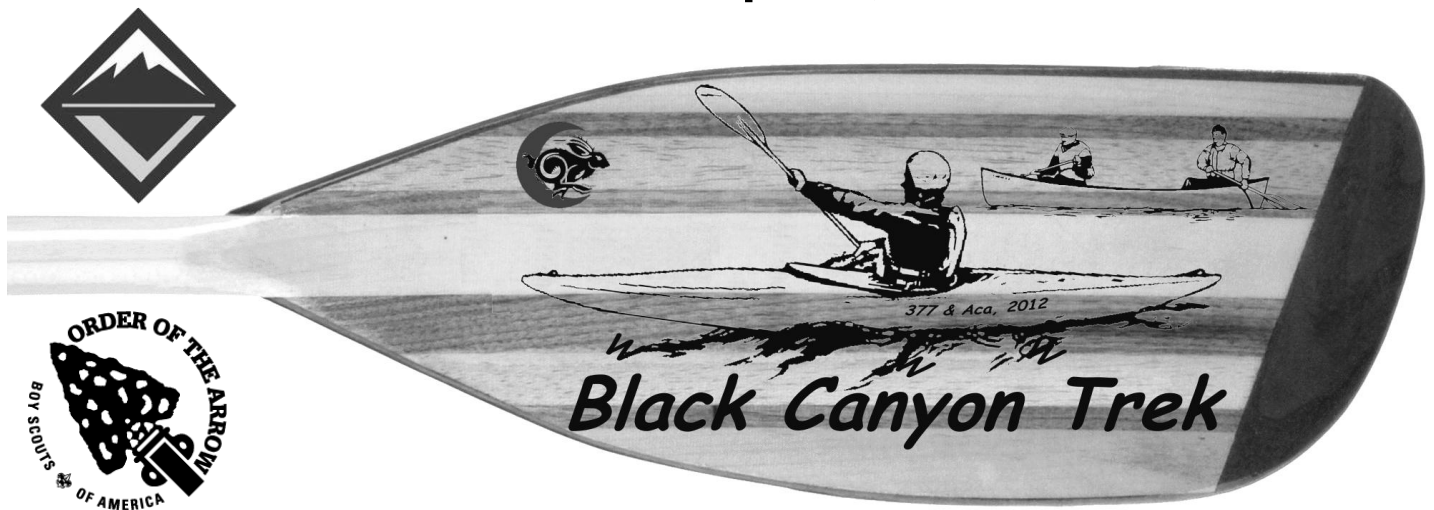


# *Black Canyon Trek*

## Canoe & Kayak Trip Through Black Canyon on The Colorado River

March 31 to April 4, 2012



Hosted by Venture Crew 377 & the Aca Chapter of Cahuilla Lodge #127

## Information & Registration Packet

*Updated 1/23/2012*

*Revision History:*

Trek departure and arrival times changed on 1/23/2012

Packing List Updated on 1/23/2012

Food Menu Revised on 2/7/2012

Payment Schedule Revised and Swim Check Revised on 2/7/2012

# Black Canyon Trek, 2012

Hosted by Venture Crew 377 & the Aca Chapter of Cahuilla Lodge #127



**Thank you** for your interest in joining the Venture Crew 377 & the Aca Chapter of Cahuilla Lodge #127 on our kayak and canoe trip down the Colorado River. Our hopes are that all involved will have a fun and safe adventure that they will cherish the memories from for the rest of their lives.

Our river adventure will take place March 31 – April 4, 2012. It is open to all Order of the Arrow and venture scout members ages 14 years and above. We will be launching from Willow Beach and trekking down to Cottonwood Cove. This trek will be through the famous Black Canyon. This area is renowned for its history, sheer rock canyons, and abundant wildlife. We will be spending ample time exploring the many coves and other hidden areas that this area is known for. Scouts will be able to earn their 50 miler patch from this trek.



