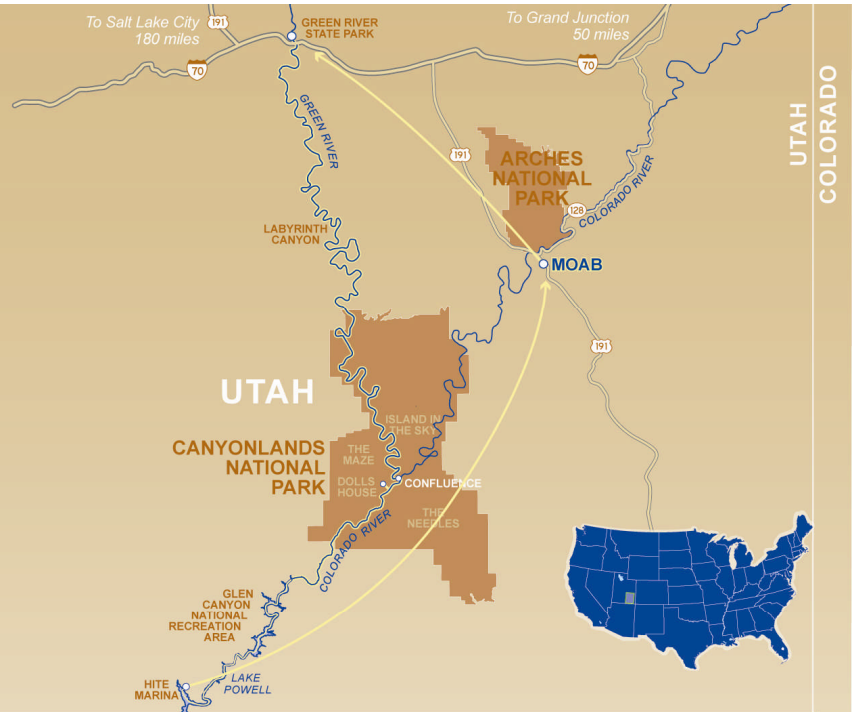




COLORADO & GREEN RIVER HIKER SPECIAL

Itinerary



MEETING PLACE:	Gonzo Inn, 100 W. 200 S. Moab, Utah
MEETING TIME:	7:00 PM, the evening before your trip
RETURN TIME:	Approximately 4:00 - 6:00 PM
RIVER RATING:	Class III-IV
RIVER MILES:	170
PUT-IN:	State Park on Green River
TAKE-OUT:	Hite Marina on Lake Powell
AGE LIMIT:	12
TRIP LENGTH:	14 days / 13 nights
BOAT TYPE:	Oar Raft

Situated in Labyrinth, Stillwater and Cataract Canyons, the mighty Green and Colorado rivers forge their way through 170 miles of awe-inspiring scenery seldom seen by visitors to Canyonlands National Park. On O.A.R.S.' Hiker Special, you'll raft the Green and the Colorado into the untouched heart of this majestic red rock wilderness, enjoying an in-depth exploration of remote canyons, Pre-Pueblo ruins, petroglyphs, pictographs and fascinating geology. Your exceptional guides will enthusiastically share their knowledge of this area; using the multi-layered towering canyon walls as their living classroom, we discuss the history of the Canyonlands region, which can be found in well-preserved archeological sites and fossil remains. Daily canyon side hikes to the Dolls House and Trin-Alcove Canyon to name a few and Cataract Canyon's fun whitewater are highlights of this one of-a-kind hiking and rafting expedition.

AWARD-WINNING NATURE-BASED ADVENTURES SINCE 1969

O.A.R.S. has been in business for over 40 years and that is no accident. Great trips on some of the world's best rivers and coastlines are the recipe for this success. Always focused on our clients and their vacations, it is our

genuine belief that river trips and nature-based adventures are extremely valuable life experiences. With that as our foundation, we have committed ourselves over the years to providing the best trips available, always with an eye on improvement.

BOAT SELECTION

- On our Colorado and Green River Hiker Special, we run the river in 18-foot oar rafts, which can carry up to four passengers. Your guide will row the raft from a center-mounted frame using a long pair of oars. Passing the mouth of the San Rafael River, the country begins to change and the river leaves the open desert as it meanders its way into the rising plateaus of the Canyon Country.

WHITewater

- The Colorado River is not dammed above Cataract Canyon, and its varying water levels at different times of year provide a whitewater experience for everyone. From July through October, the water levels drop and the Colorado becomes an outstanding river with lesser intimidating rapids suitable for all ages and levels of experience.

