



Grand Canyon Rafting



TOUR AT A GLANCE:



2 US States: Nevada and Arizona

Length: 8 days

Departs: Las Vegas

Trip code: FGC

Accommodation: 7 nights camping

Group size: Two boats of 14 (28 maximum)

Meals: 7 breakfast, 7 lunches and 6 dinners plus soft drinks

Staff: Professional river guides

Transport: Inflatable raft and private Las Vegas return transfer

Please see our website for detailed destination information and insider tips.

★ TRIP OVERVIEW

The Grand Canyon offers the most spectacular geological extravaganza on earth. It stretches for 277 miles, measures from four to 18 miles in width, and averages a mile in depth. Encompassing more than 1.2 million acres, the semi-arid canyon consists of raised plateaus, steep-walled canyons, desert basins at lower elevations and forests at higher elevations.

The canyon walls provide a record of geological time, diverse fossil specimens, a vast array of geologic features and rock types, and numerous caves containing extensive and significant archaeological, biological, geological, and paleontological resources.

Even though the Grand Canyon is a desert, it has a high variety of plants and wildlife. Cactus and wildflowers dot the riverbanks, as well as cool glens with tumbling waterfalls and ferns. You may catch a glimpse of bighorn sheep, mule deer, coyotes, and ringtail cats along the riverbanks and in tributary canyons.

A Grand Canyon river rafting trip is a once-in-a-lifetime holiday, it should be an unhurried experience. To many, the most thrilling event on a Grand Canyon whitewater rafting trip is riding the rapids. You'll leave civilization far behind as you travel the entire length of the canyon aboard specially designed motorized rafts, embracing the thrill of the whitewater and exploring gigantic caverns and waterfalls only accessible from the water.

If the idea of leaving the modern world behind, switching off the mobile and doing without Wi-Fi access, in favour of incredible views and a remarkable experience sounds like heaven to you, this tour will tick all the boxes.



HIGHLIGHTS:

- ▶ Raft the entire length of the Grand Canyon
- ▶ Enjoy up to class IV white water rapids
- ▶ Spot wildlife and soaring birdlife including ringtail cats, mule deer, hawks and golden eagles
- ▶ Enjoy exhilarating trails and magnificent viewpoints
- ▶ Camp on the banks of the Colorado River under a sky full of stars
- ▶ Swim in the side canyons and explore rarely visited areas on foot
- ▶ Gourmet meals prepared daily on the river

★ ITINERARY AND DETAILS

PRE TOUR MEETING

There will be a welcome orientation meeting in the lobby of the Residence Inn by Marriott hotel at 20:00 hrs the night before the tour begins. You will meet your group and discuss any questions relating to the upcoming adventure on the river including packing and equipment questions.

Day 1: Las Vegas to Lees Ferry - Set off on the Colorado River An early 05:00 hrs departure from the Residence Inn by Marriot to historic Lees Ferry to begin your journey, with your first taste of the mighty Grand Canyon and snaking Colorado River. Your bags should be packed the night before however, please arrive no later than 04:30 hrs in order to leave enough time to check your bags and leave anything you don't take in storage. Should you leave luggage in the hotel there may be a charge for this so please leave enough time.

If you havent managed to pick up drinks prior to departure from Las Vegas, there will be a stop on the way.

Upon arriving to Lees Ferry, you will meet your river guides, get fitted for a life jacket and split into two teams. It is here you will be talked through a safety briefing before pushing out onto the Colorado River and the start of your white water rafting expedition. The start of your trip is fairly calm and gives you the chance to find your feet before the rapids arrive!

Days 2-7: Colorado River/Grand Canyon The Grand Canyon offers the most spectacular geological extravaganza on earth. Despite being a desert setting, plants and wildlife thrive. Cacti, wildflowers, bighorn sheep, mule deer, coyotes and ringtail cats may be seen along the banks, while overhead many species of birds may be observed, including hawks, golden eagles, falcons, great blue herons and egrets. You will have the opportunity to hike and swim inside canyons, as well as running class IV white-water rapids. Due to the length of river covered in eight days, specially crafted motorised rafts are used for safety and comfort. These allow ample supplies to be carried for the entire journey so travellers of all fitness levels can enjoy this incredible experience.

