

The Royal Gorge Raft Trip

DATE(S): May-August

MEETING TIME: 0700hrs

RETURN TIME: Approximately 1800 to 1830

MEETING PLACE: Outdoor Recreation Center
5136 Redtail Dr. USAFA, CO 80840 ph#(719) 333-2940/4475
(Back Door on the East side of Building, Front doors will be locked)

TRIP DESCRIPTION: **THE ROYAL GORGE-FULL DAY** -Minimum age is 16. All rafting trips go rain or shine. Show up at 0700 at the Outdoor Rec Center and sign the release of liability form. The guides will assist you with properly fitting the necessary gear that the OAP provides for you. Then we will load up and drive approximately 45 minutes to Penrose, CO. Once there we will stop for a quick break, where you can get snacks and drinks and use the facilities. There is a Subway there, so bring some cash. We will drive approximately 45 more minutes to our next stop which is the river. Once there you will change into your river clothing and receive a safety briefing before getting on the river. Plan on getting wet, this is a river trip. Once on the river we will paddle, paddle and paddle some more to our lunch destination where we will have a picnic lunch that is provided by the OAP. After lunch we will continue down river to the Pink House which is our take out point. After changing into warm dry clothes we will drive back to Penrose, CO for a quick break and then proceed back to the Outdoor Rec Center. The Royal Gorge Trip is a Class III-IV-V that combines the fun of the Bighorn Sheep Canyon trip with the exhilaration of the Royal Gorge's nine miles of thunder. Travel under the world's highest suspension bridge, but don't look too long, rapids such as Sledge Hammer, Clarks Hole, Wall Slammer, Sunshine Falls, and Boat Eater will require all of your attention. Good physical condition and swimming ability are required. Minimum age is 16 years. This trip is not for the timid! All rafting trips include transportation from the Academy, wet suit, helmet, personal flotation device, splash jacket, and lunch. All rafts are state of the art self-bailing and all equipment the finest available. Our guides are all state certified whitewater-rafting guides with river rescue training and First Aid and CPR certificates. Our guide staff includes members with certifications in Wilderness First Aid, Emergency Medical Technician, River Rescue Technician, and Whitewater Guide Instructors. Our primary concern is for your safety, you will be given a comprehensive safety briefing before launching please listen carefully.

WHAT TO BRING: **Comfort Items:** Sunscreen, Sunglasses with retaining strap, Lip Balm, Water Bottle.
Miscellaneous: Day Pack (Stays in Vehicle), Plastic Bag (For wet clothing), Camera (Disposable, Waterproof), Change of Clothes.

WHAT TO WEAR: The OAP suggests wearing a wet suit for this trip. Wear apparel appropriate for the sport and dress in layers. Avoid cotton at all cost. **Most of all, Dress For The Weather!** Suggested Items: Bathing Suit or Shorts, River Shoes or Old Sneakers (**Absolutely no Flipflops**), Socks (Wool or Polypropylene), Shirt (Wool or Polypropylene), Sun Hat or Baseball Hat, The Outdoor Adventure Program provides: Wet suits, Splash Jackets, Helmets and PFD's.

POSSIBLE RISKS & HAZARDS: Sunburn, Dehydration, Hypothermia, and High Altitude Sickness are the biggest threat for this trip. Dress appropriately and drink lots of water. River trips entail known and unanticipated risks that could result in physical or emotional injury, Paralysis, death, or damage to you, to property, or to third parties. Whitewater rapids will be encountered. You could be jolted, jarred, bounced, and shaken about during rides through some of these rapids. It is possible that you could be injured if you come in contact with dry boxes, other storage containers, or other fixed equipment necessary to the operation of the expedition and the outfitting of the raft. Rafts could turn over or you could be "washed" overboard. You could slip or fall during a hike, resulting in damage to equipment or personal injury. Accidents can occur getting on and off the boats; over-exposure to sun could cause sunburn, dehydration, heat exhaustion, heat stroke, and heat cramps. Also prolonged exposure to cold water can result in hypothermia and in extreme cases death and accidental drowning is also a possibility.

Activity Includes: Transportation, Wet Suits, Splash Jackets, Helmets, PFD's, and Lunch.

COST: \$85.00 per person