HIKING

- The bizarre geologic formations of Labrinth Canyon and distinct districts of Canyonlands National Park (the Maze, Needles and Island in the Sky) beckon to be explored on foot and offer an abundance of opportunities to do so from the banks of the Green and the Colorado. On an average day, your guides will lead one to two generally moderate to challenging hikes ranging in distance from less than a mile to perhaps as many as 10 miles. Hikes to Crystal Geysir, Bowknot Bend, and Water and Shot Canyon are just a few of the notable routes that may be explored on our Hiker Special trip. There will also be ample hiking time upon reaching our campsites each afternoon. This allows travelers to view the extraordinary features of Canyonlands that most visitors only dream of seeing.
- Author of the American classic, *Desert Solitaire*, Edward Abbey said it best: *May all your trails be crooked, winding, lonesome, dangerous, leading to the most amazing view, where something strange and more beautiful and more full of wonder than your deepest dreams waits for you beyond the next turning of the canyon wall.*

Sample Itinerary

We pride ourselves in running a relaxed and always flexible schedule. Every trip is different depending upon the group, other trips on the water and sometimes the weather. The following is a sample of what your trip might be like.

The Day Before Your Trip

- We'll meet at 7:00 PM in the breakfast room of the Gonzo Inn for a pre-trip meeting. This is an opportunity to meet your fellow travelers and guides and ask any last-minute questions. Your guides will give you a thorough trip orientation, and then pass out your waterproof river bags so that you can pack your belongings that evening.

Days 1-14:

- This morning, we take an hour long, scenic drive to the river put-in at Green River State Park. Here our guides will give you a brief orientation to our boats and equipment. Pushing off from the shore, we leave the familiar behind and begin our unique adventure through Canyonlands National Park.

For more information, call 1-800-346-6277 in the USA and Canada or 1-209-736-4677 outside the USA and Canada, or e-mail info@oars.com

- Reaching Labyrinth and Stillwater Canyons, we will explore many magnificent gorges such as Three Canyon, hike up to the River Post Office, and discover the secrets hidden in Two Mile Canyon, Fort Bottom, Shot, or Water Canyon. Hiking through this spectacular wilderness, we will explore Anasazi ruins, pictographs and petroglyphs against a dramatic backdrop of towering red walls.
- Aside from the time spent on the rafts or hiking with your guides, there'll be ample opportunities to relax at your leisure. Maybe you'll lounge in the shade, a fresh veggie pita in one hand, and that novel you've been yearning to finish in the other. That book and the calm of the beach may keep you by the river, while others take an afternoon hike to an ancient Indian dwelling—or it might not.
- We're sure you'll agree that the more time you allow yourself in this most stunning of landscapes, the better. When explored on foot, Canyonlands introduces you to spectacular side canyons, Ancestral Pueblo ruins, seasonal waterfalls and jaw-dropping vistas. Indeed, the longer the trip, the more complete the appreciation of the wilderness around you.
- After the Green winds us through convoluted twists and turns and a venue for more great hikes, we happily reach the Confluence. Now that the waters of the Colorado River join our party, Cataract Canyon begins, hinting at the whitewater to come. In a slow mix, the murky waters of the Colorado take some miles before they concede to the clearer Green. As we leave Stillwater Canyon, the Green's 300+ mile journey from Wyoming continues on what is now the Colorado, mightier than before. Our anticipation grows.
- About three miles down from The Confluence, we stop at Spanish Bottom, spending one or two nights there, on the verge of our first major rapid. We now have a day to explore the towering red walls around us, providing the perfect backdrop for hiking, swimming, or quiet contemplation. Here we find a fading 1893 inscription from the Steamer *Major Powell*, where it turned around twice, not daring to take on the rapids immediately below. We are now camped in the Maze District of Canyonlands National Park, and the nearby rock formations are shouting to be explored. Challenge yourself with a hike 1,500 feet up to the Doll House, with jaw-dropping views in all directions. Walking amidst the giant boulders and eroded rock creates a different scale of surroundings. Look back across the Colorado to the Needles District. Or hike to the Beehive Arch, another intriguing example of the equation: sandstone + wind + water + copious amounts of time = geologic marvel.
- Autumn trips are less harrowing than during the spring runoff, but with rapids like Mile Long, Capsize and the legendary Big Drops, this section still offers plenty of excitement. The next morning, the guides will give you a thorough safety talk above the much-awaited Cataract whitewater. As we drop into Brown Betty Rapids, the preceding days' anticipation of Cataract explodes in cool water and huge smiles. Whatever the water level or the type of boat you're in, the rushes of adrenaline with each new rapid are balanced by the knowledge of your guides' experience and focus on safety. In between the thrills, ask your guide to tell the tale of John Wesley Powell's historic 1869 first descent through these formidable rapids.
- Even though the whitewater may lessen as we exit Cataract Canyon, the excitement, beauty and hiking opportunities do not. We continue down the Colorado and spend the next couple of days exploring some of the many side canyons, such as Gypsum, Palmer, Clearwater, Bowdie, Dark, or Rock Canyons, each providing its own unique and exquisite splendor.