Not all of your time is spent on the water, you'll have ample time to hike on the trails and stretch those legs. A visit to Havasu Creek is a highlight for most travellers on this trip, with the incredible contrast of colours from the vibrant turquoise blue waters set against a backdrop of rich red rock - simply stunning. There's no need to pack much for this trip, the climate is mild and just a few changes of clothes are needed but it is important you bring warm jackets that will keep you warm even when wet. We supply waterproof river bags and camera boxes so you can focus on enjoying the sights and sounds of the river; hidden trails, secluded riverside campsites and stunning canyon sunsets and sunrises.

Day 8: Transfer back to Las Vegas Your journey comes to an end with an exhilarating jet boat ride along Lake Mead, before transferring back to Las Vegas where you can prepare to be dazzled all over again. Perhaps treat yourself to a celebratory drink after what can only be described as an incredible adventure and slowly ease yourself back into normality.

Specialist departure dates are marked on the dates and prices tab online and will be either nine or ten days in duration. They will include either a photography, ecology, geology or history guide. Please see website for details.

A TYPICAL DAY ON THE RIVER

07:00 HRS You awake to the aroma of freshly-brewed coffee. Although the sun will not flood your camp for some time, the tops of the Grand Canyon's

walls already are aglow with sunlight. While eggs, sausage and muffins cook, sleeping bags are being packed.

09:00 HRS You enter a series of rapids and a great blue heron takes off down-river, wings pumping; both bird and its surroundings seem somehow prehistoric. Embrace the coolness of the shadow and tilt your head back and see the sunlight slowly making its way down the epic canyon walls.

11:00 HRS South Canyon intersects the river, signalling that Vasey's Paradise is just ahead. A paradise, indeed! Sunlight seems to explode from the fountains of water gushing from the Grand Canyon's walls. Lush growths of moss and ferns seem strangely out of place in this desert setting. You drift close to the gushing water, giving everyone aboard a welcome shower.

12:00 HRS Your boat stops for lunch in the shade of Redwall Cavern. Inside this great cave, there's room enough for a game of softball!

14:00 HRS As two golden eagles soar lazily overhead, you drift quietly along soaking in your surroundings and your boatman tells you the story of Bert Loper's historic river run in 1949. You feel the heat, but soon a roller coaster rapid refreshes you. We sight moon lilies abloom at the mouth of Saddle Canyon. A hike to explore Saddle is topped off with a cold soda.

18:00 HRS You make for Nankoweap a site of ancient Indian ruins and your campsite for the night. After a dinner of fillet, Dutch-oven potatoes, green salad and cherry cobbler, we hike to the ruins and view the river below.

21:00 HRS Those who cannot stay awake find their sleeping bags. Bed tonight is beneath the Milky Way and a canopy of stars that dwarfs even the Grand Canyon.

Please note: A Release Form and Visitors Acknowledgement of Risks form will be sent out to you. It is important this is completed and sent back to Grand American Adventures as quickly as possible for permitting purposes.

INCLUSIONS

- Services of professional, local, experienced river-runners and guides
- Sleeping bag, sleeping pad, ground cloth, sleeping cot and tent
- Waterproof river bags for your sleeping bag and clothing
- Waterproof box for camera or personal items
- Transportation in a private vehicle, private rafts
- All meals and soft drinks whilst on the Colorado River
- Guided hikes on the Grand Canyon trails

PHYSICAL RATING/PREPARATION

This rafting tour is suitable for people of all levels of experience and fitness. Rafting tours embrace the nature of the explorer and include the opportunity to hike the surrounding Grand Canyon areas, as well as swim in the side canyons. Walks cater from beginner to expert and range in difficulty from easy to strenuous. No previous experience is required, however we do suggest that you are confident in and around water and be willing to live without a mobile phone signal for the duration of the trip. Also important to mention is that there are no western style toilets or showers, portable toilets are provided.

TOUR ITINERARIES

Although each tour follows an itinerary, there is a certain amount of flexibility and from time to time your river guides may suggest changes. This may be due to weather conditions or any number of variables which can occur on the river. Flexibility is key and often a side diversion will be a highlight of the tour. Hikes cannot be guaranteed and may vary depending on ability, group interest, local weather conditions and time of year.

All details are provided in good faith. Due to the nature of travel, this information can change and should therefore be taken as an indication only and not as a contractual obligation on the part of Grand American Adventures. If you have any questions, please contact us.

Please ensure that you download an up-to-date copy of this dossier before you depart to ensure you have the most up-to-date information. Our itineraries are occasionally amended in response to customer feedback or for operational reasons.

