



BIG BEND – MULTI-DAY TRIPS

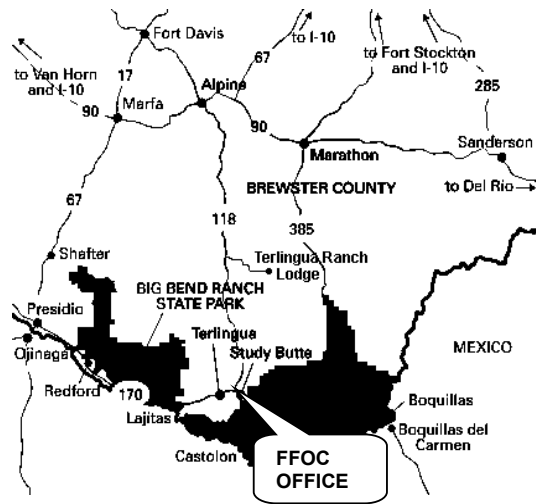
Thank you for planning a multi-day trip with Far Flung Outdoor Center (FFOC)! Please read the following information carefully. If you have questions about your river tour, we'll be glad to help. Call us at 432-371-2633 or email: info@bigbendfarflung.com

STARTING YOUR TRIP

Plan to arrive at 8:15 a.m. on the day of your departure. Far Flung Outdoor Center is located in Study Butte, one-half mile west of the intersection of Highway 118 and Farm Road 170. After introductions and the transfer of your personal gear to our waterproof bags, we will depart from the office around 8:45 a.m. Please call us if you are running late. Other guests who have arrived will be more understanding.

PACKING INFORMATION

Because space is limited on multi-day trips, we will be asking you on the first morning to separate only what you will need for the trip. You will be provided a waterproof bag (16" W x 36" L) that will be used to carry your sleeping bag and personal gear. Additionally, you will be provided a smaller waterproof bag to carry items you might need during the day. Our guides will be happy to assist you in this packing process.



PACKING LIST

- Sandals w/ankle straps or river shoes
- Fast drying shorts/swimsuit (one per every 2 days)
- T-shirts (one per day)
- Long sleeve shirts and lightweight pants (for sun protection)
- Wide brimmed hat, bandana, sunglasses
- Good quality rain jacket; rain pants optional
- Dry shoes for use at camp or for short walks.
- Flashlight w/extra batteries; headlamps are great!
- Lightweight jacket or sweatshirt
- Water Bottle
- Sleeping bag & sleeping pad (you may rent these from FFOC); a small airline pillow is nice!
- Personal hygiene articles; personal medications
- Insect repellent – small bottle
- Sunscreen and lip balm
- For Cooler Months of November – March:** Medium weight jacket, long underwear, gloves, fleece hat and wool or fleece socks. Also consider a pair of neoprene socks. Minimize your cotton inventory!

OPTIONAL ITEMS

- Camera or cell phone
- Your own supply of alcoholic beverages or soft drinks. Please, no glass containers.
- Small soft sided ice chest.
- Binoculars
- Moisturizing lotion (it's very dry here!)
- Baby-wipes
- Small towel/soap

Many things come to mind when people contemplate a river trip. Here are some of the more commonly asked questions:

WHAT DO I WEAR ON THE TRIP?

Dress for the river is normally shorts, swimsuit, hat or visor, t-shirt and river sandals or shoes for the warmer months. In cooler months, layering your clothing is strongly recommended. FFOC provides waterproof day bags so that you can take off or put on clothes as necessary. Do not bring good shoes for the river – they will get wet! If you choose to wear sandals, they should have ankle straps.

WHAT IS THE WEATHER LIKE?

This is our most frequently asked question, so we'll tell you what the experts say:

- Spring (March – April) Day: 75-90, Night: 45-60
- Summer (May – September) Day: 85-100+, Night: 70-80
- Fall (October – December) Day: 70-85, Night: 45-60
- Winter (January – February) Day: 55-75, Night: 30-50
- Rainfall averages 10-12 inches per year, with the highest months being July, August and September.

WHAT ABOUT THE GUIDES?

