



*Twice Named*  
**“Colorado Company of the Year”!**

**River:** Arkansas River

**Trip:** Browns Canyon/Numbers 1 Day Whitewater Raft Trip. Class III, IV-V. 15 miles.

**Meeting Place:** Wilderness Aware Headquarters, Hwy 24/285 in Johnson Village near Buena Vista, CO.

**Times:** Meeting time is 7:45- 8:00am, trips depart daily at 8:30am. Get back to the office at about 11:30am for lunch. Afternoon trips will depart at 1:00pm. River times outlined below are approximate.

**Closest Major Airports:** Colorado Springs (COS) – 2 hours, Denver (DIA) – 3 hours.

**Meals Provided:** Continental breakfast, delicious smorgasbord lunch and a light snack

**Season:** May - Labor Day

**Itinerary:** Browns Canyon will demand both your attention and muscles as you challenge rapids like Widow-maker, Pinball, Zoom Flume, and Raft Ripper. In June, 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 July and August, 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!

The Arkansas River’s Numbers half-day section is a steep, very technical boulder-choked run. Class IV-V whitewater is demanding, with little room for error. The Numbers are characterized by cold, continuous, powerful fast-moving water with big waves and holes, requiring aggressive paddling to maneuver the raft. If you’re looking for challenging high-energy adventure, we recommend this world-class section. In June, when the river is swollen with snowmelt, prepare for a wet and wild ride with towering waves and powerful currents – a wetsuit is required for rafting at this time of year. During late July and August, the river changes, requiring technical maneuvers around rocks and dropping through narrow chutes. As the water level descends, wetsuits disappear and are replaced by swimsuits, providing opportunities to splash fight with new friends or even swim through the Swiss-cheese rock!

**7:45 am:** You will meet at our office right along the banks of the Arkansas River. In the morning before your trip, enjoy a free continental breakfast after checking-in with our office staff for a pre-trip briefing. Then you can change into your river gear in our spacious and clean indoor changing rooms. Next, you will meet the guides who will outfit you in a Coast Guard approved life jacket, helmet and paddle.

**8:30 am:** Once you are suited up, your trip leader will give you a comprehensive safety orientation with plenty of time for questions. You will have the confidence needed to handle anything that comes up during the trip. You will then be whisked to the river for your full-day adventure.

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**9:30 am:** We enter Brown's Canyon, the most popular whitewater rafting destination in America. The character of this section is challenging to seasoned rafters, yet forgiving for beginners. Most of the large rapids are followed by a calm pool of slow moving water allowing an opportunity to either catch a quick breath of fresh mountain air or take a picture of the unique Granite rock formations set off against the clear blue Colorado sky. With that kind of scenery, it is no wonder that Brown's canyon has been designated a Wilderness Study Area by the Bureau of Land Management. If you are lucky, you may just catch a glimpse of a herd of Bighorn Sheep or see a Brown Trout shooting out of the water after a quick snack.

**11:30 pm:** Your morning half day through Brown's Canyon comes to an end. You will be shuttled back to our Headquarter where your guides will prepare a delicious deli style lunch served next to the river. Enjoying a well-deserved lunch break gives you time to dry out and stretch your legs while soaking in the sweeping mountain views. Take advantage of our state of the art facility equipped with clean bathrooms, spacious changing rooms and a coffee and breakfast bar.

**1:00 pm:** Get ready for HOT ACTION round Two! Load back onto your shuttle vehicles for the short ride up to the action packed numbers section. There is only a short time to practice the skills needed to handle one of the toughest sections of the Arkansas. Within half a mile you'll begin a series of rapids that will test your skill, concentration and endurance. The rapids in the not-so-creatively-named Numbers section with rapids named "One" through "Seven" are big, rocky, and steep. There's not much time to catch your breath or dry off as you conquer these demanding rapids. You may even have an opportunity to try river "surfing" in the Trash Can!

**3:30 pm:** A short shuttle ride from the takeout point brings you back to our office where warm clothes and hot coffee and cocoa await you! Photos and souvenirs of your trip are available for purchase.