This dossier is valid for all tours departing in 2017. Itineraries may be subject to change with the publication of our 2018/19 brochure in Autumn 2017, at which point revised 2018 dossiers will be made available.

★ CUSTOMER FEEDBACK

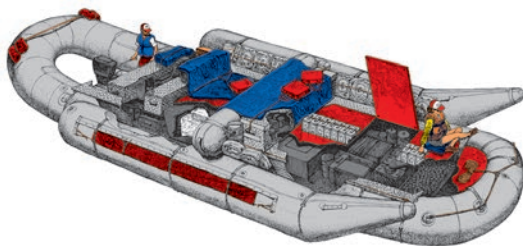
"This rafting adventure surpassed all my expectations. My favourite part was experiencing a very different side to the Grand Canyon and learning about the geology, in peace and away from all the crowds. Scenery was incredible, the rapids were exhilarating and the group helped make this one of my best holidays." – **Richard Hanson from UK**

Please see our website for more customer reviews from independent reviewer Feefo.

★ BEFORE YOU DEPART

OUR RAFTS

The simplicity and design of the 37-foot S-Rig make this craft ideal for Grand Canyon river running. Thanks to the boat's ability to transport all supplies needed for eight days or more of travel, guests can traverse the canyon in first-class comfort. Although the safety and manoeuvrability engineered into the S-Rig have minimized the effort required to raft through the canyon, they have not at all diminished the thrills of white-water river running. The most formidable rapids of the Colorado River, which Major Powell and other early explorers travelled down, are amongst the most eagerly anticipated highlights.



IS RAFTING THE GRAND CANYON FOR ME?

Rafting and camping along the Colorado River is the ultimate way to explore the Grand Canyon. With a relaxed pace and tranquil surroundings, this tour is perfect for experiencing the great outdoors and observing wildlife in its natural habitat.

No previous rafting experience is required, however we do suggest that you are confident in and around water and that you are willing to live without a mobile phone signal for the duration of the trip! If you have any disabilities, please make us aware of them at the time of booking. This doesn't mean you are exempt from joining the trip, but we may need to plan accordingly.

CAN'T SWIM?

No problem. Neither can many of the people who raft the Grand Canyon! We will supply US Coast Guard approved life preservers for all participants.

PRE AND POST TOUR HOTELS

Grand American Adventures tours begin and end at the gateway hotel in Las Vegas. We cannot book you hotel nights in this hotel, so we recommend you contact the Marriott directly to reserve accommodation. Ask for the "Grand Canyon Expeditions" group rate at Marriott Reservations at: 1-702-650-0040. If you are staying at an alternative hotel, you must make your way to the Marriott and aim to arrive no later than 04:30 hrs.

Your contact at the hotel is Remarii Ngiraked
Residence Inn by Marriott-Las Vegas Hughes Center
370 Hughes Center Drive
Las Vegas
Nevada 89169
Direct: +1 702-650-1618
Hotel: +1 702-650-0040
Email: remarii.ngiraked@marriott.com

If this contact is not available, you may also book with a hotel guest representative.

If for any reason reservations are not able to help, you can try calling Remarii on his direct line +1 (702) 650-1618. If he is not able to answer please leave a message with your email address and your request.

FLIGHT ARRANGEMENTS

We recommend you book your flight to arrive into the departure city at least one day prior to your tour's departure; this will allow you some adjustment time, opportunities for sightseeing and chance to join the pre departure meeting the night before the tour begins. We also suggest that you book your return flight the day after your tour finishes. If you have to return home on the day your tour finishes, please make sure that your flight does not depart before 20:00 hrs.

For anyone leaving from the UK we would be pleased to book your flight in conjunction with your tour. Please contact us for competitive prices on flights departing from most UK airports.

Please note that all international and domestic flights are your own responsibility. We are unable to delay a tour, or finish a tour early due to your flight times.

CITY SIGHTSEEING

If you are spending extra time in our gateway cities, you can now plan in advance by pre-booking unique city sightseeing day tours in addition to your trip. Find out more at: www.grandamericanadventures.com/citytours

TRAVEL INSURANCE

It is a condition of joining any of our tours that you must be insured against medical and personal accident risks (to include repatriation costs, air ambulance and helicopter rescue service). You will be asked to provide details of your insurance policy, including insurer, policy number and phone number before embarking on the trip.

