

DON HATCH
RIVER EXPEDITIONS

FLAMING GORGE
Itinerary

MEETING PLACE: Don Hatch Warehouse – 221 North 400 East, Vernal, Utah
GPS LOCATION: 40.459299,-109.521978
MEETING TIME: 8:30 AM
RETURN TIME: Approximately 3:30 – 4:30 PM
RIVER RATING: Class II
RIVER MILES: 7 miles
RIVER SECTION: Spillway Boat Ramp (below Flaming Gorge Dam) to Little Hole
AGE LIMIT: Minimum age is 4 years
BOAT TYPE: Paddle Raft (Oar rafts may be available upon request)

Flaming Gorge Recreation Area – something for everyone! Flaming Gorge Dam became fully operational in 1967, creating a reservoir with a total capacity of 3,788,900 acre-feet and stretches as far as 91 miles north. The entire recreation area is a popular summer and winter destination with an almost endless variety of activities available: boating, fishing, camping, hiking, snowmobiling, hunting, and cross-country skiing. It is also the home to hundreds of species of wildlife. Below the dam to Little Hole is 7 miles of crystal clear water teeming with trout which has earned the reputation of one of the country’s finest trout fishing streams and with its exciting and splashy rapids, it is also a beloved and ideal section of river to enjoy from a raft.

THE ORIGINAL RIVER RUNNING COMPANY SINCE 1929

There is no substitute for experience. Known throughout the whitewater rafting world as the “original river running company,” the Hatch name has been synonymous with river running since 1929. Bus Hatch, founder of Hatch River Expeditions and patriarch of the Hatch family, is credited with starting the modern recreational rafting movement. 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.

For more information, call 1-800-342-8243 in the USA and Canada or 1-435-789-4316 outside the USA and Canada, or e-mail info@donhatchrivertrips.com

BOAT SELECTION

- We typically run the Flaming Gorge section of the Green river exclusively in paddle rafts – fun, maneuverable inflatable rafts powered by four to seven passengers with paddles, along with a guide. Paddle rafts offer an active, hands-on challenge and are usually the preferred vessel on most whitewater trips. If you do not wish to be in a paddle raft, we may be able to accommodate you and we must **know in advance**.

WHITewater

- This section of the Green River offers splashy Class II rapids, interspersed with calm sections that inspire swimming, watching for wildlife, and gazing at the canyon scenery. Despite these slower stretches, the whitewater is consistent on the Green. You'll challenge minor rapids plus lots of smaller waves and riffles. The Green river through Flaming Gorge is ideal for first-time rafters and children as young as 4, but not short on excitement for the whole family.

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.

- Upon everyone's arrival at the Don Hatch Warehouse, we'll take the 1½ hour shuttle ride to our put-in below Flaming Gorge Dam. Once we reach the put-in, your guides will give a thorough safety talk and orientation to the equipment we will be using. Then, we are off!
- This section of river is host to many class II rapids and with names like Roller Coaster, Mother-in-Law, and Can of Worms, which are sure to please. We'll run about half of the trip in the morning before stopping along the river for our famous, "build-your-own-masterpiece," deli-style lunch. Maybe we'll play a quick game of Frisbee or just relax and soak in the summer sun. After lunch, we'll continue the remaining 3-4 miles of Flaming Gorge taking in more rapids and breathtaking scenery.
- The expedition ends at the Little Hole Boat Ramp where we'll board our shuttle and contemplate our memories of a great day during the 1½ – 2 hour bus ride back to Vernal, arriving at our warehouse between 3:30 and 4:30 PM.

What's Included?

- Skilled professional guide services
- Deluxe riverside lunch
- High quality rafts and related river equipment including small dry bag, paddle, helmet and personal flotation device
- Transfers from Vernal to the river and back

