

# **BLACK CANYON ANGLERS**

Lodge & Guide Service  
Gunnison River, Colorado  
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***Established 1985***

## **Wilderness Fly Fishing Float Trips Through the Black Canyon (Gunnison Gorge National Conservation Area)**

A float through the steep walled Gunnison Gorge is recognized as one of the top fly fishing trips in the lower 48. This National Conservation Area lies just downstream of the Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park and features spectacular scenery, interesting geology, sightings of varied wildlife, and most importantly, excellent fly fishing for rainbow and brown trout. Trophy rainbows measuring 20"+ are the prize of the "Gunny." Colorado Parks and Wildlife routinely conducts fish shocking surveys that show the Gunnison River to hold more fish per mile than any other river in the state. The 2011 data demonstrated more than 10,000 fish per mile. The occasional sighting of big horn sheep, mule deer, river otters and eagles will heighten your appreciation for this unique resource. These unparalleled 1, 2, or 3 day wilderness fishing adventures are conducted at the highest level of professionalism with top quality equipment and experienced personnel. The fishing float season extends from mid May through the beginning of October. Black Canyon Anglers is recognized as the largest and most experienced outfitter operating in the Gunnison Gorge Section of the Black Canyon and offers the only fishing lodge on the lower Gunnison River.

**Lodge:** All trips begin and end at our unique riverside lodge located on a working peach orchard. The facility is set up to comfortably feed, house and entertain guests before and after their adventures. Cozy 4 bed cabins, and 2 bed cabins are available. Evening meals (6:30 pm) may be reserved in the dining hall. An on site fly shop carries flies, licenses and other fishing supplies. Ponds on the property offer great casting practice and a great way to cool off on those really hot summer days. Guests are also invited to fish three miles of private water on the Gunnison River. It is strongly suggested that clients stay at the lodge the night before their fishing trip. Arriving early allows time for guests to pack their river bags, stop by the fly shop, fish the river, enjoy a delicious meal, relax around the fire circle and get a good night's rest. The lodge only serves breakfast and dinner (lunch is not served). Guests arriving mid-day should make arrangements to eat before coming to the property, or bring a picnic lunch.

**Itinerary:** Wake up call is at 5:30, a continental breakfast is served at 6:00 and guides and clients leave for the river at 6:30. The Gunnison Gorge is unique as there is no road access to the river. Transportation is provided over a rough 4x4 road to the rim of the canyon. From there, everyone hikes the moderate 1.1 mile Chukar Trail to the river while carrying their personal gear on their backs (river dry bag with shoulder straps provided). Guests wishing to avoid carrying personal gear to the river on their back may pre-arrange to have their gear taken in for an additional fee. Once at the river, you will find the boats and equipment which was packed in via horse the day before.

Several class III rapids, as well as numerous class II rapids, need to be negotiated during this 14 mile stretch of river. This is one of the only floats to offer both fantastic fishing and exciting whitewater in the same trip. Multi-day trips are slower paced and offer ample time spent out of the boat fishing from afoot. Single day trips are faster paced and mostly require fishing from the boat in order to cover the necessary mileage.

The Bureau of Land Management regulates this resource to allow only two commercial launches per day, with a maximum of 8 guests and 4 guides per trip. Each boat carries a maximum of 2 guests and 1 professional fly fishing guide. A gear boat is available for an additional fee, eliminating the need to carry equipment in the fishing raft.

All rafting and safety equipment, life jackets, food, kitchen gear and tents are provided. Guests are responsible for their own fishing license, fishing equipment (rentals available at no charge), sleeping bag and pad (rentals available at no charge) and personal items. For easy access throughout the day, a day

pack is a good way to store personal items on the raft. Camping is conducted at designated camping sites along the river.

All trips end around 4 pm at a private take-out, 6 miles upstream of the lodge and a 15 minute shuttle ride back to the lodge is provided.

**Professional Guide Staff:** Black Canyon Anglers maintains the most experienced guide staff on the river. Our guide staff has over 200 years of experience. The BCA staff looks forward to showing you a first class fishing experience from beginning to end.

**Season:** Mid May through early October. Please call for availability. We primarily book only 3 day trips in June, but on rare occasion, 1 and 2 day trips are available.