We offer an insurance policy that is designed specifically to cover the potential risks on our tours - particularly the optional activities offered. If you do not take our policy, you must ensure that the policy you do take offers an equivalent level of protection and covers you for the activities

involved - be aware that some policies do not include, or restrict, coverage for this type of travel. There may be cheaper policies available, but this does not mean it may be better value - we strongly advise you check fully what will and won't be covered. Any claims concerning matters for which you are insured must be directed to your insurers.

Please note: We can only offer cover for passengers residing within the European Union. For those outside the EU we recommend Journeyman Services who have a tailored policy for Grand American Adventures clients. Visit www.journeyman-services.com.

Please take a photocopy of emergency contact details on the tour with you, this will ensure any issues are dealt with in a quick and efficient manner.

PASSPORT AND VISAS

It is important that you apply for your American visa (ESTA) you will not require while in your home country. For specific visa information, please consult the relevant embassies. Please note it is your responsibility to ensure you have valid passport and the correct visas for your tour.

VISA AND RULES FOR ENTRY TO THE USA

Travellers from the EU and certain countries are eligible to travel to the USA under the Visa Waiver Program. All eligible travellers who wish to travel under the Visa Waiver Program must apply for an ESTA (Electronic System for Travel Authorisation) before travelling to the USA. At the time of compilation there is a US\$14 fee for the (ESTA). The ESTA will be valid for a period of two years, or until a person's passport expires. You should apply for an ESTA at least 72 hours before you travel, and we recommend you carry your ESTA approval with you.

All travellers wishing to enter the US under the Visa Waiver Program will need to hold a passport with an integrated chip (an ePassport). New rules exclude from the VWP most people who have travelled to Iran, Iraq, Sudan or Syria since 1 March 2011, and those who have dual nationality of these countries. This means that existing ESTAs could be revoked, and you will instead need to apply for a visa from the nearest US Embassy or Consulate.

You can apply for an ESTA at: <https://esta.cbp.dhs.gov>

Passengers that have not applied for and received travel authorisation via ESTA prior to travel may be denied boarding, experience delayed processing or be denied admission at the US port of entry. However, neither possession of a visa nor meeting the basic requirements for travelling visa-free on the VWP, guarantees admission to the United States. As with most countries, the final determination of admissibility is made by immigration officials at the port of entry.

Important reminder: If you are refused boarding or denied admission at the US port of entry you will still be subject to our cancellation charges in accordance with the terms of our contract with you.

HEALTH REQUIREMENTS

If you have any medical conditions, take prescribed medicines, or have a condition that will affect your participation in the tour, you must inform Grand American Adventures or your travel agent at the time of booking. Please be aware we may require a doctor's note prior to travel for some conditions. This information is essential in case of emergency. All of our vehicles carry a basic first-aid kit, but for everyday use you should bring your own medical supplies, such as pain relievers, antibiotic cream and upset stomach relievers, in addition to sunscreen and insect repellent.

★ WHAT YOU NEED FOR YOUR TOUR

SPENDING MONEY

We recommend you take at least US\$40 dollars per person per day to cover local expenses when staying in Las Vegas, however, when you are on the Colorado River you will not require money. The exception to this being a tip for the guides and a stop en route to Lees Ferry to buy alcohol and world famous cookies, plus a stop on the way back to Las Vegas. If you plan to stay longer in Las Vegas, it's better to bring more than you need rather than run short. ATM/cash points are widely available, but after leaving Las Vegas you will not have access to one. Please ensure that your credit or debit cards have international access and a PIN number to access your funds at the start of the tour. Travellers Cheques are accepted and can be a safe way to take your funds but aren't always the most practical. There may be opportunities to purchase t-shirts, hats or other mementos on the trip from Las Vegas to Lees Ferry so we suggest you bring spending money with you. It is important you advise your bank prior to leaving your home country of your intended travel, so they do not block your card citing the reason as fraud.

TIPPING

Although it may not be customary in your country, it is normal and expected in North America to tip river guides, waiters, bar staff, taxi drivers and anyone who provides a service for you. Service workers are paid a low wage and depend on tips for their livelihood. It can be embarrassing if you're confronted by a local who is expecting a tip and you are not aware of how much to offer. For this reason, we have listed guideline prices below.

A 15-17% tip is standard in Las Vegas restaurants and you should also expect to tip \$1 per drink in bars, \$1-2 per bag for porters as will 10% for taxi drivers. Many guests ask us whether tipping is appropriate after the rafting trip. Typically, a tip would be left with the river guide on the last night of the trip and he/she would divide it evenly between the crew. The suggested tip is 10% of the trip price.