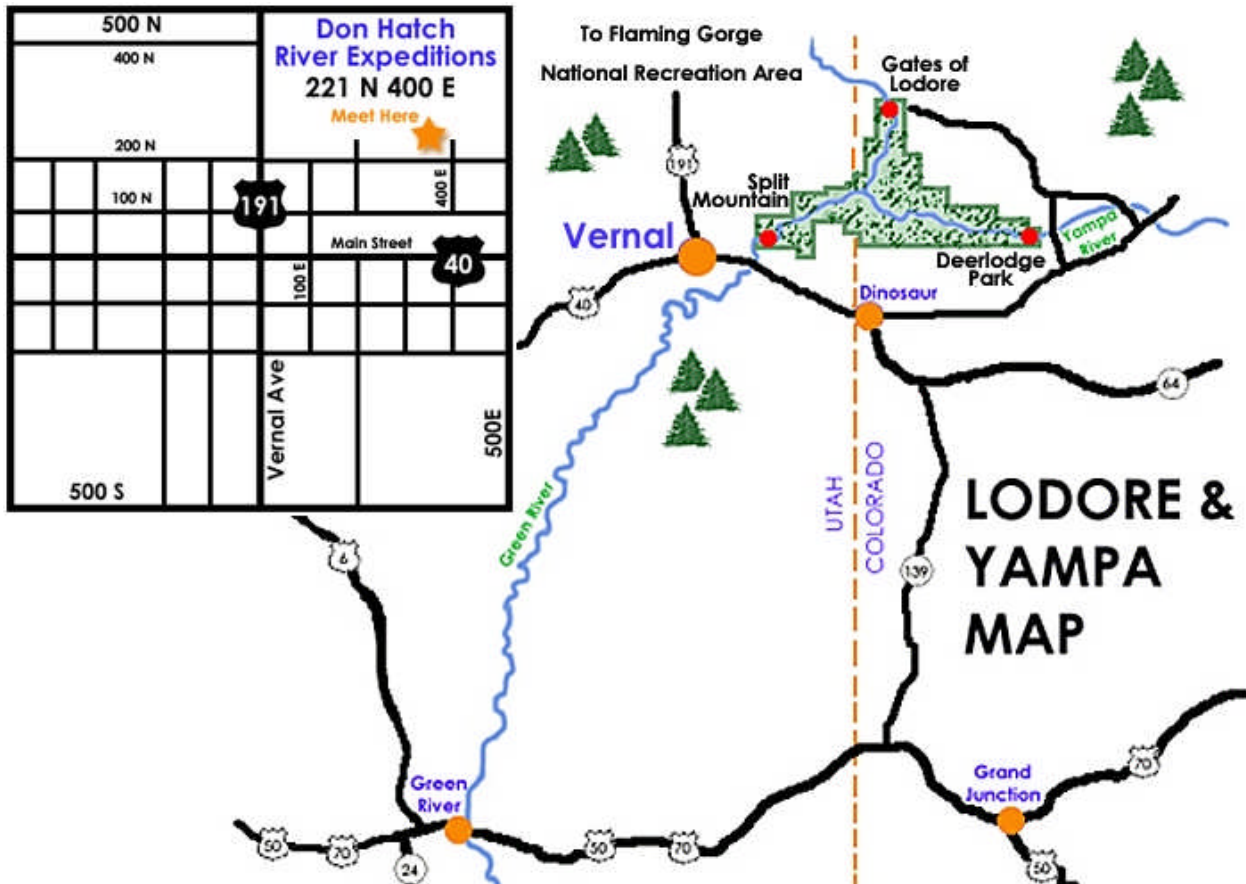
What's Not Included?

- Transportation to and from Vernal
- Pre and post trip accommodations
- Insurance of any kind, including travel insurance
- Items of personal nature (see equipment and clothing list)
- Gratuities

TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS

Meeting Place and Time

We'll meet you at 8:30 AM at the Don Hatch Warehouse located at 221 North 400 East, in the town of Vernal. Please allow plenty of travel time.



Getting to the Hatch Warehouse

By Car

- **From Salt Lake City, Utah** (3.5 hours, approximately 173 miles); take Hwy 40 east to Vernal. As you approach from the west on U.S. 40, turn north at the center of Vernal on U.S. 191. Go two blocks and turn right on 200 North. Then proceed four blocks to 400 East where you will have to turn left to get to the Hatch warehouse.
- **From Grand Junction, Colorado** (3 hours, approximately 142 miles); head west on Interstate I-70 to CO-139. Travel 73 miles north to CO-64 and turn left (west) toward Rangely, CO. Continue on CO-64 to Dinosaur where you will head west on US-40 to Vernal. In Vernal, turn right on N 500 E, go two blocks north, then turn left on E 200 N. Turn right on N 400 E after one block into the Hatch parking lot.

Mileage and Driving Times

- Denver to Vernal 6 hours 329 miles
- Salt Lake City to Vernal 3.5 hours 173 miles

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strongly recommend you take out a rider on your homeowner's policy to cover your camera—especially if it's fine equipment. If you are planning on bringing a digital camera, make sure to bring additional memory cards, batteries, and any other extras you will need. Disposable waterproof and panorama cameras are also a fun option. We are not able to provide a power source for recharging camera batteries.

Electronics & Technology

The use of electronic devices, especially music players, on your trip may represent an intrusion into the wilderness experience of your fellow guests. We ask that you please be mindful of the impacts to others and respect the wilderness nature of the trip.

Many of our guests travel with their smartphone even though there is no cell service. On a trip like this, there is always the risk of water damage to smartphones and other electronic devices, even when they are stowed in a dry bag. If you intend to take your phone with you on the river, consider investing in a small, waterproof container just for your phone.

Communication

Once you are on the river there is limited communication with the “outside world.” Cell phone service is not available. Our guides carry satellite phones which are strictly used to call out in case of an emergency situation on the river. They can call out, but we cannot call them. If you have someone that needs to contact you about an emergency at home, they should call our office (800-346-6277).

Weather

You may want to check one week prior to your trip for an up-to-date weather forecast. We recommend the following websites: www.weather.com or www.wunderground.com for weather in Dutch John, Utah.

