



San Miguel River



1-5-day trips Class I - III

The San Miguel River winds its way through alpine terrain near Telluride and Trout Lake to a desert confluence with the Dolores River 80 miles north. Sandstone canyons vie with granite passages for nature at its best. Some rare riverbank plant life thrives here and as you work your way toward the Dolores and lower elevations, the flora and fauna will change seemingly around each bend.

Class II and III rapids along the Upper San Miguel provide challenging kayaking and rafting. Trips varying in length from 1-5 days can be done on the San Miguel and trips of 6-12 days are available by combining the San Miguel with the Dolores and Colorado Rivers.

SEASON

Early to mid-May to the first part of July is the usual season for this river, which relies on the snowpack from the slopes above Telluride. Folks generally stop rafting when the flow gets down to 500 cfs and lower.

PERMITS

We operate on the San Miguel River under a special use permit from the Bureau of Land management, Uncompahgre Field Office, Montrose, Colorado.

We are Colorado's first licensed outfitter, licensed by Colorado's Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation. All our permits and licenses are your assurance that Dvorak Expeditions is legally operating on the river and that our guides, past performance and qualifications have met detailed requirements and more.

DVORAKEXPEDITIONS.COM

(719) 539-6851 WORLDWIDE

FLOAT NOTES

These float notes will help you prepare for your river trip. There is information on everything from travel and lodging arrangements, typical weather and menus to cancellation and refund policies. If you have any questions that are not answered in these float notes, give us a call. When reading these notes it is helpful to have a road map of Colorado nearby.

GUIDES

Our guides are experienced men and women skilled at handling their craft. They all have current first aid, CPR and Swiftwater Rescue training and have fulfilled all guide qualification requirements in the states of Colorado, Utah, Texas, and New Mexico. Trip leaders have thousands of river miles on all classes of rivers including all those Dvorak Expeditions run.

THE TRIP PACKAGE

The following items are included in your Dvorak Expedition:

- All boating equipment/life jackets/drinking water
- Pre- and post- trip arrangements as described
- 1-5 days of kayaking or rafting instructions
- All on-river meals (lunch day 1 through lunch last day)
- Rain jacket with pants (PVC)
- Eating utensils, plates, complimentary Dvorak cup
- Waterproof dry bags/containers for personal gear
- 6-man-rain tarps for shelter in kitchen area

You are responsible for the following.

Transportation to the arranged meeting point or put-in

- Meals and lodging at the arranged meeting point
- Personal clothing and other sundry items
- Transportation at the arranged drop-off point
- Pre-and post-lodging and meals.

WEATHER

April to late May, the San Miguel River can experience cold, changeable high mountain weather. Most days are warm and sunny, but it is best to be prepared for both warm and cold weather (50-80 degrees).

YOUR HEALTH

Our river trips are not strenuous, but they are a dramatic change in routine for most people. Although the trip is relaxing, the area is remote, so you should be in relatively good health. Please let us know when you return the release form if you have any health problems or concerns. If you have dietary restrictions, we will gladly accommodate your needs with sufficient notice.

CAMPING

The Bureau of Land management designates campsites along the San Miguel. Many spots have canyon hikes nearby. Minimum-impact camping practices keep these campsites pristine.

FISHING

Fishing is permitted on the San Miguel River with a Colorado license. On preserved lands, all fishing is catch and release using flies and lures only. Your guide will advise on this. Request Fishing Brochure for more details

CARE OF THE ENVIRONMENT

River use Ethics: The river areas are fragile environments that degrade without proper care by visitors. To protect the river, we use minimum impact camping techniques carrying out all trash and human waste, etc. The guides will instruct you in simple procedures that minimize the impact our group has on the canyon and we request your cooperation. **We take pride in having the highest standard of river ethics possible.**

FOOD

All on-river meals are provided, beginning with lunch on the first day and ending with lunch on the last day. The food is fresh and hearty, and the guides will prepare it for you while you enjoy the homey atmosphere generated around each river camp. You can set up your tent or go for an evening walk, relax, read, or join the guides in the kitchen if you so desire.