CANYON TEMPERATURES

Temperatures in the canyon vary depending on location, season, and year. During the warmest months of the season, you will find that it is extremely hot on our expeditions, but on early and late season departures it may rain and become cooler during the day. The dry climate of the Grand Canyon combined with swimming and frequent rapids will keep you comfortable. The water at Lees Ferry is quite cold (50 degrees) because it is released from the bottom of Glen Canyon Dam (Lake Powell) just 15 miles upstream. Sunny days and incoming side streams help increase water temperatures as you travel downstream. Regardless of the weather conditions, you will not be able to escape during the day so being prepared for all eventualities is extremely important.

TEMPERATURE CHART

HIGH / LOW TEMPERATURES IN CELSIUS (°C)

		JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
Marble Canyon	HIGH	10	14	19	25	31	38	40	38	33	25	16	9
	LOW	-2	0	4	9	14	19	23	21	16	9	3	-2
Las Vegas	HIGH	13	17	20	25	31	37	40	39	34	27	19	14
	LOW	1	3	7	10	15	20	24	23	19	12	6	1

C / F Conversions: -10°C = 14°F 0°C = 32°F 10°C = 50°F 20°C = 68°F
30°C = 86°F 40°C = 104°F

PACKING TIPS

CLOTHING

Please keep in mind that our dress tends to be informal. You should pack a practical selection of clothes for both warm and cool climates to suit the season. After leaving Las Vegas, you will have no opportunity to buy more clothes so think carefully when packing, and remember it's easier to peel layers off than to run short when you're cool.

Please see the temperature guide showing the highs and lows that can be expected. However please remember that this is just a guide and you may encounter a wide variety of temperatures en route due to altitude and unforeseen weather conditions - so it's best to be prepared!

Suggested Clothing and Other Equipment to Bring

- Two-piece rain suit
- Sweatshirt or sweater
- Sleepwear
- Windbreaker or jacket
- 2 or 3 pair of ankle socks (good sun protection)
- 1 or 2 swimsuits
- 1 pair long slacks, jeans or sweat pants
- 3 pair shorts, cut offs (nylon shorts dry quickly)
- 3 shirts or blouses (1 with long sleeves)
- 2 pairs rubber-soled shoes (wear 1 pair while other dries in the evening)
- Shampoo and soap (eco-friendly)
- Towel, washcloth (thin ones dry quickly)
- 2 hats or caps with brim
- Sun screen (generous supply)
- Hand and body lotion as sun and water dry your skin
- Lip balm (with sun screen is best)
- Flash light or head lamp (remember extra batteries)
- Pocket-size packages of tissues
- 8 zip-loc plastic bags (for personal rubbish, photo supplies, etc.)
- 1 water bottle to carry whilst hiking
- Sarong
- Camera, film, extra memory cards, and padding for camera case
- Sunglasses
- Spare glasses prescription, spare glasses and contact lenses
- Bandanna or scarf
- Insect repellent
- Small backpack
- Cotton sleep sheet
- Small inflatable pillow or small airline pillow
- Gloves (Lightweight cotton-for hiking or climbing)
- Wet wipes (individual packets)

Please note airlines have various rules on what can be carried in your luggage - if in doubt check with your airline before travelling.

BE COMFORTABLE

Durable, comfortable clothing in good condition is important on the trip. When choosing clothing, look for loose-fitting, light-weight, quick-drying apparel. While in camp, lightweight pants, shorts and shirts work well. Light coloured clothing is best as the sun reflects off lighter coloured clothing which will keep you cooler during hot summer days. Remember, protection from the sun is important to a happy holiday. Bring a good supply of sun-screen, wide brimmed hat, long-sleeved shirt and long trousers. Sleepwear should be comfortable and may even consist of a loose pair of shorts and top.

The first day of the trip you may wish to wear a combination of clothes which will allow you to take off or put on items as needed. Multi-sport shoes, sandals or tennis shoes which are comfortable when wet are recommended; a shirt with long sleeves and long trousers with your swimming suit underneath give flexibility in adjusting to temperature changes.

