



**15 Day Comprehensive On Water Guide School**  
Rivers and locations may change due to water levels.

**Day 1 Topics:** River Mechanics, Routes, Ferry Angles, Reading Water, and Rigging Trips

7:00 - Assemble (Meet @ Boat Barn)

8:00 - Morning rafting on the Lower Animas

12:30 - Lunch

1:15 - Lower Animas Rafting

3:30 - Depart for Dolores River

Logged miles/time: 18/5

**Day 2 Topics:** River Maps, Planning Distance, and Camp Spots

7:00 - Assemble

8:00 - Launch Rafts

12:30 - Lunch Ponderosa Canyon

1:30 - More Boating

4:00 - Arrive @ Camp (Archaeological sites and proper etiquette)

5:00 - Camp Classroom

6:00 - Dinner

Logged miles/time: 14/6

**Day 3 Topics:** Hikes/Scouts---Risk Management

8:00 - Breakfast

9:00 - Launch Boats

10:00 - Boating on the Dolores River

11:00 - Snaggletooth Rapid (Class IV)

1:00 - Lunch

3:30 - Arrive @ Camp

5:00 - Camp Classroom

6:30 - Dinner

Logged miles/time: 12/6

**Day 4 Topics:** River Hazards, River Rescue and Safety, Remote Settings, and Watching Out for Each Other

8:00 - Breakfast

9:00 - Launch

10:30 - 3 Mile Rapid

12:00 - Lunch in Ponderosa Canyon

1:00 - More Boating

3:30 - Arrive Slick Rock Take Out

6:00 - Arrive in Moab (Camp @ Dewey Bridge)

Logged miles/time: 29.5/6

**Day 5 Topics:** Boating Maneuvers, Shipping/Feathering Oars, Swimmers

8:00 - Breakfast

9:00 - Launch Moab Daily

12:00 - Lunch on Colorado River

3:30 - Take out @ Take out Beach

7:00 - Arrive Back in Durango

Logged miles/time: 29.5/6

**Day 6 Topics:** Interpretive Skills: Birds, Plants and Animals: Mile by Mile

8:00 - Meet @ Boat Barn

8:30 - Lower Animas 2hr

11:00 - Begin Smelter Laps

1:00 - Lunch

1:30 - Continue Smelter Laps

3:00 - Flip and Swim

5:00-6:00 - Return to Boat Barn

Logged miles/time: 16/6

**Day 7 - Rest Day!**

**Day 8 Topics:** Entertaining clients/dealing with kids

8:00 - Meet @ Boat Barn

8:30 - Rigging Oar Boats

9:30 - Lower Animas Rafting

10:00 - Smelter Rapid

12:00 - Lunch (On River)

1:30 - Take out (Britts Place)

2:30 - Lower Animas Rafting

4:30 - Derigging and taking care of equipment

Logged mile/time: 27/8

**Day 9 Topics:** Putting it all together, Being a complete guide, eddies, eddies, and eddies.

8:00 - Meet @ Boat Barn

8:30 - Lower Animas ½ Day

1:00 - Lunch

1:30 - Lower Animas 2hr

3:30 - Lower Animas 2hr

5:00-6:00 - Return to Boat Barn

Logged miles/time: 29/6

**Day 10 Topics:** Focus on the Customer!

9:00 - Assemble @ Boat Barn

11:00 - Lower Animas ½ Day

12:30 - Lunch

1:45 - Lower Animas 2hr

4:00 - Lower Animas 2hr

Logged miles/time: 29/6

**Day 11 Topics:** Paddle Commands, Emphasize Put-In/Take-Outs, and Hitting tough Eddies

7:30 - Leave for the Piedra

10:00 - Launch

11:30 - Class IV Rapids

12:00 - Lunch

1:30 - Class IV+ Rapids

2:00 - Portaging and rope management

4:00 - Take Out

Logged miles/time 26/8

**Day 12 Topics:** River Games

9:00 - Meet @ Boat Barn

11:00 - Lower Animas ½ Day

12:30 - Lunch

1:45 - Lower animas ½ day

5:00-6:00 - Take Out/Derig

Logged miles/time: 32/6

**Day 13 Topics:** Trip Prep, How to deal with laterals, what to do if off line

9:00 - Meet @ Boat Barn

10:30 - Put in Upper San Juan

2:30 - Take out Upper San Juan

5:00 - Back to Durango/Derig

Logged Miles/time: 16/4.5

**Day 14 Topics:** Medical Emergencies, First Aid, CPR, WFR, Swiftwater

9:00 - Meet @ Boat Barn

9:30 - Lower animas ½ Day

12:00 - Lunch

1:00 - Smelter Laps

4:00 - Derig @ M2W

Logged miles/time: 29/6

**Day 15 Topics:** Eddie turns and passenger loading/unloading

9:00 - Meet @ Boat Barn

9:30 - Smelter, Smelter, Smelter

12:00 - Lunch

1:00 - Five Stacks (loading and unloading) roofed boats

2:00 - Lower Animas 2hr

4:00 - Derig **Congratulations! You are a certified Class III guide in the state of Colorado!**

4:30 - Potluck and completion ceremony

Logged miles/time: 27/6

Total Class Miles: 352.5

Total Hours: 84.5

\*Recommended EVERYDAY equipment and clothing:

Nylon shorts/swimsuits for under wetsuit

Polypropylene or similar long underwear - NO cotton

Fleece jacket (available for rent)

Wetsuit and booties (available for rent)

Sunscreen

Hat and Sunglasses

Water bottle

Fleece or Wool socks

Camp Gear

Warm jacket for camp

Warm camp clothes, including knit or fleece hat/gloves

Sleeping Bag & Sleeping Pad (available for rent)

Tent (Available for rent)

Flashlight or headlamp

Personal toiletries

\*\*Please limit your overnight gear to one duffel bag

\*\*\*Please arrange your rentals prior to the first day of guide school

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