



Colorado Raft Guide Training Course - May 7th through May 23rd 2025

This is a sample Itinerary and can change due to water levels and group dynamics.

Day 0 May 6th:

3:30 Meet and greet moab boatyard

4:00 Jeep tour!

6:00 Return to boat yard

Day 1 Topics : Swift water swimming, rescue, and river mechanics

7:30 Meet at Boat Yard (745 Kane Creek Blvd. Moab, Ut 84532)

8:00 Meet and Greet

9:00 Tour of facilities, boat yard guidelines

10:00 Guide manual

10:30 Rig and trailer a trip

11:00 How to greet guests and fit PFDs

11:30 Lunch

12:30 How to load bus for the road

1:15 Put In Rocky Rapid

2:00 Intro to swift water swimming and reach throw go concepts

4:00 Arrive at Take Out Beach

4:45 Learn to de-rig, PFD's, booties, etc.

5:15 Debrief day

6:00 Adjourn

Logged miles/hours: 17/6

Day 2 Topics: Ferry angles, reading water

***Bring lunch we will be camping this night (Dinner/breakfast lunch on second day provided)**

8:00 Assemble at the Moab Boat Yard

9:00 Depart for Ruby Horsethief .

10:30 Begin rafting the Colorado River

12:30 Break for lunch

4:00 Arrive at black rocks camp.

5:00 D rig

5:30 D Brief

6:00 Adjourn

Logged Miles/hours 16/8

Day 3 Topics: River hazards, river currents, eddies, waves, and laterals

8:00 Launch from Black rocks camp.

10:30 Begin rafting the Colorado River

12:30 Break for lunch

4:00 Arrive at Ruby Takeout

4:45 Return to Boat Yard

5:00 D rig
5:30 D brief
6:00 Adjourn *Logged Miles/hours 8/8*

Day 4 Topics: Basics of river hydraulics. rowing techniques. Paddle commands/paddle boating, Emphasize Put-In/Take-Outs, and hitting tough eddies

8:00 Assemble at the Moab Boat Yard
9:00 Depart for Dewey Bridge.
10:30 Begin rafting the Colorado River
12:30 Break for lunch
4:00 Arrive Moab Bridge.
4:45 Return to Boat Yard
5:00 D rig
5:30 D brief
6:00 Adjourn *Logged Miles/hours 19/8*

Day 5 Topics: Lower Animas River! Maneuvering in fast moving water, reading currents

Durango class travel to Durango 12pm meet at durango boat yard (50 animas view dr, Durango, CO, 81301)

12:00 Boat yard tour
12:30 Rig a commercial Lower Animas trip
1:00 Oxbow
4:30 High Bridge takeout
5:00 Return to boat yard
6:00 Adjourn
Logged miles/time: 16/6

Day 6 Topics: Equipment day! Patching, hypalon Vs urethane vs PVC. Pump maintenance, proper inflation of rafts.

8:30 Meet at Boat Yard.
9-1:00 Above Topics
1:30 Intro to Inflatable Kayaks
2:45 Inflatable kayaking & group management
5:30 Return to durango Boat Yard
5:45 Daily debrief
6:30 Adjourn

Day 7 Topics: Rest Day

Day 8 Topics: Ferry Ferry Ferry!

8:00 Meet at Boat Barn (Durango yard Introduction)
9:00 Launch Oxbow
12:30 Lunch
2:30 Take out Dalebetta
3:15 32nd Put On
5:00 High Bridge Take Out
5:30 D-Brief
6:00 Adjourn
Logged miles/hours: 12/8

Day 9 Topics: Putting it all together! How to run a commercial trip! Bring lunch!

8:30 Meet at Boat Barn

9:00 Ox bow

12:30 Lunch

3:30 Brits or Cedar Hill take out.

5:00 Return to Yard

5:30 D-Brief

6:00 Adjourn

Logged miles/hours: 24/8

Day 10 Topics: Catching tough eddies, keeping people in the boat, maneuvering in fast moving water!

8:30 Meet at Boat Barn

9:00 ½ Day Lower Animas

12:00 Lunch

1:00 ½ Day Lower Animas

6:00 Done for the day

Logged miles/hours: 18/8

Day 11 Topics: Rigging, maneuvering the vessel, ferry angles, communicating with other boats about obstacles, speed, and swimmers

8:00 Meet at Boat Barn

9:00 launch Oxbo

11:30 Take out Basin Creek

12:00 Lunch

1:00 Animas River Town Lap

3:00 Animas River Town Lap

5:15 Debrief

5:30 Adjourn

Logged miles/hours: 24/8

Day 12 Topics: River hazards, customer care while scouting, dealing with groups and kids walking smelter.

8:30 Assemble

9:30 Launch boats Oxbow

11:30 High Bridge

12:00 Lunch

1:00 Smelter Laps

4:00 Return to boat yard

Logged miles/time: 16/6

Day 13 Topics: Types and causes of river rapids, paddle commands

7:30 Meet at BB Travel to Dolores River

10:00 launch Bradfield or Bear Creek depending on flows

12:00 Lunch (Bring lunch with you)

4:00 Take out return to Durango

7:00 Adjourn

Logged miles/hours: 20/8

Day 14 Topics: First Aid CPR Class

Day 15 Topics: Risk management, dealing with events on the river (communication and minimizing impact on the entire group)

10:00 Meet at Boat Barn

8:30 ½ Day Animas

12:30 Lunch

1:30 2 hr Animas

3:30 2 hr Animas

6:00 Done for the Day

Logged miles/hours: 18/6

Day 16 Topics: Oar management & river games

9:00 Meet at Boat Barn

9:30 Smelter laps

12:30 Lunch

1:30 ½ day Duckie Trip

5:00 Done for the day

Logged miles/hours: 16/8

Day 17 Topics: Focus on the customer, what makes a complete guide

9:00 Animas Run

11:00 Animas Run

1:30 Animas Run

3:30 What's next: Checkouts, onboarding, ect.

5:00 Celebration, cookout, course D-brief.

*Participants will be learning and performing a variety of swift water skills including swimming of up to class 3 rapids throughout the course. Swims will begin with easier whitewater and progress upwards. Rope techniques will include throw bags, Z-drags, vector pulls and bow stern compression techniques.

**Participants will have an opportunity to attend a CPR/First Aid Course and receive certification. The certification fees are not included in the price of the course.

Recommended equipment and clothing list:

Nylon shorts/swimsuits for under wetsuits

Polypro/wool or similar long underwear.

Fleece jacket (rentals available)

Wetsuit & booties (rentals available)

Sunscreen

Hat and sunglasses

Water bottle

Fleece or wool socks

Sleep Kit Bag, Pad, and Tent.

Two locking Carabiners and 9 ft

Piece of Tubular Webbing

Rain Gear

Lunch