RAIN SUIT

We recommend that you bring a rain suit - not just for use during inclement weather, but primarily as protection while on the boat because the river is cold and the rapids are numerous. If you're on the river when the weather is cool or are going through rapids in early morning or late afternoon shade, a rain suit will keep you dry and warm. Rain suits are available thru GCE River-wear.

There can be wear and tear on a rain suit used on a motorized or dory trip, so we suggest that you purchase a good quality suit. Usually a coated nylon or Gortex suit will hold up well. Lightweight vinyl suits generally do not last more than a few days as they rip easily.

FOR SPRING AND FALL TRIPS

Before May 15 and after September 15 we recommend bringing a warm jacket and polypropylene long underwear (two pair top and bottom); a hood or warm cap; gloves and wool or neoprene socks. This clothing may not be needed, but it's better to bring it and be prepared than to wish you had it along. Since spring and fall trips have fewer hours of direct sun and lower daytime temperatures, it is important for your comfort to bring a two-piece rain suit. Waterproof ground cloths as well as two-person dome tents are provided for protection against rain. Below is a list of suppliers you may contact for rain suits and warm gear.

Northwest River Supply: www.nrs.web.com

The North Face: www.thenorthface.com

Patagonia: www.patagonia.com

WEIGHT LIMIT

If you stay within 20 pounds per person, not including camera equipment, you'll have no problem fitting all these items into your waterproof bag. If you're flying to Las Vegas, bring your river gear as "carry on" and eliminate luggage delay or loss. You'll be carrying your own gear on and off the raft each day, so travel light and happy!

WE SUPPLY

We supply chairs, cots (a small, camp bed that is off the ground), sleeping equipment (including sleeping bag, 3/4 length foam pad, ground cloth packed in a waterproof bag); a second waterproof bag for your personal gear (about the size of a large grocery bag); a waterproof metal camera





case (5 1/2x7x11) suitable for camera equipment or personal items you wish to have accessible during the day; all dishes, eating utensils, meals and cold beverages. We do have a community day bag on each raft where you can store your rain gear, extra shoes, water bottle, backpack and other loose items that you need access to during the day. It is recommended to bring a couple of your own personal smaller dry bags for camera and any items that absolutely must stay dry.

CONTACT LENSES

Life on the river involves camping on sandy beaches and this can cause problems for those who wear contact lenses. Water, wind, and blowing sand can make contacts uncomfortable. For these reasons we suggest bringing glasses (two pairs) with eye glass retainer to keep them from being dropped or lost in the river.

MEDICATIONS

If you have daily medications that are critical to your health or use an Epi-pen it is a good idea to bring along an extra supply. We can provide cool storage if needed.

FOOTWEAR

Many a wonderful vacation has been spoiled by wearing un-comfortable shoes or the wrong kind of shoes. We want you to have a good time on your river trip, so please take these suggestions into consideration. On many canyon hikes you will either wade across or walk up streams. You will not want to wade in expensive boots and if you do they will not dry quickly. Some people prefer multi-sport sandals/flip flops while on the rafts. Remember that some sandals and flip flops do not provide good traction when climbing on or off the rafts or climbing on rocks and steep terrain. If you decide to use sport sandals be sure to obtain the type with good traction. Open-toed shoes provide no protection from cactus thorns. The most practical shoes are sturdy trainers or athletic/water shoes. Finally, consider what you bring as a second pair of shoes in case the first pair is lost or falls apart.

CAMERAS

Waterproof digital cameras are recommended, anticipate shooting more than usual and bring along extra memory cards and batteries. You will not have the facilities to recharge batteries. A small towel or foam rubber pieces will do for padding the interior of the camera case we supply. For photographers who are interested, more detailed information is available on request. Although accidents such as dropping your camera or getting it wet seldom occur, the possibility does exist. We suggest that you have insurance to cover such accidents if you are carrying valuable camera equipment. Keep in mind, blowing sand and water can damage cameras. If you have a waterproof camera case it is advised to bring it along.

★ JOINING YOUR TOUR

TOUR AND ACCOMMODATION VOUCHERS

A tour voucher will be emailed to you once your balance has been paid in full. You can print off the PDF vouchers or download to your smartphone. For those without email access your vouchers will be posted. Please make sure that these vouchers are correct.

JOINING POINT

You will need to make your own way to the gateway hotel or joining point for your tour. Please find the details for this tour below:

Residence Inn Las Vegas Hughes Center
370 Hughes Center Drive
Las Vegas
Nevada 89169
Tel: +1-702 650 0040

Transfer: From the airport you may catch a taxi for approx. US\$10-15. The CLS Shuttle service is also available for approx. US\$7 per person. The trip takes about 10 minutes and transport services operate 24 hours a day.

