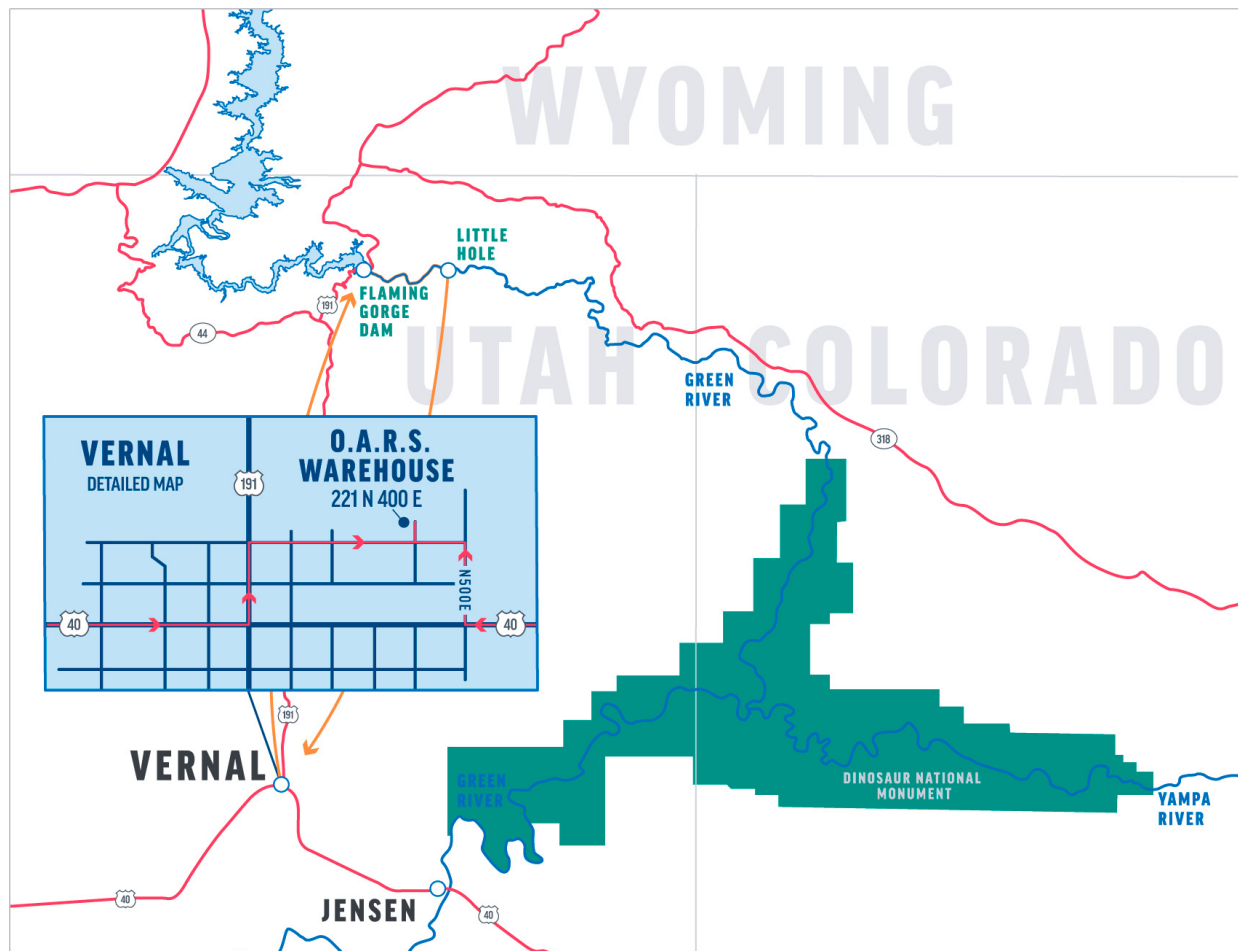
4 (7 at high water)

### ADVENTURE LEVEL

Class II rapids; easy walks

### ACCOMMODATIONS

Camping



## ITINERARY OVERVIEW

- Drive from Vernal to our put-in, where after a detailed safety talk, our journey begins
- Run rapids like Anticipation, Roller Coaster and Mother-in-Law
- Watch the desert panoramas slowly develop in-between bursts of thrilling whitewater
- Try your hand at the paddle raft and inflatable kayak
- Nap, take an exploratory hike, or just sit back and laugh with friends and family as your guides prepare one delicious meal after another
- Visit Jarvie Ranch for a glimpse into the Wild West
- After our last big rapid at Red Creek, the river flattens out as we descend into Brown's Park

