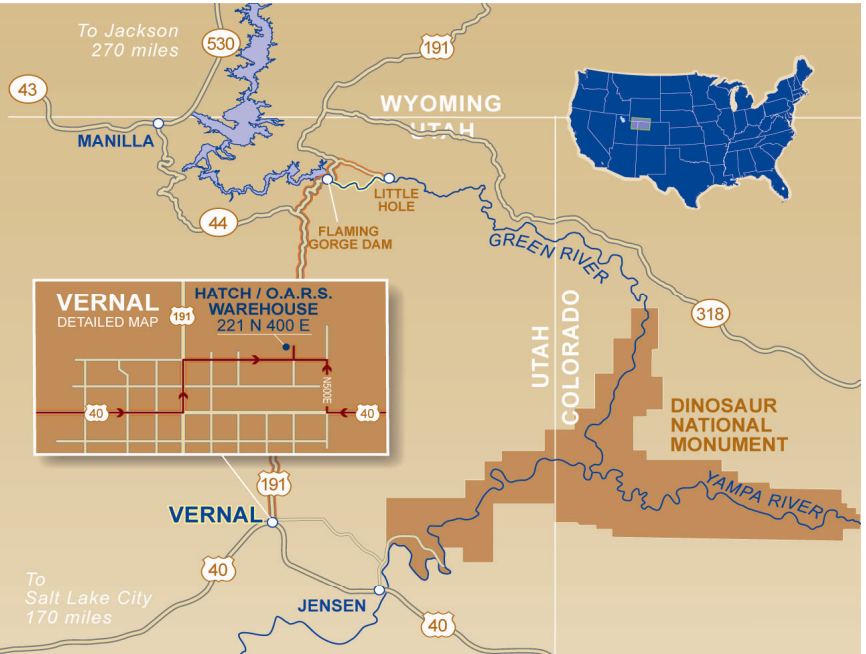




## FLAMING GORGE

*Itinerary*



- MEETING PLACE:** Don Hatch Warehouse—221 North 400 East, Vernal, Utah
- MEETING TIME:** 7:00 PM, the evening before your trip
- RETURN TIME:** Approximately 3:30 – 4:30 PM
- RIVER RATING:** Class II
- SECTION:** Spillway Boat Ramp (below Flaming Gorge Dam) to Swallow Canyon Boat Ramp
- RIVER MILES:** 27 miles
- AGE LIMIT:** Minimum age is 4 years
- TRIP LENGTH:** 3 days / 2 nights
- BOAT TYPE:** Oar Raft, Paddle Raft, Inflatable Kayak

Not far from Dinosaur National Monument and halfway between Yellowstone and Canyonlands National Parks, Flaming Gorge 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. The area is also rich in Western lore and home to hundreds of species of wildlife. Below the dam to Swallow Canyon Boat Ramp is 27 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](mailto:info@donhatchrivertrips.com)

## **BOAT SELECTION**

On our Flaming Gorge multi-day trips, we bring oar rafts and inflatable kayaks, and with sufficient interest, a paddle raft. Oar rafts carry our camp gear along with 2 – 4 passengers and are rowed by our guides using a long pair of oars. Inflatable kayaks are 1- and 2-person boats that get you up close and personal with the rapids of Green river on Flaming Gorge. Paddle rafts carry 4 – 6 passengers, each of whom wield a single-bladed paddle, working together to propel the raft downstream under the direction of your guide.

## **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 dozens of smaller waves and riffles. The Green river through Flaming Gorge is ideal for first-time rafters and children as young as four years, but not short on excitement for the whole family.

## **Sample Itinerary**

### **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 guides and ask any last-minute questions. Your guides will give you a thorough trip orientation, and pass out your waterproof river bags so that you can pack your belongings that evening.

### **Day 1**

- We begin our trip with a scenic drive from Vernal to our put-in below the Flaming Gorge Dam, where your boats and the rest of your Hatch crew await you. After a detailed safety talk, our journey begins.
- We'll run a bunch of fun whitewater today, 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 generally sets the pace for 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 we 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 forever. 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 we 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.

### **Days 2 – 3**

- 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—omelets made to order, blueberry pancakes, sizzling breakfast meat, fresh fruit, toast, and juice are among the treats you'll indulge in each morning. Once you've eaten your fill, you 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 big, sandy 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. Perhaps you will enjoy grilled salmon with orange zest, wild rice, and a fresh green salad. Or maybe a lean, juicy steak with mushrooms and mixed vegetables will be the main attraction as we watch the twilight turn to dusk above the canyon walls. A savory dessert usually follows dinner—maybe peach cobbler, strawberry shortcake, or something rich and chocolaty. 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 our shuttle for the return trip to Vernal.

### **What's Included?**

- Skilled professional guide services
- 2 nights catered camping
- All meals from lunch on day 1 through lunch on day 3
- High-quality inflatable rafts and kayaks and related river equipment including paddle, helmet and personal flotation device
- 2-person shared tent (based on double occupancy)
- Transfers from Vernal to the river and back

### **What's Not Included?**

- Transportation to and from Vernal
- Pre- and post-trip accommodations and meals
- Sleep kit or sleeping pad only (these items may be rented from Hatch)
- Insurance of any kind, including travel insurance
- Items of personal nature (an equipment list will be provided)
- Gratuities

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## **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.

## **TERMS & CONDITIONS**

### **Reservations & Deposits**

- A \$125/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. All payments are nonrefundable and we regret that we cannot make exceptions for personal emergencies. For this reason, **we strongly urge you to investigate trip insurance** (see Insurance).
- 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 a Don Hatch River Exhibitions 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 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.

### **Liability Waiver**

- Everyone is required to sign a standard release 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 4 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

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“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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