This tour departs at 05:00 hrs, please make sure you have your bags packed, have eaten breakfast and have checked out of your room before meeting your representative in the hotel lobby.

ARRIVAL COMPLICATIONS

Sometimes the unexpected can happen; your plane may be delayed or you may even miss it! If you have missed your tour departure, first check with the hotel to see if your representative has left you a message. If not, call the relevant emergency number and speak to our staff. Please be aware that due to the nature of the tour, it may be days before you can catch up with the group if at all. Please note that you are responsible for any extra travelling expenses incurred due to you missing your tour's departure, so please be on time.

LUGGAGE STORAGE

Although we cannot book your pre tour accommodation on this tour, the Marriott does offer this service and we encourage you to contact them directly with any questions. The Residence Inn by Marriott will store your non-river luggage provided you are registered at the hotel. All luggage must have name tags. Our representative will have tags available at the pre tour meeting for the luggage you wish to store while on the river. The Residence Inn will charge \$20.00 per room for luggage storage. Luggage needs to be taken to the front desk before you get on the bus the morning of your trip. It will be returned to your room if you have reservations at the end of the trip. **You will be required to present a credit card upon check in for incidentals and luggage storage.** Please limit your stored luggage to one bag per person if possible. Families should try to consolidate luggage since storage space is limited.

FINISHING POINT

Residence Inn Las Vegas Hughes Center
370 Hughes Center Drive
Las Vegas
Nevada 89169
Tel: 1-702 650 0040

Most tours end at the gateway hotel between 16:00 hrs to 17:00 hrs on the final day. Some tour activities scheduled for the last day may preclude an earlier arrival at the gateway hotel, so you should not book a departure flight that leaves prior to 20:00 hrs. You will be responsible for any

transportation costs if you have to arrive for an earlier flight and you must make us aware of this well in advance of your tour departing. If you require accommodation on this last night, it is essential that you book this before your tour departs.

EMERGENCY CONTACT

There is no mobile reception on the river so leave your phone at home. If there is a genuine emergency, your tour guides have a satellite phone. Please note this is only for emergencies and not because you are homesick. Phone number for family to contact you in case of emergency:

Contact: +1 435 644 2691

★ ABOUT OUR TOURS

SECURITY

No matter where you find yourself in the world, you need to look after your valuables, but in the Grand Canyon you can be pretty sure your luggage will be safe.

We would like to remind you that you are ultimately responsible for your safety and well-being. We request that you carry yourself in a mature and responsible manner - not only for your own personal safety, but for that of the group and other travellers.

GOURMET MEALS ON THE RIVER

The design of our boats enables us to carry several hundred pounds of ice, which will last the entire trip. Every meal is prepared with fresh meats and produce. All food is prepared by our boatmen, who have mastered the art of Dutch-oven cooking. We provide generous quantities of cold soft drinks, fruit juice and filtered water which are available to you throughout the day. A hearty breakfast of bacon or sausage, eggs with muffins, pancakes or French toast, fruit, cereal, juice, coffee, cocoa and tea is available each morning. Lunches are picnic style. They consist of a selection of delicatessen meats and cheeses, pickles, tomatoes, lettuce, onions and olives. You make your own sandwich with a choice of breads. Chips, cookies, fruit, nuts and candy are served and a choice of drinks (juice, soda pop, water) are all available. Included are seven breakfasts, seven lunches and six dinners. Dinners are filling, as they should be after an activity-filled day. Main dishes include filet mignon, halibut, Mexican dinners, shrimp, pork fillet, chicken and pasta. Each night we serve a salad, either tossed, green, fruit or vegetable. We also serve cooked vegetables such as corn, carrots, zucchini, tomatoes and potatoes. Desserts consist of



Dutch-oven cakes or cobblers, pound cake, fruit and cookies. A selection of cold beverages is always available.

Please make sure we are aware of any special meal requirements at the time of booking. We purchase food in advance so it is extremely important we are made aware well in advance.

YOUR TOUR GUIDES

Your river guides will take care of all the planning and organisation throughout your tour, they will take you from A to B and make sure everything runs smoothly. Your river guides are there to make sure you get the most out of your tour; organising activities, providing information and answering any questions you may have as well as sorting out any queries or problems you may encounter.