# THE DAY BEFORE YOUR TRIP...

We'll meet at 7:00 PM at the Don Hatch Warehouse in Vernal, Utah, for a pre-trip meeting. This is an opportunity to meet your fellow travelers and trip leader and ask any last-minute questions. Your trip leader will give you a thorough trip orientation, and pass out your waterproof river bags so that you can pack your belongings that evening.

## JULY 19

We begin our trip with a scenic drive from Vernal to our put-in below the Flaming Gorge Dam, where the boats and the rest of the Don Hatch crew await. After a detailed safety talk, our journey begins.

The first day is full of fun whitewater, including Anticipation Rapid, Roller Coaster Rapid and Mother-in-Law Rapid. The splashy, crystal clear waters of the Green River carry us into the heart of Ashley National Forest.

Our first day sets the pace for the rest of our days on the river. Typically, we spend a few hours on the water in the morning, sometimes stopping for a great hike or a refreshing swim.

At lunchtime we pull over to a sandy beach and enjoy a delicious picnic. After feasting and relaxing on the beach (or perhaps a game of Frisbee or horseshoes), we get back in our boats and watch the desert panoramas slowly develop in-between bursts of thrilling whitewater. Be sure to try your hand at the paddle raft and inflatable kayak!

Mid- to late-afternoon, we stop and make camp. You grab your bags and set up your tent while the guides take care of the kitchen and "living room"—camp chairs and the site for tonight's campfire (if permitted). This is the perfect time for you to lounge on the beach with that book you've wanted to finish. Before long, you'll be savoring pleasing hors d'oeuvres and the beverage of your choice—delicious as these refreshments are, they always taste better after a day on the river! Nap, take an exploratory hike, or just sit back and laugh with friends and family as the guides prepare dinner.

After a satisfying feast, the evening is yours to spend however you wish. Maybe music, stories or jokes will bring us together tonight; maybe the popping of the fire, the whisper of the river and the clarity of the big, star-filled sky will encourage silent reflection on the amazing wilderness that is, for now, our home.



# JULY 20-21

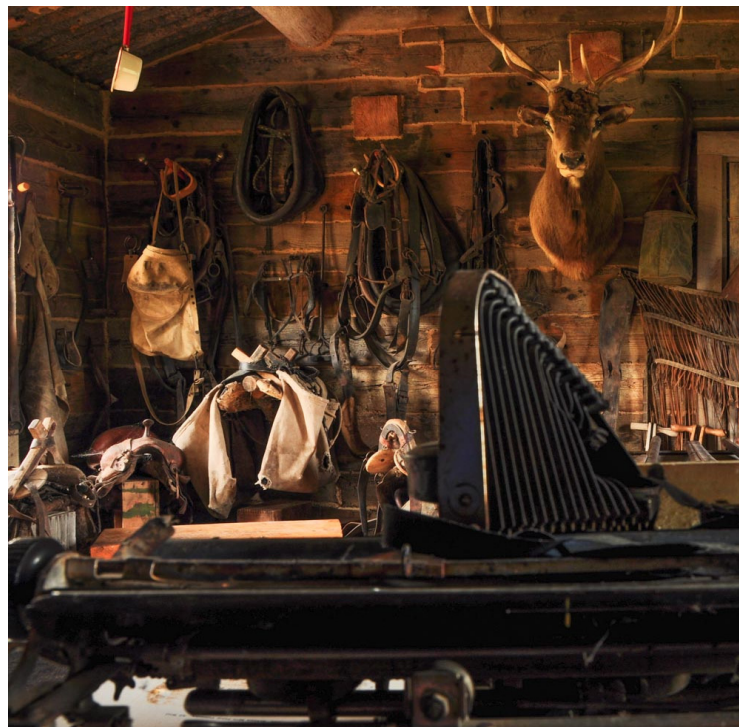
Your days begin with the morning light turning the canyon walls the colors of sunrise. Fresh coffee and tea are waiting for you when you get up; grab a cup, sit back and take in the glory of the awakening river. Soon breakfast is served, and once you've eaten your fill, you'll pack up your things as the guides break down camp, then our new day's adventure begins.