The cost for this trip will be \$150 per person and space is limited to 18 people over the age of 14 years. The price includes food, boats, PFDs, and paddles. There will be mandatory paddle craft training held this February and March at Lake Perris.

Please check out the Black Canyon Trek webpage of the ACA Chapter website, [www.acachapter.org](http://www.acachapter.org), to get the latest information, contingent meeting dates, and updates for our Colorado River excursion. We will also be emailing all participants with the latest updates.

This trip is being hosted by the ACA Chapter of Cahuilla Lodge #127, Order of the Arrow. The contingent leader for this trip is James Hermes, phone (760) 537-0394, email [acachapter@gmail.com](mailto:acachapter@gmail.com).

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## **General Information**

### **Registration**

All Order of the Arrow members and venture scouts are welcome to participate in this trek. For insurance reasons, all OA members that are not registered members of Crew 377 will need to register as members for this trek. This can be done for little to no cost.

Venture Scouts that are not registered members of Crew 377, but would still like to attend may do so. Your Crew must file a required touring plan and provide either 1 female or male adult leader registered in your respective crew (depending on if there are male or female youth venturers attending this trek).

The registration page can be found on page 8 of this packet.

### **Transportation- Getting There and Getting Back**

Transportation will be via trek leaders' personal vehicles and parents that wish to volunteer to help transport youth. We will be meeting at 4AM, March 31, at the TA Travel Center just south of the Interstate 10 Freeway, 46155 Dillon Rd, Coachella, CA. From there we will be driving to the launch point at Willow Beach, AZ. For the trip back on April 4, volunteer drivers are asked to meet at the put out area at Cottonwood Cove, AZ, to help drive the group back to the same TA Travel Center that we met at.

The cost of gas for 1 round trip to Willow Beach and then back from Cottonwood Cove is supplemental in the overall cost of this trip. We will need a couple of volunteer drivers to drive the trek leaders' vehicles from Willow Beach to Cottonwood Cove. The cost does not include gas for a trip back home during the trek dates or for any side trips after the group has been dropped off or before they are picked up (i.e., Las Vegas, Hoover Dam, Laughlin, etc.). Volunteer drivers are encouraged to explore the many recreational areas that we'll be near and possibly to bring your family for a great camping vacations near the Colorado River.

### **Food**

All meals will consist largely of trail food and will be prepared by trek group members on site during our time on the river. All food will be packed in by the trek group. Individuals will need to provide their own breakfast and lunch for the trip up to Willow Beach on March 31. Individuals will also need to provide their own lunch for the trip back from Cottonwood Cove on April 4.

Anyone who wishes to eat vegetarian meals will need to let the trek leaders know before the departure date on March 31. You can let us know via the registration form in this packet.

### **Campgrounds**

Camping spots vary due to an ever changing landscape from the river. Nightly camping for trek group members will be at arbitrary spots chosen by the trek group leaders. It all depends on beach conditions and the water level. Some areas that we will be camping in will have outhouses, but no other amenities should be expected.

For volunteer drivers that will not be going back home during the week or participating in the trek on the river, there are ample places to camp at either Willow Beach or Cottonwood Cove. Take the time to enjoy yourselves and go fishing, hiking, or just exploring with your new friends that aren't going on the river trek or camping with you family in a great locale.

### **In-Camp Activities and Side Trips / Hikes**

When not on the river, trek group members can explore the wilderness areas near our campsites. During breaks from paddling we will be going on a few short hikes to explore some of the side canyons or natural hot springs that will surround us.

## **Boats- Canoes and Kayaks**

We will be primarily paddling canoes on this trek. This is a 5 day trek and we will need to bring all of our supplies with us from the launch point to take out. A kayak has a closed hull design that limits its cargo carrying capacity while a canoe has an open hull that allows for a large amount of gear to be stowed in its hull. There will be a limited number of kayaks available for this trek, but anyone using a kayak will need to make arrangements with other trek members to help carry any gear that they are unable to transport on their assigned watercraft.

