



# ARKANSAS RIVER BROWNS CANYON

Please share both sides of this page with everyone in your group. If you have any questions or need additional information call us at 1-800-462-7238 or visit our website at [www.inaraft.com](http://www.inaraft.com).

## DEPARTURE and RETURN TIMES

Please arrive 30-45 minutes before your trip departure time - You may want to allow more time to leisurely enjoy our complimentary continental breakfast.

Trip	Departs	Returns
AM ½ Day	8:30 am	11:30 am – 12:30 pm
PM ½ Day	1:00 pm	4:00 pm - 5:00 pm
Full-Day	9:30 am	4:00 pm - 5:00 pm

## WHERE TO MEET

Your trip departs from the Wilderness Aware office at 12600 US Hwy 24 and 285, Buena Vista, CO (3 miles south east of Buena Vista - see map) Look for our mountain shaped sign on the north side of the highway, just east of the river and Johnson Village at mile marker 213.8. (See directions on page 3)

## WHAT TO BRING

- Do Not Wear Cotton on the River (no jeans or sweats)  
Quick dry apparel is available in our retail store
- Swimming Suit and/or Shorts
- Sunglasses with Securing Strap
- Waterproof Sunscreen
- Waterproof Camera
- Hat or Visor
- Tennis Shoes or Secure Sandals (no flip-flops or Crocs)
- Fleece Jacket or Synthetic Insulating Layer
- Change of Clothes and Towel (for after the trip)
- Cash for Souvenirs and Tipping Your Guide
- Water Bottle (If you don't want to share)



## WE PROVIDE

- Deli-Style Lunch on Full-Day Trips
- Free Continental Breakfast
- Post Trip Snack and Drink
- Professional Guide in Every Raft
- Rafting and Safety Equipment
- Merit Badge Training & Test
- Shuttle from our Office to the River and Back
- Comfortable Changing Facilities

DRIVING TIMES	
Denver	2 1/2 hrs
Colorado Springs	2 hrs
Durango	4 hrs
Grand Junction	4 1/2 hrs
Vail	1 3/4 hrs
Ft. Collins	3 1/2 hrs
Aspen	1 1/2 hrs
Breckenridge	1 1/2 hrs

Allow extra time for road construction and heavy traffic.



## HIGH WATER / COOL WEATHER RENTALS

- Wetsuits - \$10/day
- Wetsuit Booties - \$5/day or half-day
- Splash Jacket - \$5/day or half-day
- Be Warm! Package \$17/day (Includes wetsuit, booties and splash jacket)

**ORIENTATION:** Prior to boarding your raft, you will receive a complete safety orientation.

**MINIMUM / MAXIMUM LIMITS:** Our minimum age is 7 years old with a minimum weight of 50 pounds for a proper fit in our lifejackets. These limits increase at high water levels. Our universal lifejackets fit a chest size of 56”.

**LIABILITY RELEASE:** Everyone will be required to sign a liability release form prior to trip departure. Youths not riding with their parents will need to provide a copy of our liability release signed by one or both parents. You can download a copy of our liability release from our website at [www.inaraft.com/pdf/youthliability.pdf](http://www.inaraft.com/pdf/youthliability.pdf)

**TIPPING:** Tipping is appropriate, particularly if you have received exceptional customer service. If you believe that a tip is appropriate we recommend an average tip of \$10-\$15/guest/day. We always appreciate hearing from you so that we can recognize extraordinary customer service and we also appreciate hearing from you if you feel that there are areas that we can improve upon. We strive to exceed your expectations!

**ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES:** We do not provide alcohol on our trips, and alcohol is not permitted while on the river. Guests who have been drinking prior to their trip will not go on the river and will not receive a refund.

**NON-SWIMMERS:** Many of our participants cannot swim. We provide U.S. Coast Guard approved personal floatation devices designed to float you face-up in whitewater. Personal floatation devices are required to be worn at all times.

**HELMETS:** Helmets are required and provided on the Arkansas River.

**DAY GEAR:** Each raft is equipped with a waterproof bag for any small items that you may need during the day.

**DRINKING WATER:** We carry drinking water on each raft. If you don't wish to share with others, feel free to bring your own water bottle.