A typical five-day menu may include as a main course BBQ Steak, Baked Fish, Pork chops and dumplings, chicken enchiladas, seafood spaghetti, cashew chicken, Chinese Teriyaki Chicken, Mexican Chili, combination entrees, fresh vegetables, and salads. Dutch-oven desserts or breads, hors d'oeuvres, fresh fruits, fruit juices, coffee, tea and complimentary glass of wine with dinner.

Lunches are buffet style with a wide variety of salads, sandwiches, fruit, cheeses, sliced meats, nuts and juices or sodas.

Breakfast includes fruit juice, eggs in all styles, special pancakes, French toast, melons, fruit, and cereals with milk, sausage, bacon, coffee, tea or hot chocolate. *We can accommodate special diets with notice and almost always the menu suits the vegetarian.*

ALCOHOL

You are welcome to bring alcohol if it is in unbreakable containers. Discretion in alcohol consumption during whitewater days is strongly advised. If you would like us to pick up a particular beer and bring it to the river, please advise and payment can be made for your purchase at the river put-in with your Trip leader.

PRE-TRIP ARRANGEMENTS

1-5 days

By Plane: Arrive in Cortez, Co. the day prior to the trip. Dvorak Expeditions will pick you up at your motel at 7:30 a.m. on the morning of the first day of your trip and transport you to the river put-in point near Telluride, Co., about a one and one-half hour drive. Call to confirm the times.

By Car: You will need to arrive in Placerville, Co. (the junction of Hwy 62 and 145, which is the turn off to Telluride) by 8:00 a.m. the morning your trip begins. Camping is available in the Telluride Town Park or at various Recreation sites along the San Miguel River. Dvorak Expeditions will send you a map of the exact rendezvous site with your trip confirmation package. *

*Trips longer than 5 days necessitate flying out of Grand Junction, Co. at trips end if flying, or arranging a car shuttle to the trips' end if driving. We will work this logistics out with you when you book your trip. If driving from Grand Junction, take US 50 to US 550 and travel south to C62 and take C145 to Placerville.

TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS

AT TRIPS END

After de-rigging and loading equipment late afternoon on the last day of your trip, Dvorak Expeditions will either shuttle you back to Cortez or Grand Junction.

(SPECIAL ARRANGMENTS): We can also provide pick-up from lodging and return to same at trip end. Contact us for your custom arrangements. 800 824.3795

Arrange to have your car shuttled to the take-out at an extra cost. (See confirmation letter)

Although you can usually make a connection flight home after 7 p.m. on the last day of the trip, we recommend you fly out the following morning in case inclement weather or other circumstances delay our arrival in Grand Junction.

Remember "River Time" in unpredictable.

ACCOMMODATIONS

The Turquoise Motor Inn
535 East Main St.
Cortez CO 81321
(970) 565-3778

The Grand Vista
2790 Crossroads Blvd.
Grand Junction, CO 81506
(970) 241-8411

Ray's Motel
101 Main St. PO Box 310
Naturita, CO 81422
(970) 865-2235

Best Western/ Red Arrow Motel
1701 East Main St. (Hwy. 50)
Montrose, CO 81401
(800) 468-9323 or (970) 249-9641

TRAVEL INFORMATION

BY AIR: There are several airlines with flights into Walker Field, Grand Junction, CO. airport from a variety of connecting cities. Cortez is served by United Express from Denver with three flights daily Sun.-Friday and two flights Saturday. It is best to book your air trip from your home city rather than booking from Denver.

BY CAR: Slickrock or Bedrock can be reached easiest by car: (1) Taking I-70 to Grand Junction and then taking US 50 south to Whitewater, then CO141 onto C90 just north of Naturita, or (2) Taking US 50 west to Montrose, south on C 550 to Ridgeway, west on C 62 to Placerville. Continue west on CO 145 to the CO 141 junction. Go south on Hwy CO 141 to Slickrock or north on CO 141 through Naturita to CO 90 to get to Bedrock.