Individual trek members are allowed to bring and use their own canoe or kayak. Only kayaks and canoes will be allowed on this trek. No SUPs (stand up paddle) will be allowed. Anyone providing their own watercraft is responsible for that craft's transportation to Willow Beach and back from Cottonwood Cove. All watercraft not being provided by the trip organizers must be approved by the trek leaders. Anyone using a kayak MUST be able to demonstrate the ability to self rescue by either a "combat roll" or wet exit.

If an individual trek member wishes to use their own kayak then only touring or recreational models will be allowed. Whitewater kayaks and play boats aren't designed for carrying cargo or for long distance flat water river paddling. Please also be aware that most recreational kayaks are usually only designed for day long paddles and not for multiday treks.

## **Cost**

The cost of this trip will be \$150. The price includes food, boats, PFDs, and paddles. The cost does not include transportation, tents, sleeping bags or pads, protective or general clothing, float bags, etc.

There is a required \$50 deposit due by Jan. 5, 2012. A second payment is due by February 10, 2012, and the balance due for final payment is on March 2, 2012.

For volunteer drivers who will not be participating on the trek on the river, there is no cost to attend. The cost of gas for 1 round trip to Willow Beach and then back from Cottonwood Cove is supplemental in the overall cost of this trip. Currently we will be unable to pay for your food or accommodations during the time that the trek group is on the river (March 31 to April 4).

## **Requirements to Attend**

### **Scouts:**

1. Must complete Annual BSA Health and Medical Record form (Parts A, B, and C).
2. Must Complete Registration Form on page 8.
3. Completed BSA safe swim defense within 12 months prior to this trip (April 4, 2012) and complete the required safety afloat training course that we will be holding on February 25 and March 17, 2012.
4. Classified as a "swimmer" per BSA regulations.
5. Be a minimum of 14 years of age by March 1, 2012.
6. All trek group members must fit into personal flotation device (PFD's) that are being supplied, with all buckles securely fastened. Maximum torso circumference - 52 inches. If can't fit into this sized PDF then you will need to supply your own.

### **Adults:**

1. Must complete Annual BSA Health and Medical Record form (Parts A, B, and C).
2. Must Complete Registration Form on page 8.
3. Completed BSA safe swim defense within 12 months prior to this trip (March 12, 2012).
4. Classified as a "swimmer" per BSA regulations.
5. Be a minimum of 18 years of age by March 1, 2012.
6. All Rafters must fit into personal flotation device (PFD's) supplied by the outfitter, with all buckles securely fastened. Maximum torso circumference - 52 inches. If you can't fit into this sized PDF then you will need to supply your own.

It is highly recommended that anyone attending this trip become familiar with the policies of the BSA safe swim defense and safety afloat.

## Rules

1. All participants on this trip must be in full class A uniform while traveling from our departure point to the Willow Beach launch point and on the journey back home from Cottonwood Cove.
2. All participants must adhere to the Scout Oath and Law
3. All participants should pass the BSA Basic Swimming Test as a "swimmer."
4. All Participants must wear a life jacket at all times while in the boats as upsets on the river are likely.
5. No alcoholic beverages are permitted at any time, by anyone, on this trip.
6. No firearms or illegal drugs or fireworks are allowed.
7. The "buddy system" will be enforced at all times in camp and on the river.
8. All Participants must adhere to the safety afloat as laid out in the Guide to Safe Scouting and the principles of leave no trace.
9. The watercraft that an individual trains in at the safety afloat course in February and March will be the watercraft that the individual will use on the actual trek in Black Canyon.