**RETAIL STORE:** We have a retail store for those last minute items such as quick dry t-shirts, swim suits, sunscreen and waterproof cameras. Plan to check out our t-shirts, hats and souvenirs after the trip.

**PHOTOS:** There will be photos taken of every raft. Digital copies are normally available to view and purchase at our office by the time your trip returns. They can also be found at [www.inaraft.com/your-rafting-photos.php](http://www.inaraft.com/your-rafting-photos.php).

**ALTITUDE:** You will be rafting at 8000 feet above sea level. Most people don't have serious problems here, but shortness of breath and dehydration are possible. Come a day or two early to acclimatize yourself if you can. We recommend that you drink plenty of water during your stay.

**PREGNANCY:** We cannot take you rafting if you are three month or more pregnant. This is for your own safety and that of your unborn child.

**CANCELLATION POLICY:** If you cancel more than 10 days prior to trip departure we will refund all of your deposit less a \$5/person cancellation fee. If you cancel less than 10 days prior to trip departure there is no refund. We reserve the right to reschedule, move or cancel any trip.

**TRIP CANCELLATION INSURANCE:** If insurance is purchased, you may cancel up to 24 hours prior to your trip departure with no penalty. If you cancel within 24 hours but with at least one hour's notice we will give you trip credit in the form of a gift certificate good through the following season. Gift certificates cannot be extended beyond their expiration date. Cancellation insurance can be purchased at the time of your deposit for 10% of your trip total and is non-transferrable. Insurance does not cover no-shows.

## LOCAL ACCOMMODATIONS

### HOTELS / MOTELS

Lakeside Motel.....800-248-7684

Vista Inn .....800-809-3495

Super 8 Motel .....800-800-8000

### BED AND BREAKFASTS

Las Manos .....719-395-4567

Liar's Lodge .....888-542-7756

Room at the River.....719-395-8599

Sawatch Vistas .....866-395-9199

### RESORTS

Mt. Princeton Hot Springs.....888-395-7799

Rainbow Lake Resort.....719-395-2509

### CAMPGROUNDS

Arrowhead Point Camping Resort.....800-888-7320

Chalk Creek Campground.....719-395-8301

KOA Campground .....800-562-2672

National Forest Campgrounds .....877-444-6777

### CABINS

Vista Court Cabins & Lodge .....800-241-0671

Thunder Lodge.....800-330-9194

### CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Buena Vista.....719-395-6612

Salida.....719-539-2068

## MORE COLORADO ADVENTURES

**Downhill Mountain Biking-** Experience scenic mountain beauty while enjoying an exciting downhill mountain bike ride.

**Horseback Riding-** Breathtaking horseback rides in the heart of Colorado's Rocky Mountains.

**Jeep Tours-** Explore a well-preserved 1800's ghost town, a historic gold mine or a 14,000' summit in our open-topped jeeps.

**Dolores River-** The Dolores is a classic western river, unspoiled, with majestic desert scenery.

**Gunnison Gorge-** Scenery reminiscent of the Inner Gorge of the Grand Canyon makes the Gunnison a place not easily forgotten.

**Upper Colorado-** A nice family trip, this mild whitewater float takes us through the steep, narrow Little Gore Canyon

**North Platte River-** Flowing through the forested Northgate Wilderness Area, the North Platte is the best-kept secret in Colorado.

**Salt River, Arizona-** World-class whitewater, giant Saguaro cactus in bloom, and canyons carpeted in Sonoran Desert wildflowers.

## Directions to your meeting point at Wilderness Aware Rafting near Buena Vista, Colorado

Your trip departs from our office at 12600 US Hwy. 24 / 285 near Buena Vista, Colorado. Look for our mountain shaped sign on the north side of US Hwy. 24 / 285 at mile marker 213.8 just east of the river and Johnson Village. We suggest you use the [Colorado State Road Map](#) or [Arkansas River Region Road Map](#) found on our website at [inaraft.com](#) and plan for delays. Our preferred route from the Metro-Denver area to Buena Vista is via Highway 285. As an alternative you can take I-70 west from Denver to Copper Mountain and follow the 'Vail, I-70 and Summit County' directions below. Visit our [Denver Region Map](#) for assistance on getting out of Denver.