After our last big rapid at Red Creek, the river flattens out as we descend into Brown's Park, where swift currents carry us through Swallow Canyon and into the Browns Park National Wildlife Refuge.

During the evening, we will make camp on a beach that likely allows access to a great hiking trail. If our guides don't arrange a hike, you may want to enjoy a self-guided walk, or perhaps you'd rather just relax and wait for dinner—always a trip highlight, as the day's adventures stir up a hearty appetite. After our meal the group dynamic of our trip is at its best as we gather around the campfire for nighttime conversation and laughter.

We'll stop to spend time at the world-famous Jarvie Ranch, a BLM-restored historic site offering visitors a glimpse into turn-of-the-century pioneer life along this stretch of the Green River.

Our take-out point will be the Swallow Canyon Boat Ramp, where we'll board a shuttle for the return trip to Vernal.



# GETTING TO VERNAL

- The easiest airport is in Salt Lake City, which is serviced by most major airlines. You can rent a car at the airport and drive to Vernal, leaving it parked at the O.A.R.S./ Don Hatch Warehouse during the trip.
- Boutique Air offers twice daily flights between Salt Lake City and Vernal and daily flights between Denver and Vernal. Check [www.boutiqueair.com](http://www.boutiqueair.com) for current pricing and schedule.
- Redtail Aviation has charter flights from Salt Lake City to Vernal for an estimated cost of \$392 per person (price is subject to change). A minimum of two passengers is required. Please call Redtail Aviation for more information: (800) 842-9251.

## PRE- AND POST-TRIP ACCOMMODATIONS

We recommend that you make reservations well in advance in order to guarantee lodging. ***(Pre- and post-trip lodging is not included in the trip cost).***

- Microtel Inn & Suites by Wyndham Naples Vernal\* 435-781-8141

*\*Please mention you are an O.A.R.S./ Don Hatch guest to receive a special discounted room rate.*

- Best Western Dinosaur Inn 435-789-2660
- Best Western Antlers Motel 435-789-1202
- Holiday Inn Express 435-789-4654
- Econo Lodge 435-789-2000
- Lamplighter Inn 435-789-0312

# INCLUDED IN TRIP COST

**\$735 ADULT; \$675 YOUTH**

- Skilled professional guide service
- All meals from lunch on day 1 through lunch on the last day
- 2 waterproof bags to hold your gear for the trip (approximate sealed size: 13" diameter x 25" tall —with a maximum capacity of 2 cubic feet). Your sleeping bag and pad must fit into one bag and your remaining gear will fit into the other bag. Please note: If you rent our gear it will come already packed in one of the two waterproof bags issued to each passenger. Your remaining gear, therefore, must fit in one bag.
- 1 small waterproof bag for camera and other small items you'll want during the day (approximate sealed size: 17" tall x 9" diameter)
- 2-person tents on a shared basis (there is a \$30 charge for a private tent)
- Personal flotation device (PFD) which must be worn at all times on the river in compliance with insurance regulations
- Camp chairs
- Eating utensils, cups and plates
- Highest quality inflatable rafts, helmets and related equipment
- Transfers from the Hatch / O.A.R.S. warehouse to the river and back
- Wetsuit—weather dependent (does not include footwear of any kind, including wetsuit booties). For clients with a high interest in using the inflatable kayaks, we will bring a limited supply of wetsuits.



## REGISTRATION

Contact Carrie Aronson at O.A.R.S.

209-753-4786

[carriea@oars.com](mailto:carriea@oars.com)



# NOT INCLUDED IN YOUR TRIP COST

- Transportation to and from Vernal
- Pre- and post-trip accommodations and meals
- Dinosaur National Monument Entrance Fee
- Sleeping bags and pads (these items may be rented from O.A.R.S./ Don Hatch)
- Insurance of any kind, including travel insurance
- Alcoholic beverages
- Items of a personal nature (an equipment list will be provided)
- Gratuities

## AVAILABLE FOR RENT

- Please indicate on your guest registration form whether you want to rent a sleep kit or if you prefer to bring your own.
- Sleep Kit: Can be rented for \$40 per person. Sleep kits consist of a sleeping bag, sleeping pad, ground tarp, sheet, pillow and pillowcase.
- Sleeping Pad Only: The pad only may be rented for \$15
- 2-Person Tent: We provide 2 person tents. It is assumed you will share this tent with another person. You can (if you prefer) have a tent to yourself for an additional charge of \$30 per tent.





