

Agenda for The Grand Canyon of the Colorado

July 12-18, 2018

3.5 Graduate Semester Hours Credit through Colorado School of Mines

Cost with tuition: \$3115.

Cost without tuition: \$2950.

Check out our website: coloradorivertrip.com

[Winner of International Paper Environmental Education Award](#)

Day 1-6 We will meet Hatch River Expeditions at Lee's Ferry, Arizona, which is right below the Glen Canyon Dam. We will spend six and half days floating through the Grand Canyon, which is rated one of the best five white water raft trips in America. In the Grand Canyon, approximately 2 billion years of earth's geologic history is exposed. Learn the fascinating history of how the mighty Colorado River carved deep into the earth exposing thousands of feet of sediment. For many people, this is the river trip of a lifetime. Individual rafters may wait for years to get a permit for the Grand Canyon.

A float trip through the Grand Canyon is the grand geology lesson. At the put in, the 250 million year old Kaibab Limestone appears at river level. Only 30 miles downstream, it towers 2,500 feet above the river at the canyon rim. At the deepest level of the canyon, the black, convoluted walls of the 1.7 billion year old Vishnu Schist form the Granite Gorge. The four million tourists who glimpse the Grand Canyon from high on the rims, only get a peak at the spectacular erosion and beauty of the canyon. Around every bend is a breath taking new view. Many side canyons carved by river tributaries await our explorations. Hike to spectacular 130 foot waterfalls, explore ruins of the Ancient Ones, discover huge calcite and garnets crystals, search for fossil nautiloids and crinoids, hike in giant caverns, and shimmy up slot canyons.

During our Grand Canyon Trip, we will study about the biomes within the canyon. We will study how the flora and fauna changes throughout the canyon, and listen to the eerie sounds of bats using a bat ecolocator, which transmits the sonar of the bats into an audible sound frequency and amplitude. We will also explore the anthropology of the area as we gaze upon ancient rock art and view Native American ruins at the bottom of the gorge.

Some of the best white water in the world is in the Grand Canyon. Crystal and Lava Falls have a world wide reputation. Our experienced guides, Hatch River Expeditions, have been safely running these rapids for decades. The Grand Canyon Trip combines spectacular scenery with white water adventure with scientific research.

From the rim, the Grand Canyon seems arid and desolate. From the river, the Canyon is a myriad of side canyons and streams filled with waterfalls, gurgling water and profound beauty. We have time for many hikes to explore side canyons, including Elves Chasm Waterfall, Deer Creek Waterfall, Garnet Canyon, Matkatameba Amphitheatre, and Red Wall Cavern.

At the conclusion of our river trip, we will be treated to a helicopter ride out of the canyon and back to civilization. What a thrilling ride it is as we climb aboard and soar above the river and back to “rim world.” The cost of the trip also includes a twin engine airplane ride to Las Vegas (for those who are flying in) or back to Lee’s Ferry (for those who are driving in.)

This cost includes rafting, all of the gourmet food, the helicopter ride out at the end of the trip, a twin engine flight to Las Vegas or Lee's Ferry, a motel room the night before the trip begins, and a sleeping pack (includes sleeping bag, tent, sleeping pad, pillow - yes fluffy white pillow.)

For more information, please contact Melanie Phelps 719-252-1789 or email melaniephe@aol.com