**GPS Coordinates:** N38 48.832 / W 106 06.111

**Decimal Degrees:** 38.813867 / -106.101856

**Degrees, Minutes & Seconds:** N38 48 49 / W106 06 06

### Getting Out of Denver:

**From North Denver,** take I-70 west. Just before entering the mountains, take Exit 260 onto C-470 towards Colorado Springs and continue on C-470 and exit at the Highway 285 and Fairplay exit. Follow the Denver directions below once you are on Highway 285.

**From Central Denver,** take Hampden Avenue west. Hampden Avenue turns into Highway 285 as you leave Denver. Follow the 'Denver' directions once you are on Highway 285.

**From South Denver,** take C-470 towards Grand Junction and continue on C-470 and exit at the Highway 285 and Fairplay exit. Follow the Denver directions in the next paragraph once you are on Highway 285.

**From Denver:** Take Hwy. 285 south for about 120 miles until you descend Trout Creek Pass into the Arkansas River Valley (about 35 miles or 40 minutes past the town of Fairplay). At the bottom of Trout Creek Pass look for our mountain shaped sign at mile marker 213.8 on the right. Our office is just east of the bridge over the Arkansas River just before you enter Johnson Village. Approximately 2-½ hours.

**From Colorado Springs:** From I-25 take exit 141 to US Highway 24 west to the junction with US Highway 285 (Mile Marker 226.5. About 80 miles or 1 ½ hours from Colorado Springs). Turn left and continue south on Highway 24 / 285 for about 20 minutes until you enter the Arkansas River valley. At the bottom of Trout Creek Pass, look for our mountain shaped sign on the right at mile marker 213.8. Our office is just east of the bridge over the Arkansas River and just before you enter Johnson Village. Approximately 2 hours.

**From Salida and all points South:** From the junction of Highways 50 and 285 in Poncha Springs (five miles west of Salida and 60 miles east of Gunnison) head north on Highway 285. Continue north 23 miles to the junction of Highways 24 and 285 (2 miles south of Buena Vista). Turn right (east) on Highway 24 / 285 and drive less than 1 mile through Johnson Village and look for our mountain shaped sign at mile marker 213.8 on the left. Our office is just east of the bridge over the Arkansas River. Approximately 40 minutes from Salida.

**From Vail, I-70 and Summit County:** Take I-70 to Copper Mountain and take Exit #195 onto Highway 91 south. Just before entering Leadville, Highway 91 merges with Highway 24. Continue through Leadville on Highway 24 and travel another 35 miles south along the river to the town of Buena Vista (about 1 hour south of I-70). Turn left two miles south of Buena Vista at the junction of Highways 24 and 285. Drive less than 1 mile through Johnson Village and look for our mountain shaped sign on the left at mile marker 213.8. Our office is just east of the bridge over the Arkansas River. Approximately 1-½ hours.

**From Aspen:** Take Highway 82 east over Independence Pass to the junction of Highways 82 and 24. Turn right on Highway 24 and continue south along the river about 20 miles to the town of Buena Vista (about 20 minutes). Turn left two miles south of Buena Vista at the junction of Highways 24 and 285. Drive less than 1 mile through Johnson Village and look for our mountain shaped sign on the left at mile marker 213.8. Our office is just east of the bridge over the Arkansas River. Approximately 1-½ hours.

**From Breckenridge:** Take Highway 9 south over Hoosier Pass for 36 miles through the town of Fairplay to the stoplight at the junction of Highways 9 and 285. Turn right on Highway 285 and go south for 35 miles until you descend Trout Creek Pass into the Arkansas River Valley (40 minutes from Fairplay). At the bottom of Trout Creek Pass look for our mountain shaped sign on the right at mile marker 213.8. Our office is just east of the bridge over the Arkansas River and just before you enter Johnson Village. Approximately 1-½ hours.