OUTDOOR ADVENTURES

WHITEWATER CANOEING, GILA BOX CANYON
April 1-3, 2016

TRIP DESCRIPTION:

This 23-mile canoe trip will take us down the Gila River through the Gila Box Riparian National Conservation Area. Designated a Riparian National Conservation Area in 1990, the Gila Box preserves pristine corridors of four perennial water sources: the Gila River, the San Francisco River, Eagle Creek and Bonita Creek. These four perennial waterways provide the area with lifeblood that supports a stunning array of plant and animal life, including bighorn sheep and over 200 species of birds. During our trip, we will also experience the Gila Box, an area of the Gila River that cuts deeply into surrounding mountains, forming beautiful canyons.

The Gila River in this section is narrow and winding, with rocky shoals, quick moving chutes, and small wave trains. We will spend time working on boat control, learning to read the river, and selecting the best lines for running rapids.

This trip will be “expedition style” with the group carrying all the food, water, and equipment for the entire weekend in the canoes. We will camp Saturday night on one of the many riverside beaches deep in the Gila Box canyon.

Previous canoe experience highly recommended.

Exertion Level: Moderate

TRIP COST: Student: $180  Non-Student: $215
PRE-TRIP MEETING: March 30 at 6pm  SIGN-UP DEADLINE: March 30
REGISTER ONLINE AT: rec.arizona.edu/outdooradventures
EQUIPMENT LIST:
- Tennis Shoes for paddling. These will get wet!
- Camp Shoes
- 2 Pair Wool/Synthetic Socks
- Wool/Polypropylene Long Underwear
- Shorts
- Swimsuit and Towel
- Long Pants
- Short Sleeved Shirt
- Long Sleeved Shirt for Sun Protection
- Wool/Fleece Sweater or Jacket
- Rain Jacket and Pants
- Sunglasses w/ keeper strap
- Sun Hat
- Wool/Fleece Hat
- Toiletry Items (Toothbrush, Toothpaste, Etc.)
- Spare Batteries for Headlamp or Flashlight
- Sunscreen
- Lip Balm
- Camera (optional)
- * Small Flashlight or Headlamp
- * 2 Water Bottles - 1 Quart Each
- * Sleeping Bag rated to 20° F
- * Foam Pad

*May be borrowed from Outdoor Adventures at no additional cost

ITINERARY:
Friday:
2:00PM Arrive at Outdoor Adventures.
2:30PM Depart for river.
7:00PM Arrive at campsite near put-in.

Saturday:
Early Breakfast, followed by an introduction to canoeing
10:00AM Begin paddle downstream
5:00PM Arrive at campsite below confluence with Eagle Creek

Sunday:
9:00AM Put in on river, begin paddling.
3:00PM Take out
4:00PM Departure for Tucson. One meal en route.
7:00PM Approximate arrival at Outdoor Adventures. Unload and clean gear. Fill out trips evaluations.
8:00PM Go home!

PROVIDED BY OUTDOOR ADVENTURES:
- Transportation (15-Passenger Van)
- Meals while boating (Friday dinner through Sunday lunch)
- Entrance and camping fees
- Fully outfitted canoes and accessories
- Cooking and camping equipment
- Leadership and instruction

Trip cost does not include personal clothing or meals en route.