WE PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING EQUIPMENT:

- Rugged inflatable self-bailing rafts 12 to 16 feet in length.
- Personal flotation devices (type V)
- Waterproof dry bags for personal gear.
- First aid and safety supplies.
- One guide per raft | ratio of 1 x 4 on any instructional clinic.
- Rain gear/Jacket/pants unless you want to bring your own
- In addition, we have rental equipment that consists of tents, sleeping bags, pads, and ground sheets. We also have wetsuit and boot rentals available per day or trip.
- You can choose to be either in a paddle raft (participatory) or an oared raft, (passenger). Paddle rafts have 4 to 6 people and one guide.

PERSONAL EQUIPMENT LIST

Please limit your gear to 30 pounds in weight. It should be able to be packed into a standard duffel bag. This list should cover everything for a safe, comfortable trip.

- Compact sleeping bag (not down) with Ensolite pad
- Small backpack style tent w/fly & ground sheet
- Long john style wetsuit boots for cold months*
- Long pants (one light weight to block the sun & one warm wool or pile/fleece type*)
- Nylon shorts or swimsuit under wetsuit
- Long sleeved shirts (one warm*/one light weight)
- Non-cotton shirt or poly propylene top (fleece top)
- Warm jacket*, wind proof or Fleece, water resistant
- Pair of tennis shoes-tie on preferred or wet boots
- Wool socks will help keep feet warm in tennis shoes
- Sunglasses with loss protector/keeper (with UV protection)
- Sun block (over 5,000' altitude—lots of UV exposure)
- Hat for sun protection (tie-on)
- Small towel/biodegradable soap/shampoo/lotion etc.
- Flashlight and extra batteries with new bulb
- Bandanna and a pair of light gloves for sun protection.
- Personal items kit (hygiene) medicines, etc.
- Waterproof camera or a very good waterproof case.

EXTRA BEVERAGES- PLASTIC containers of liquor, CANNED beer wine coolers. An adequate supply of soft drinks is provided. If you prefer diet drinks, please request them in advance. Complimentary wine is provided with evening meals.

OPTIONAL ITEMS: Field glasses and water-proof protection, Journal notebook, book, pliers (for use in removing things from fire like coffee, hot water, etc.). Daypack for side hikes and extra Zip-Lock bags.

***can be omitted during warmer weather**

RENTALS

- \$15 Lightweight Sleeping Bag/Ensolite pad
- \$50 Three-man dome tent with floor & ground sheet
- \$ 5 Therma-Rest Sleep pad, inflatable
- \$ 20 Long John Wet suit with boots

Note: These items need to be reserved and payment is due along with your trip balance 45 days prior to departure. Be sure to give your height, weight and shoe size for wet suit rentals.

WHAT IS TAUGHT KAYAK & SUP BOARD CLINICS?

The basics of whitewater boating which includes Equipment selection, maintenance, and repair, reading the river, scouting, and running the rapids, rescue and evacuation techniques, minimum impact camping, Dutch oven cookery over open fires.

The San Miguel River is suitable for beginning to advanced boaters. You learn from us how to captain both paddleboats and oar powered boats or how to kayak whitewater. You can also do a combination rafting/kayaking seminar. The kayaking/canoeing skills you gain in addition to those listed above include **Wet and dry exits * the basic strokes * ferrying *eddy turns * hydrology * Eskimo roll * Kayak/SUP etiquette * surfing and play boating.*

KAYAK & SUP EQUIPMENT RENTAL

You are welcome to bring your own equipment for our instructional clinics or sign up for the clinics inclusive of all equipment. If you would just like to bring personal paddling equipment and have us supply the boat only, etc., that is also acceptable. Our rental equipment includes

