



**MOAB AREA TRAVEL COUNCIL**  
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## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **River Activities**

Southeastern Utah is blessed with an abundance of river recreation opportunities. Although the world famous Colorado River often conjures images of wild, churning rapids and heart-stopping near capsizes, the rivers of the Moab area have a softer side as well. For miles at a time they are simply wide, quiet streams that, on clear days, reflect a mosaic of rock cliffs and sky. Calm water float trips in canoes, kayaks and rafts are available.

Half-day and full day raft trips with experienced guides cost surprisingly little and are great for the entire family from toddlers to grandparents. Enjoy a four hour tour toward Canyonlands National Park. See the park from the bottom, gazing up the tall canyon walls. Motorized jet boats provide a way to experience the river without getting wet, which is perfect for photographers. Supporting interpretive talks by the boat operator/guide provide a fascinating introduction to the wild geology of canyon country.

The "Daily," located northeast of Moab along Utah highway 128, is also known as the Fisher Towers' section. The Daily is Utah's most popular river trip and is ideal for a short adventure, a group outing, an overnight camping trip, or a first river trip. The Colorado River Daily is a whitewater trip. Six named rapids are located between Hittle Bottom and Takeout Beach. The rapids may range in difficulty up to Class III. The daily can be challenging at high water levels.

For those seeking more thrills, whitewater defines many passages on the Colorado River. Westwater Canyon is located northeast of Moab and is the first canyon along the Colorado River within Utah. The last section of the Colorado River to be navigated, it is many boaters' first choice for a short challenging adventure. Westwater is a whitewater trip with 11 rapids that may range in difficulty up to Class IV. Visitors to Westwater will view the oldest exposed rock in Utah, the Precambrian "black rock", which forms the walls of a 200 foot deep inner canyon. Sheer walls of rust-colored Wingate sandstone tower above the inner canyon. Historic features within the canyon include the miners cabin and the outlaw cave.

Cataract Canyon, located in the heart of Canyonlands National Park, is the best known of southeast Utah's river areas. Cataract Canyon is a wild whitewater trip but the sections above the confluence of the Colorado and Green rivers consist of scenic stretches of calm water. There are 26 rapids within Cataract Canyon with several that may range in difficulty up to Class V. "Cat" trips may be initiated by floating down either the Colorado River from Moab or the Green River from Green River State Park or Mineral Bottom. The Cataract Canyon stretch of the Colorado River extends from the Colorado's confluence with the Green River to Lake Powell at Hite. Shorter trips utilize a jet boat for the upper portion of the trip. Visitors to Cataract Canyon may hike to view the rock art and cliff dwellings; left by Indians who once lived in the canyon or just enjoy the massive red rock walls and pinnacles that tower above the river. Cataract Canyon is one of the most isolated and starkly beautiful areas of the 48 contiguous states.

From calm water kayaking and canoeing to white water rafting, the Colorado River will satisfy your craving for quiet serenity and heart-bounding adventure.

For more information contact the Moab Area Travel Council at 800635-6622 or visit our website at [www.discovermoab.com](http://www.discovermoab.com)