

## Guest Responsibility

### **Be prepared and understand the risks.**

White water rafting and other activities included in our rafting packages are adventure sports, all of which include inherent risks to participants. We make every effort to provide an enjoyable experience, but the charm and excitement of adventure sports is due in part to the unpredictable nature of the activity. Therefore, we are not responsible for personal injury and/or lost or damaged items. We require that each participant takes the time to complete our "Release of Liability" form, which is usually filled out the morning of the trip. Minors under the age of 18 are required to have a parent or legal guardian signature on their release form. The release form must be completed prior to your raft trip.

### **Prior to reserving your raft trip.**

It is incumbent upon you to determine if you and every member of your party are physically and mentally capable of participating in the chosen activities. Select a trip appropriate for the most hesitant member of your party. Peer pressure or hoping the strong paddlers will make up for the weak paddlers is not an appropriate way to determine which trip is best for the group. We will assist in selecting a proper raft trip for you, but you must provide us with accurate information so we can make informed recommendations. It is important that you share with us all pertinent medical and physical conditions including but not limited to heart conditions, lung conditions, pregnancy, diabetes, recent surgeries, age, food, and allergies. You must inform us if members of your party have any conditions that may impact their ability to perform in strenuous physical activities. Recommended ages change depending on river flows; your honesty when disclosing ages is important to the safety of all guests involved. We encourage you to be honest with yourself when determining which section is appropriate, and understand that an adventure-class raft trip could certainly include you falling out of the raft resulting in an adventure-class swim. **Rafting is not for everyone, and we reserve the right to refuse service if we feel your safety or the safety of others will be compromised.**

### **High water trips, regulations, and changing itineraries:**

During high water season (2200-3200 cfs), typically in June, rafters must be a minimum of 12 years old and weigh 50lbs or more. In extreme high water (over 3200 cfs), The Royal Gorge is closed and rafters must be a minimum of 16 years old and weigh 90lbs or more on all other sections of the river.

Like you, Outdoor Adventure Programs is concerned first and foremost with the well-being of your entire party. For this reason we are happy to adjust your trip to a different section of river based on the needs and desires of you and all members of your party. Be advised that water level has a significant impact on the caliber of whitewater we see on any section, and we strongly encourage you to inquire about water flow upon check in. Since Mother Nature is dynamic, we do not know actual flows of the river until the day of your trip - especially during our high water season. If you or the team at Outdoor Adventure Programs feels that you and/or members of your party should be on a different experience, we can make those arrangements even while you are on-site.

**Prior to each raft trip you will receive a safety orientation.**

This will detail the possible scenarios you or a member of your party may find themselves in (i.e. falling out of the raft) and your personal responsibilities when in these scenarios. If after listening to this orientation you feel unprepared for the raft trip, please understand you are under no obligation to participate in the trip.

**River/Rapids class rating system**

This is a subjective scale, and the class of a rapid or section of river can change due to increasing or decreasing water levels. Some of the factors taken into consideration when classifying a rapid include difficulty of navigating the rapid, consequences of not navigating a rapid effectively, difficulty of rescue, water temperature, air temperature, and remoteness of the rapid/river section. All members of your party should be aware that a swim in any class rapid is possible and that being in the river itself is an unpredictable environment.

Class I – Easy. Small riffles. No significant waves or obstacles.

Class II – Novice. Moderate rapids with regular waves, small drops, clear passages and wide channels. Occasional maneuvering may be required.

Class III – Intermediate. Moderately difficult rapids with larger irregular waves, often narrow channels. Complex maneuvering required to avoid obstacles.

Class IV – Advanced. Intense, powerful rapids requiring precise maneuvering in fast, turbulent water. Complex maneuvering with many significant obstacles to be avoided.

Class V – Expert. Extremely long, violent, or obstructed rapids, often following each other almost without interruption. Drops may have large, unavoidable waves and holes or steep, congested chutes with difficult routes. Steep gradient.

Class VI – Not Runnable

**Call us with questions.**

Thanks for doing your part to ensure you have a memorable and fun experience with us. If you are still unsure if rafting is for your group or if you aren't sure which trip is best for your group, please give us a call at 719-556-4867. We are here to help!



**PETERSON AFB**