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- All this goes without saying how delicious our cuisine will taste each night, our day's adventures stirring up a hearty appetite. Perhaps you'll enjoy grilled salmon with orange zest, wild rice, and a fresh, mixed salad. Or maybe a lean, juicy steak with savory mushrooms. With the excellent care our guides provide, you'll notice we do genuinely want this to be a memorable experience, right down to the making of new friends and the magnificence of the wide desert sky.
- On the last day, we reach the end of Cataract Canyon and the flooding waters of Lake Powell. As we journey out on the reservoir toward Hite Marina, it's tough not to imagine the wonders drowned below us. What more could Glen Canyon show us! The bittersweet ending is now here. Thankfully, the scenic flight back to Moab grants a bit of time to reflect, as you trace your path backwards through the Canyonlands from high above, looking down on the beautiful landscape with a birds-eye perspective.

What's Included with the Hikers Special Trip?

- Skilled professional guide service
- 13 nights catered camping
- All meals from lunch on Day 1 through lunch on Day 14
- Expedition equipment including 2-person shared tent and dry bags
- High quality inflatable rafts and related river equipment including personal flotation device
- All transportation from Day 1 through Day 14, including the flight back to Moab from Hite Marina

What's Not Included?

- Transportation to and from Moab
- Pre- and post-trip accommodations and meals
- Sleeping bag and pad (these items may be rented from O.A.R.S.)
- Single supplement tent (\$30)
- Insurance of any kind, including travel insurance
- Alcoholic Beverages
- Items of a personal nature (an packing list will be provided)
- Gratuities

SOMETHING VOLUNTARY

- In reviewing your statement, you'll note a \$1/person/day donation to Utah Rivers Council a non-profit conservation organization dedicated to Utah's rivers and clean water sources. One-hundred percent of these funds go directly to Utah's rivers and your contribution is tax-deductible. This donation is voluntary and may be removed from your invoice if you choose not to participate. Please notify our office if you would prefer to delete the donation from your balance.
- The O.A.R.S. Foundation is a not-for-profit 501 (c) 3 organization with the express goal of providing opportunities for young people to experience the magic of a river trip. Visit www.oarsfoundation.org to learn more about how your tax deductible donation can change young lives for the better.

Terms & Conditions

Reservations & Deposits

- A \$250/person deposit is required at the time of reservation. The balance is due 60 days prior to departure.

Cancellations, Transfers & Refunds

- If you find it necessary to cancel your trip, please notify us as soon as possible. The cancellation fee after you've made your deposit can range up to the entire trip cost, based upon the number of days prior to your trip that we receive your cancellation notice. We regret we cannot make exceptions for personal emergencies. For this reason, **we strongly urge you to investigate trip insurance** (see Insurance).
- Cancellations 60 days or more prior to the trip earn a full refund less a \$100/person fee. Cancellations 59 days or less prior to your trip are not refundable.
- If you transfer from one trip to another, there is a \$50 per person charge up until 60 days before the trip. Transfers made after this time will be treated as cancellations.

Medical

- Under most circumstances, if you are of an adventurous spirit and in reasonably good health, you should have no problem enjoying an O.A.R.S. trip. People with medical conditions, including pregnancy, should have a physician's approval before taking an adventure travel trip.

Insurance

- Although every effort is made to insure a safe trip for all, we strongly recommend that you protect yourself, your belongings, and your vacation through the purchase of a short-term traveler's policy. A trip cancellation policy covers your non-refundable payments in most cases, should you have to cancel your trip at the last minute due to illness or injury. Trip participants should realize that in the event of illness or injury on an adventure travel trip, evacuation could be prolonged, difficult and expensive. Personal belongings and cameras are carried entirely at the owner's risk, and O.A.R.S. accepts no responsibility for lost, damaged, delayed or stolen property.

Acknowledgement of Risk

- Everyone is required to sign a standard release (or Acknowledgement of Risk) form before the trip, acknowledging awareness that some risks are associated with the trip. Safety is of the utmost concern on our trips. However, 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 O.A.R.S. cancellation policy, there will be no refund of the trip fees at that time.

Responsibility—An Important Notice

- O.A.R.S. Canyonlands, 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 are subject to change without notice.

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