Our guides are outdoor enthusiasts with many years' experience running boats on rivers throughout the American West. They'll carry most of the gear, organize hikes, prepare meals and with a little encouragement, even provide a bit of entertainment. Realizing that personal involvement increases one's enjoyment of a trip, they will welcome your interest in learning how to paddle or better understand the desert plant and animal life. Our staff will enrich your experience with knowledge of the Big Bend they have picked up in several fields: botany, geology, astronomy, history, etc. Our guides are required to maintain a 40-hour certification in Wilderness First Aid and CPR.

SHOULD I TIP THE GUIDE?

Many guests ask us whether tipping the guides is appropriate. If you believe the guides have exceeded your service expectations, please feel free to leave a tip (10-15% of the trip price is normal). Tipping is by no means required.

WHAT WILL THE SLEEPING ARRANGEMENTS BE?

We furnish tent lodging. Our tents sleep two persons comfortably. If you are traveling alone, you will have your own tent. You should bring your own sleeping bags/pads. You may rent freshly laundered sleeping bags and thick pads from us by calling 432-371-2633 prior to the trip or dropping us an email at info@bigbendfarflung.com. Supplies of bags and pads are limited, so reserve yours early! Sleeping bags are \$7/day; sleeping pads are \$7/day or rent both the pad and the bag for \$12/day.

WHAT ABOUT THE BATHROOM?

Because this trip will take us through primitive areas of Big Bend, we use a "porta-potty" system that will be set up in a secluded location at camp every evening to insure privacy. It is essentially a toilet without plumbing and will be available from the time you pull into camp each afternoon until you leave camp the next day.

WHAT ARE THE MEALS LIKE?

Our menus vary based on current supplies, but expect something like this: Breakfast – eggs, bacon, sausage, pancakes, fresh fruit, coffee, tea and juice. Lunch - a deli-style spread of foods such as meats, cheese, fruit, chips, pickles, cookies, and pasta or tuna salad. Dinner: fish, chicken, steaks, pork chops, pasta, vegetables, salads, dutch oven dessert. **Guests with food restrictions should let us know well in advance so we can plan accordingly.** Ice water will be available throughout the day; tea and/or lemonade mixes will be available at meals. Please bring your own selection of beverages to include soft drinks, wine, beer or liquor. Please, no glass containers.

SHOULD I BRING A CAMERA? WILL THERE BE ANY SIDE-HIKES?

Big Bend is a scenic wonderland. We encourage you to bring a camera or cell phone. We have waterproof containers available to store your equipment, but please remember, this is a water activity and there are no guarantees. (We also stock a full line of waterproof cases.) There are hiking opportunities on the trip, and they vary in difficulty from very easy, to climbing over boulders or up steep trails. Remember, all hikes are optional, so you can choose to lay on the beach, soak in the rays, or just enjoy a book.

CANYON CARE

To protect this great resource we call Big Bend, several protective measures are used. We carry out all garbage and human waste and strain dishwasher into the river to prevent fouling of the water. Cigarette butts are put in pockets for later disposal.

CANCELLATIONS & SCHEDULE CHANGES

Please review your confirmation regarding our cancellation policy. Because we prepare well in advance for the trip, last minute cancellations are costly. Far Flung Outdoor Center reserves the right to alter, modify or cancel any trip or a portion of any trip due to weather, water levels or the safety and convenience of our guests. It is the intent of Far Flung Outdoor Center to operate the river tours in cases where the safety of our guests is not compromised. Guests should appreciate that inclement weather may not be cause for a trip cancellation. In the event FFOC cancels a trip; a full refund will be given.

RESPONSIBILITY

Trip participants must understand and appreciate that river running, camping, hiking and wilderness travel involve certain inherent risks. These risks include, but are not limited to, loss of or damage to personal property, personal injury or fatality resulting from: capsizing of raft or canoe, collision with a vehicle, vessel, rock, log, tree or other obstacles; falling while aboard a raft; accident or illness in remote places with limited or no medical facilities; and exposure to temperature extremes or inclement weather.

We require all of our guests to sign an Acknowledgment of Risk before taking the trip. From time to time, we use photographs and videos of our trips for promotional and business purposes. By going on our trip, you consent to the use of your image, without compensation, for FFOC marketing activities. See you on the river!

FAR FLUNG OUTDOOR CENTER

P.O. BOX 377 • TERLINGUA, TEXAS • 79852 • PHONE: 432-371-2633

You can find us on the Internet at www.bigbendfarflung.com or email us at info@bigbendfarflung.com