



*Twice Named*  
**"Colorado Company of the Year"!**

**River:** Salt River, Arizona

**Trip:** Upper Salt River Canyon 2-Day Whitewater Raft Trip, Class III-IV, 20 miles.

**Meeting Place:** The junction of US Hwy 60 and the Salt River, between Show Low and Globe, AZ

**Times:** Meeting time is 8:00 am, trips depart daily at 9:00am. Trips get back to the US Hwy 60 bridge at about 4pm on the 2<sup>nd</sup> day. River times outlined below are approximate.

**Closest Major Airports:** Phoenix (PHX)– 2 ¾ hours, Tucson (TUS)- 2 ¾ hours

**Meals Provided:** Delicious smorgasbord lunches along the river, a hearty dinner with dessert and a full breakfast.

**Season:** Early March – Mid-May

#### **Itinerary:**

Two-day trips on Arizona's Salt River are the ultimate springtime getaway, sunny warm days, desert wildflowers in bloom, and a river swollen with snowmelt.

The Salt River is one of the most unique rivers in the U.S. Located on the southern edge of the Colorado Plateau, the Salt is at the crossroads of mountain and desert ecosystems. You'll descend through oak and juniper woodlands into the stunning Lower Sonoran Desert – the most biologically diverse of any of the American deserts. The varieties of cacti along the river are stunning.

The Salt River Canyon's Geology is magnificent! The canyon walls extend thousands of feet above river level and give you the feeling of insignificance in this natural rock cathedral.

**8:00 am:** Our office at the "put-in" is undeniably the nicest facility available on the Salt River. Our 35' custom-built office and equipment warehouse trailer holds everything needed to start your trip in style. Our facilities allow for proper cleaning and storage of equipment, which means you start your day out in clean and comfortable gear. Our private men's and women's changing room trailer has adequate benches and clean linoleum floors that are up and out off the ground. It is well ventilated and well lit. With Wilderness Aware there is no longer the need for Salt River trip preparation in makeshift facilities!

Your guides will be available to help pack your gear (camp clothing, sleeping bag and pad) in a water-tight overnight bag. Everyone gets their very own souvenir insulated coffee mug to keep after the trip. Tents are packed away separately. After getting changed and locking your valuables in your car, you will meet with your guides who will outfit you in a Coast Guard approved life jacket and issue you a paddle. Helmets are available and optional on this section of river. Last minute items like sunscreen, lip balm, glasses straps and waterproof cameras are available at the store in our office facility.

**9:00: am:** After a pleasant 100-yard walk to the river's edge, your trip leader will give you a comprehensive orientation and safety talk with plenty of time for questions. You will have the confidence needed to handle anything that comes up during the trip. The whitewater on this trip will not disappoint. The giant waves

**PO Box 1550, Buena Vista, CO 81211**

**[www.inaraft.com](http://www.inaraft.com) ~ [rapids@inaraft.com](mailto:rapids@inaraft.com) ~ 719-395-2112 ~ Fax 719-395-6716**

of Bump ‘n Grind rapid are sure to have your eyes as big as saucers, followed by a giant smile as you are drying off! Other rapids with names like Maytag, Grumman and Mother Rock ensure you will challenge your coordination and muscles while you conquer the river.

In March, when the river is swollen with snowmelt, prepare for a wet and wild ride with towering waves and powerful currents – a wetsuit is a must for rafting at this time of year. During late April and May, the river changes, requiring technical maneuvers around rocks and dropping through narrow chutes. As the river warms, wetsuits disappear and are replaced by swimsuits, providing opportunities to splash fight with new friends or even swim a rapid!

**12:00pm:** Enjoy t lunch alongside the river at our established camp, our professional guides will prepare a sizzling hot fajita lunch.

**1:30pm:** After lunch, the giant waves of Exhibition Rapid and Mescal Falls will challenge your skill.

**3:00 pm:** We will take the rafts out of the river at our normal full-day take-out and drive back to our established camp where we’ll change into camp clothes and set up tents. Guides will be on-hand to assist with setting up your camp. You will be free to read a book on the beach, take a hike with spectacular views of the Salt River Canyon, or take a refreshing swim in the river.

**7:00 pm:** After unwinding for a few hours, the Guides have put on their chef’s hats and have a hot dinner ready for you. Some of the dinner entrees we offer are: Grilled Chicken, Steak and Salmon, Stir-Fry, Lasagna, and Enchiladas, followed up with a Dutch-oven cake. This is not pork-and-beans camping! After dinner you can relax with a cup of cocoa or tea next to the campfire under a blanket of stars playing cards, telling ghost stories, and re-living your adventures from the river.

**Day 2- 7:00 am:** In the morning, you’ll wake up to the aroma of freshly brewed “Cowboy” coffee delivered to the door of your tent. When you get up, you’ll see that camp is nearly in full swing and an array of fresh fruit, juice and other goodies available for you to nibble on. The smell of bacon in the air tells you breakfast is nearly ready. Our breakfast entrees may include Blueberry pancakes, French toast, or Veggie eggs. After you eat, it’s time to pack up your tent and overnight bags and load up for the short drive back to the put-in.

**9:00 am:** Now it’s time to jump back into the rafts and experience the canyon on more familiar terms. You’ll know what to expect and have a chance for a re-do to get the most out of each rapid. Many guests find this experience even more exciting the second time around!

**12:00 pm:** At lunchtime, your guide will prepare another fantastic lunch from one of our many menus.

**1:00pm:** After lunch, it’s back on to the river.

**3:00pm:** At the conclusion of the trip, you will be transported back to the US Hwy 60 Bridge where you can change clothes, say good-bye to new found friends, and reflect upon this rapid-filled canyon trip. You may also choose to remember your trip with a T-shirt, hat or small souvenir. There is no better way to spend two days!