- State of the art equipment:
- Wet suits and boots
- paddle jackets
- life jackets
- helmet
- flotation
- spray skirts
- paddles

FORMS

Thank you for joining us on the San Miguel River this season. You will find most information in the river notes. We request that you fill out the enclosed forms and return them to us as soon as possible:

- Passenger List (names, addresses, phone numbers)
- Trip Questionnaire
- Waiver Form Sign Online or print PDF
- Rental requests (height, weight, shoe size for wetsuits)
- Overnight camping rental list
- Instructional questionnaire if kayaking or standup paddle boarding

RESPONSIBILITY

Dvorak Expeditions will assume no responsibility for injury to trip members, damage, or loss of belongings. Or for time or expense incurred. We require you to READ and SIGN a liability release form prior to your trip. Please fill out the health questionnaire. Because of the risk associated with river trips, including possible personal injury, property loss and financial loss in the event of cancellation, we strongly urge all trip participants to obtain vacation insurance, applications for which are available through our office on request.

PERFORMANCE

It is sometimes necessary to cancel or modify a trip because of unusual circumstances. We reserve the right to cancel or modify any trip due to weather or water conditions or other circumstances beyond our control. In such cases, we cannot be responsible for paying expenses other than refunding all or part of the fees paid to Dvorak Expeditions. The determination of refunds (if any) will be made after reviewing trip details. Guides and other on-river personnel employed by Dvorak Expeditions are not authorized to make or promise trip refunds or trip credits. Such determinations can only be made by company officers.

DVORAK EXPEDITIONS

17921 US Highway 285, Nathrop, CO 81236

Ph. (719) 539-6851 or (800)824-3795

Visit our website at www.dvorakexpeditions.com

e-mail: info@dvorakexpeditions.com

SAN MIGUEL RIVER IN THE TELLURIDE VALLEY



Paddle Rafts 4-6 persons



Class II to III+ Whitewater Rapids



Blue Ribbon Trout Fishery 1 to 3 days

RESERVATIONS & CANCELLATIONS

Please read our cancellation policy carefully, as it applies in every instance. If you MUST cancel your reservation, you may be eligible for a partial refund. Our cancellation policy is firm. We operate under stringent federal regulations, which restrict the number of guests per trip and the number of trips per season. We incur substantial expenses before each trip departs. In the event of late cancellation, Dvorak Expeditions cannot recover costs, nor can we make refunds.

DEPOSIT REQUIREMENTS

- A **minimum advance deposit of \$100 or 25%** of trip cost per person (whichever is greater) is required when making reservations. The total is due 45 days prior to trip.
- When cancellation is made **more than 30 days before** the trip all monies are refunded LESS a \$100 per person fee.
- If cancellation is made **less than 45 days before** the trip, the deposit of 25% per person is non-refundable.
- With **less than 14 days' notice**, no monies are refunded (this includes all credit card charges).

If you must cancel at the last minute, and do not have vacation insurance, try to find a friend to take your place.

TRAVEL PROTECTION INSURANCE TRAVEL PROTECTION

Bill Dvorak Kayak & Rafting Expeditions Inc. recommends that you purchase a Travelex travel protection plan to help protect you and your travel investment against the unexpected. Travel protection plans include coverage for Trip Cancellation, Trip interruption, Emergency Medical & Emergency Evacuation- Repatriation. Trip delay, baggage delay and more.

For more information on the recommended plans or to enroll, click on the link below or contact **Travelex Insurance Services @ 800- 228-9792 and reference location number #06-0520** Please note: To be eligible for the waiver of pre-existing medical conditions exclusion, the protection plan must be purchased within 21 days (Travel Select) or 30 days (Travel Max) from the time you make your initial trip deposit. However, the plan can be purchased any time prior to departure.

For a summary of plan details on benefits, coverages, limitations, and exclusions, please refer to the applicable Description of Coverage. Travel Insurance is underwritten by Transamerica Casualty Insurance Company, Columbus, Ohio; NAIC #10952. 1308294

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