# TERMS & CONDITIONS

## Physical Requirements

Our primary goal is for you to have an enjoyable experience. The nature of the trip is such that it involves some physical exertion and potential exposure to the elements, including cold water, heat, sun, wind and rain. We have experience accommodating people with a wide range of physical disabilities and/or health conditions, but please consult your doctor if you have medical or health conditions that could impact your ability to participate in this outdoor adventure.

## Dietary Restrictions

We need to know as soon as possible about any dietary restrictions we should consider in planning your trip. If you have additional food allergies or necessary restrictions, we will do our best to accommodate your needs. However, there may be an additional supplemental menu fee ranging from \$5-20 per person per day to cover our increased costs.

## Reservations and Deposits

A \$125/person deposit is required at the time of reservation. The balance is due 60 days prior to departure.

## Cancellations and Refunds

Cancellations 60 days or more prior to your trip earn a full refund less a \$50/person fee. Cancellations 59 days or less prior to your trip are not refundable. If you find it necessary to cancel your trip, please notify us as soon as possible. We regret that we cannot make exceptions for personal emergencies. For this reason, we strongly urge you to investigate trip insurance. If you transfer from one trip to another within the same season, there is a \$50/person charge up until 60 days before the trip. Transfers made after this time will be treated as cancellations.

## Insurance

*We strongly recommend* that you protect yourself, your belongings and your vacation through the purchase of a travel insurance plan. They cover your non-refundable payments in most cases, should you have to cancel your trip due to illness or injury—yours or that of an extended family member—even at the last minute. If coverage is purchased at the time of your initial reservation, pre-existing medical conditions may be covered. No one wants an expensive helicopter to become necessary, but if you need to be evacuated or if an immediate family member dies and the local management agency is requested to notify you by helicopter, the helicopter expenses will be your responsibility. Evacuations can be prolonged, difficult and expensive. Personal belongings and cameras are carried entirely at the owner's risk, and A.R.S. accepts no responsibility for lost, damaged, delayed or stolen property.

## Liability Release

Everyone is required to sign a standard liability release form before the trip, acknowledging awareness that there are inherent risks associated with the trip. Due to the nature of the activities, a condition of your participation is that you will sign this form and return it to our office before the trip begins. Anyone who refuses to sign the form will not be allowed to participate, and consistent with Hatch cancellation policy, there will be no refund of the trip fees at that time.

## Responsibility – An Important Notice

Don Hatch River Expeditions, Inc. and cooperating agencies act only in the capacity of agent for the participants in all matters relating to transportation and/or all other related travel services, and assume no responsibility however caused for injury, loss or damage to person or property in connection with any service, including but not limited to that resulting directly or indirectly from acts of God, detention, annoyance, delays and expenses arising from quarantine, strikes, theft, pilferage, force majeure, failure of any means of conveyance to arrive or depart as scheduled, civil disturbances, government restrictions or regulations, and discrepancies or change in transit over which it has no control. Reasonable changes in itinerary may be made where deemed advisable for the comfort and well being of the participants, including cancellation due to water fluctuation, insufficient bookings (this trip requires a minimum of 4 guests), and other factors. There is risk in whitewater rafting, particularly during high-water conditions. Rafts, dories and kayaks do capsize. You could be swept overboard. Your guide will make every attempt to assist, but you must be strong and agile enough to “self-help” and “float-it-out” without further endangering yourself or others. We reserve the right not to accept passengers weighing more than 260 pounds or with a waist/chest size exceeding 56 inches. We may decide, at any time, to exclude any person or group for any reason we feel is related to the safety of our trips. We are experienced at accommodating people with various disabilities. Please give us an opportunity to make you feel welcome. We need to discuss any special requirements ahead of time. On advancement of deposit the depositor agrees to be bound by the above recited terms and conditions. Prices subject to change without notice.