

Hazard and Safety Information—Whitewater Rafting in Utah’s Deserts

- Heat** The climate in our area is quite warm and very dry. Air temperatures can range from 80 to 105 degrees. Night time temperatures can range from 60 to 80 degrees.
- High Elevation** Moab is located at 4,026 Feet. Vernal and Dinosaur National Monument is located between 4,750 Feet and 5,617 Feet. Those from lower altitudes may experience headache, fatigue, stomach illness, dizziness and sleep disturbance. These symptoms can be aggravated by exertion. Usually these symptoms are experienced when above 7,000 feet.
- Bright Sun** Our expeditions are outdoor adventures, and as such include many hours exposed to the sun. We strongly suggest that our guests bring appropriate protective clothing, including long sleeved shirts, pants and wide brimmed hats, and plenty of sunscreen.
- Drinking Water** We always supply plenty of fresh, potable drinking water on all of our rafting trips. Because this is a desert environment, people lose moisture more quickly than they are accustomed to. We strongly suggest that our guests drink at least 1 gallon of water every day. We provide powdered “Mix-ins” for those who prefer flavored water.
- Climbing and Cliff Hazards** The canyons we traverse are beautiful and rugged. We do offer some hiking opportunities on our rafting trips, and some of those trips may include some light scrambling. Guests should stay on the designated trails and SHOULD NOT try their hand at “bouldering” or rock-climbing while on our trip. We are a long way and a long time from any help should an accident happen.
- Lightning** We do occasionally experience thunderstorms while on our river trips. Thunderstorms in the canyon can be quite scary, and there is a possibility of a lightning strike. We take necessary precautions to keep our guests and staff as safe as possible during thunderstorms. We DO NOT suggest taking cover under trees or umbrellas during thunderstorms.
- Water and Boating Safety** Whitewater Rafting has inherent risks. We adhere to strict safety standards and practices, but boats can flip over and people can fall out of boats. Our guides will provide instruction on how to safely traverse the rapids. If high water levels are expected, we will be in contact with you before your trip with information about the additional risks so that you can decide whether you want to stay in that trip or move to a different trip.
- Hypo/Hyperthermia** When water levels are colder there is a chance of hypothermia should someone fall out of a boat. We provide wetsuits and splash gear when they are warranted. Because we are in a desert with high temperatures, Hyperthermia is also a possibility.
- Uneven Ground** Beaches, trails and river bottoms are not paved or flat. We will quite often be traversing uneven ground when not on the boats.

**This is not a comprehensive list of all the things that could cause injury while on a rafting trip. We always suggest that our guests exercise caution while on the river.