## Packing List

- Water - 1 gallon per person per day. There is **no potable water** in Saturday's through Wednesday's camp. Each person needs to bring enough bottled water to see them through the "Dry Camps."
- Canteen or sealable water bottle with sufficient water.
- Tent & ground cover to protect against insects & mosquitoes, etc.
- Dry bags or 5 gallon buckets with lid to carry your gear.
- Pocketknife (Sharp), first aid kit, compass, emergency blanket, metal mirror or signaling device
- High intensity whistle with lanyard
- Headlamp type flashlight and extra batteries
- Waterproof matches
- Sun screen lotion # 50 and lip/nose protection
- Insect repellent
- Needle & thread
- Mess kit, eating utensils, sierra cup or equivalent
- Trail stove with supply of liquid fuel for morning and evening meals
- Dry change of clothes (up to 5 days worth, but remember that the more you bring then the more stuff that you have to fit in your boat)
- Clean clothes to change in to at "take out" in Cottonwood Cove, AZ. We will be wearing these clothes for the trip home.
- Sunglasses or prescription glasses with a band
- Light hiking boots or old tennis shoes (non canvas) to wear around camp and for the hikes in the side canyons. These will serve as dry shoes for when we're not on the water.
- Non canvas tennis shoes, aqua shoes, neoprene booties, river sandals or Equivalent (No Flip Flops) to wear for the time that we're on the water.
- Swimsuit, shorts, or long pants made from synthetic materials and long sleeve shirt to wear on the boats
- Long sleeved shirt and pants for evening.
- Biodegradable soap, towel, washcloth, toiletries.
- Wide-brimmed hat, visor or cap, beanie
- Waterproof camera
- Rain suit, light rain jacket or nylon windbreaker, wool sweater and wool socks in case of inclement weather.

## Payment Schedule, Trek Itinerary and Training Dates

Date	Activity or Training	Location
6:30PM to 7:15PM, Jan. 28	Trek Group Meeting	Access Life Chiropractic, 45445 Portola Ave # 2B, Palm Desert, CA
Feb. 10	Deposit Payment of \$50 Due	
2PM Feb. 20	Swim Check	Boys and Girls Club of Desert Hot Springs Clubhouse, 66150 8th St, Desert Hot Springs, CA, 92240 (Corner of 8 <sup>th</sup> St. and Cactus Dr.)
9AM to 2PM, Feb. 25	Required Safety Afloat Training	Lake Perris SRA (Entrance fee required to enter)
March 2	Final Payment Due	
9AM to 2PM, March 17	Required Safety Afloat Training Makeup Date (For those individuals who were not able to make it to the Feb. training)	Lake Perris SRA (Entrance fee required to enter)
6:30PM to 7:15PM, March 27	Trek Group Meeting	Access Life Chiropractic, 45445 Portola Ave # 2B, Palm Desert, CA
<b>Trek Dates</b>		
4AM, March 31	Meet at TA Travel Center in Coachella, depart for Willow Beach, AZ.	TA Travel Center, south of the Interstate 10 Freeway, 46155 Dillon Rd, Coachella, CA
10:30AM, March 31	Meet at “put in” point in Willow Beach, AZ. Unload boats, load gear onto boats, river safety and orientation course on the river, depart for first night camping spot.	Willow Beach, AZ
1PM, April 4	Trek Group paddles to “take out” point at Cottonwood Cove, AZ. Stow Gear in vehicles, head home by 2:30PM	Cottonwood Cove, AZ
9PM, April 4	Meet at TA Travel Center to meet parents trek officially ends.	TA Travel Center, south of the Interstate 10 Freeway, 46155 Dillon Rd, Coachella, CA

- ***Please be aware that the training dates and times for the safety afloat training are subject to change.***
- ***The watercraft that an individual trains in at the safety afloat course in February and March will be the watercraft that the individual will use on the actual trek in Black Canyon.***