Average Air and Water Temperatures

	High °F	Low °F	Water °F
April	63	31	48
May	74	40	54
June	84	48	62
July	91	55	70
August	89	52	68
September	79	43	60

GETTING READY

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. However, individuals who are overweight or lack conditioning can endanger themselves, other guests and the guides. Please consult your doctor if you have medical or health conditions that could impact your ability to participate in this outdoor adventure. In general, trip participants must be able to:

- Wear a Type V Coast Guard approved personal floatation device (maximum chest size of 56 inches)
- Climb on and off the boats multiple times
- Navigate uneven terrain

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- Self-rescue by swimming to a boat or to shore in the event of an involuntary swim in a whitewater rapid

Physical Preparation

Due to the physical nature of this trip, we highly recommend that you engage in regular exercise for at least one month prior to departure to ensure preparedness. No gym membership required! Simple exercises like push-ups, sit-ups and squats go a long way to improving core fitness. **Getting in shape will certainly add to your enjoyment of the trip.**

PACKING FOR YOUR TRIP

The best choice is an amphibious shoe that drains water, won't come off in swirling current and protects your toes from stubbing and the tops of your feet from sunburning. An old pair of tennis shoes will work almost as well. Sport sandals with an ankle strap are OK. "Water socks" are not a recommended option and flip flops or "Crocs" are not acceptable. For trips in the spring, we recommend wearing shoes along with wool or neoprene socks to keep your feet warm. Wetsuit booties with a reinforced sole are also a good option.

Clothing

We recommend starting with bathing suit/swim trunks and a lightweight synthetic shirt, then adding layers of synthetic long underwear and fleece as needed. It can be cool in the morning even during mid-summer.

Sun Protection

Protecting yourself from the sun should be taken very seriously. A hat, sunscreen, lip balm and sunglasses are a must. In many cases, a long-sleeve shirt is the best method for preventing sunburn on your upper body. Lightweight long pants may also be appropriate to protect your legs.

Suggested Packing List

- Sunscreen & lip protection: waterproof and SPF 30 or higher
- Water bottle with securing clip
- Shade hat/visor
- Sunglasses (preferably polarized) with securing strap
- Bathing suit
- Shorts (long board shorts preferable for sun protection) and quick drying top
- River/tennis shoes or river sandals with an ankle strap
- Wetsuit (for April – early June trips only)

Reminders

- **ALWAYS BE PREPARED FOR CHANGEABLE WEATHER!** Especially during the months of April, May and early June, Utah can experience extreme changes in weather.
- **To avoid being cold:** Synthetic long underwear is a must-have on river trips in the spring and fall. It can be worn under shorts, rain gear, T-shirts, etc. and keeps you warm even when wet.
- **Wearing cotton items on a river trip is only appropriate when the weather is hot. Wet cotton will chill your body temperature.**

Extra Gear

We recommend that you leave your valuables at home or in your private vehicle and take on the river only what's absolutely necessary. We recommend that you leave dry shoes and clothing in your car as well to ensure a comfortable drive home. The Don Hatch warehouse does provide small lockers for personal items such as a wallet and keys.

Gratuities

Guests often ask whether gratuities are appropriate, and in what amount. If you feel your guides have provided a very special trip for you, a gratuity may be left with the trip leader and will be shared among the crew. Entirely discretionary, anything between 5% and 10% of the trip cost is a general tipping guideline. If you plan to tip, remember to bring a personal check or cash—ATM's are hard to find in the backcountry!

SOMETHING VOLUNTARY

In reviewing your statement, you'll note a \$1/person/day donation to the Yampa River Awareness Project of the Friends of the Yampa, a non-profit conservation organization that strives to protect and enhance the environmental and recreational integrity of the Yampa River, its basin, and its tributaries through stewardship, advocacy, partnerships and education. The mission of the Yampa River Awareness Project is to educate the public about the Yampa River, its special attributes, and current water projects and proposals for this river and its surrounding area. One-hundred percent of these funds go directly to the Yampa River Awareness Project 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.

HELPFUL LINKS

Shop for the latest in top-quality gear for your trip

www.oars.com/OARStore

Connect with the other travelers on your trip

eddy.oars.com

Recommended reading list

reading.longitudebooks.com/O89022

Don Hatch practices Leave No Trace outdoor ethics

www.lnt.org

Watch our "How To Pack For A River Trip" video

www.oars.com/videos/how-to-pack

Additional information on Dinosaur National Monument

<http://www.nps.gov/dino>

Terms & Conditions

Reservations & Deposits

- Full payment is due at the time of reservation.

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 30 days or more prior to the trip earn a full refund less a \$25/person fee. Cancellations 29 days or less prior to your trip are not refundable.
- If you transfer from one trip to another, there is a \$15/person charge up until 30 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 Don Hatch River Expeditions trip. People with medical conditions, including pregnancy, should have a physician's approval before taking an adventure travel trip.

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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 can be prolonged, difficult and expensive. Personal belongings and cameras are carried entirely at the owner's risk, and Don Hatch River Expeditions accepts no responsibility for lost, damaged, delayed or stolen property.

Acknowledgement of Risk

- Everyone is required to sign a standard Acknowledgement of Risk 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 Don Hatch River Expeditions' 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 6 passengers), 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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