CAMP DUTIES

An essential part of a camping tour is helping out with the day to day camp duties and everyone will assist with the setting up and packing up of the campsite. Your river guides will provide guidance on what to do, and typically it will only take 15 minutes to set up or break down the tents and camp kitchen. Before you know it you'll be enjoying 'home sweet home' in the great outdoors.

Sharing the camp duties is a great way to bond with your fellow travellers and the group camaraderie is all part of the experience.

ALCOHOL

You are welcome to bring your own beer, wine or spirits (no glass). All beverages should be in either plastic or aluminium containers due to limited space for trash. We suggest that you make these purchases in Las Vegas, the evening prior to your trip. Our representative will have suggestions concerning where to purchase beverages at the evening orientation meeting. Please be aware that the legal drinking age in Arizona is 21.

THE GROUP

The maximum group size is 28 passengers. Passengers come from a range of countries worldwide (average of four nationalities per group) and many will be solo travellers.

We recommend this rafting tour for children aged 8 and older. If your children have camping experience, enjoy outdoor life, feel at home around water, and adjust easily to being with an adult group, they will enjoy the trip with you. We leave the final decision to parents. We require that adults accompany youth under 18 on this Grand Canyon rafting tour. While most passengers are aged 25-65, every year we get many people both above and below this age range. All travellers over the age of 70 will be requested to complete a self-declaration of fitness form prior to travel.

Our tours are a unique holiday experience and much of your enjoyment will come from the team spirit of your group and the fun you'll have together, as well as from the local setting. We cannot stress strongly enough the importance of bringing a positive attitude with you on tour; a sure guarantee to enjoying each and every moment, even in the adversity of the odd rainstorm! Grand American Adventures travellers will join our trusted sister company for this rafting tour.

RESPONSIBLE AND SUSTAINABLE TRAVEL

We are committed to offering low impact tours that benefit the places and communities we visit as well as our travellers. It is important for us all to be aware of the delicate balance that exists in the variety of natural wonders you will visit.

We are proud supporters of Bay Area Wilderness Training (www.bawt.org) a charity based in Oakland California which works to connect disadvantaged children in the local urban area with the great outdoors. Their work helps to provide these young people with life changing experiences which they can apply to everyday life. Everyone booking with Grand American Adventures has the option to donate £1/\$1/€1 to support this well-deserved charity and we will match this donation.

Whenever possible, we use local accommodation and activity providers. We also shop locally for groceries, eat in small family-run restaurants and visit local shops whenever possible. This all brings economic benefit to the local communities that we visit.

Responsible Tourism on the Grand Canyon Rafting tour...

We contribute \$1 per person to support the Grand Canyon Conservation Fund - a non-profit organisation working directly with worthy conservation groups such as Friends of the River, Grand Canyon Trust and others. The money is used to further research and protection of the Grand Canyon.

It is also important that we help to protect the fragile desert environment. The desert's natural way to avoid sand erosion is by creating cryptobiotic soil which creates a living crust on the desert floor. This special soil helps the desert to protect itself from wind and rain erosion and promotes plant growth.



WE WANT YOUR PHOTOS!

We can always use your holiday snaps and short videos to better depict and promote all the fascinating places we visit. Whether it's just sitting around the campfire or strolling down The Strip, there's no better way to share your Grand American Adventure. So if you would like to send over a couple of your best shots (max 10MB) please e-mail them to comments@grandamericanadventures.com. You know what they say, a picture's worth a thousand words!

★ AFTER YOUR TOUR

FEEDBACK AND REVIEWS

We want to hear about your experience and stories from the road, so please feel free to e-mail us any comments, feedback or reviews whilst you are on tour or when you return home to:

comments@grandamericanadventures.com.

We value your feedback and tour reviews, which help us in developing and improving our programme. Input and suggestions from travellers like you has helped make Grand American Adventures what it is today.

HOW TO BOOK

Contact us by telephone, email or via our website to check availability for the tour you are interested in. We can normally hold a seat on 'option' for up to three days to allow you time to finalise your travel arrangements. In order to secure your place we require a deposit (full payment within eight weeks of travel) and an agreement from you to our terms and conditions. Check availability early to avoid disappointment: www.grandamericanadventures.com

FURTHER QUESTIONS

Please contact our UK Sales team on:

Tel: +44 (0)208 682 8921

Enquiries: info@grandamericanadventures.com

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