## **Food Menu**

Saturday	Breakfast	At home before we leave for the trek	
	Lunch	Fast food in Boulder City, NV	
	Dinner	Beef stew & bread bowls, tea, hot coco	
Sunday	Breakfast	Boil in a bag scrambled eggs, capri sun, tang	
	Lunch	Soup and sandwich grinders, coolaid	
	Dinner	Canned spaghetti and breadsticks, hot coco, tea	
Monday	Breakfast	Oatmeal, bananas, apples, oranges, capri sun, tang	
	Lunch	Peanut butter and jelly sandwiches, coolaid, tang	
	Dinner	Chili on rice, hot coco, tea	
Tuesday	Breakfast	Cereal, bananas, apples, oranges, tang, milk (for cereal)	
	Lunch	Cheese, peanut butter, fruit, coolaid	
	Dinner	Tuna and noodles, hot coco, tea	
Wednesday	Breakfast	Pancakes, bananas, apples, oranges, tang	
	Lunch	Tuna medley, crackers, fruit, tang, coolaid	
	Dinner	Fast food in Needles, CA	

### PLEASE NOTE:

\*Fruit such as apples, oranges, and banana chips will be available at breakfast and lunch. We will use dried along with the banana chips on Tuesday and Wednesday. Apples and oranges may not last more than a few days.

\*\*Drinks that will be available will be coffee, tea, cocoa, tang, capri sun, milk (box or powdered), and coolaid.

\*\*\*In case the weather turns cols we will also be bringing a supply of top ramen and prepackaged soup mixes.

### **Additional Online Training and Reference Material**

<http://www.myscouting.org>

*The following training courses can be taken at myscouting.org: Safety Afloat; Safe Swim Defense; Hazardous Weather Training; Trek Safety. Each individual is required to complete the Safety Afloat training and the Safe Swim Defense. It is also highly suggested that each participant complete the courses for Hazardous Weather Training and Trek Safety training. You will need to create a user account and password if you don't already have one.*

<http://www.paddling.net/guidelines/>

Several informative articles about paddling techniques, boat gear, paddling safety, and much more.

<http://www.paddling.net/guidelines/showArticle.html?116>

A very good article about applying the principles of leave no trace to paddling activities. The webpage also includes links to the leave no trace website.

# Black Canyon Trek, 2012

Hosted by Venture Crew 377 & the Aca Chapter of Cahuilla Lodge #127



## Registration Form

PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE ALL INFORMATION

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone No.: \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Alt. Phone No.: \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Scout Unit Type: (Circle One) Venture Crew, Troop

Scout Unit No.: \_\_\_\_\_ District: \_\_\_\_\_ OA Chapter (If Applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Age (must be 14 years or older to attend this trip): \_\_\_\_\_

Height: \_\_\_\_\_ Weight: \_\_\_\_\_ Are you a vegetarian? (Circle One) Yes / No

Parents/ Guardians Signature (if above person is under 18 years of age): \_\_\_\_\_

Check your own special training and qualifications.

CPR: Date Earned: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Safety Afloat: Date Earned: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_

ARC First Aid: Date Earned: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_

RN or LVN: Date Earned: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_

BSA Lifeguard: Date Earned: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Alternate Emergency Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Please state any physical limitations that you may have and/or any special dietary needs, allergies (such as bee stings), etc.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### Total cost per person is \$150.

\*A deposit of \$50 is required by January 5, 2012 and the balance must be paid by March 2, 2012.

\*\* OA members that are not registered members of Crew 377 will need to register as members for this trek. Venture Scouts that are not registered members of Crew 377 must have their crew file a required touring plan and provide either 1 female or male adult leader registered in your respective crew (depending on if there are male or female youth venturers attending this trek).

\*\*\*The Annual BSA Health and Medical Record Form, 680-001 is required for this trek by all individuals who are participating in the trek down the Colorado River. This form must be completely filled out (parts A, B, and C) and is due by March 2, 2012. Copies of this form can be found on the trek webpage: [www.acachapter.org/bct](http://www.acachapter.org/bct)

For Recording Use Only:

Receipt # \_\_\_\_\_

**Make checks payable to:**

Venture Crew 377

**Mail to:**

James Hermes

45534 Sutter Creek Road,

Indio, CA, 92201