**Reservations:** Advanced reservations are required for all trips. Black Canyon Anglers is allowed to take a maximum of 12 people (8 clients and 4 guides in 4 boats) per day on the river per BLM regulations. Black Canyon Anglers reserves the right to combine smaller parties in order to fill all the available spots on any given launch day. On overnight trips, a common campsite must be shared by all 12 people per BLM regulations.

**Meeting Time and Place:** All trips begin and end at our riverside lodge located in Austin, Colorado. This facility is located 3.0 miles off of Highway 92 (8.5 miles east of Delta, Colorado). Trips meet at 6:00 am and depart for the river at 6:30 am. Normally, trips end back at the lodge at approximately 4:00 pm on the last day.

**Airport Shuttle Service:** Ground transportation between the Montrose Regional Airport (MTJ), Grand Junction Airport and the Black Canyon Anglers' fishing lodge can be arranged through Telluride Express or Mountain Limo. One way shuttles are specially priced by the van for our clients. Please call Telluride Express at (888) 212-8294, Mountain Limo (888) 546-6894, or Sunshine Rides at (970)777-7777 for current rates.

**Safety:** There is some risk in all outdoor activities and you will be asked to sign a release of liability form before the trip.

**Catch and Release:** Black Canyon Anglers practices catch and release principles. Barbless hooks are recommended.

**Flies:** Guides will supply flies for your trip. Guests may bring their own flies from home, or purchase more flies at the Black Canyon Anglers fly shop before their trip starts. Black Canyon Anglers is a fly fishing guide service - spin fishing is an option in certain situations with the understanding that all lures will be clipped to a single hook.

**Fishing Licenses:** Colorado fishing licenses may be purchased in advance online at [www.wildlifelicenses.com](http://www.wildlifelicenses.com) or by telephone at 1-800-244-5613. A license is required for anyone 16 years old or older. Licenses are also available at the Black Canyon Anglers fly shop.

**Extras:** Gratuity(20% of excision cost) are not included in the price of the trip. Rental gear such as sleeping pads and sleeping bags, rods, reels, wading boots and wading socks are included upon your request at no charge. Guides will supply flies. Optional beverages (canned-beer, boxed-wine and soda) and ice coolers can be pre-purchased for an additional fee (2 and 3 day trip only).

**Prices:** Prices are based on two guests and one guide per raft with a share of the group camping gear. Prices include a \$3.00 (day use) or \$5.00 (overnight use) per person per day user fee collected by the BLM. Prices do not include Guide Gratuity; recommended gratuity is 20% of excursion cost.

1 day fish float	\$ 1,800.00 per boat (2 people)	Lower Gunnison Float	- \$700
2 day fish float	\$ 3,500.00 per boat (2 people)	1Day Raft (4 Per. Min)	- \$375/Person
3 day fish float	\$ 4,500.00 per boat (2 people)	2Day Raft (4 Per. Min)	- \$625/Person
2 day gear boat	\$ 1,800.00 per boat (except June)	Walk Wade (1 angler)	- \$500
3 day gear boat	\$ 2,000.00 per boat (except June)	Walk Wade (2 anglers)	- \$585
3 day gear boat	\$ 3,500.00 per boat (June)	1/2Day Wade/Float	-\$500/\$585

**Gear Boat:** A gear boat is an additional service that is not required to book a trip. You are paying for the luxury of having an extra guide (swamper) and boat accompany your trip to provided additional services. This allows for 2 things: 1) there is much less gear in your boat and 2) significantly more time is spent fishing with your guide, as he or she does not have to break away to attend to most of the camp and cooking chores. Gear boats booked in June are priced at the fish float boat price due to the high demand during Salmon Fly season.

Dinner and Lodging - \$250.00 Per Person Per day (Includes Dinner, Lodging, Breakfast, 3 Cocktails/  
Beer or Soda, taxes and Gratuity)  
\$150.00 for kids 12 and under

fly rod & reel rental Included if Needed  
wading boots rental Included if Needed  
wading socks rental Included if Needed  
waders rental Included if Needed  
sleeping bag rental Included if Needed  
2" sleeping pad rental Included if Needed

1 day fishing license \$ Current Market Price  
2 day fishing license \$ Current Market Price  
3 day fishing license \$ Current Market Price

**Payment:** Payment is accepted by cash, check, or credit card (Visa, AMEX and Master Card). When a credit card is used to charge the initial deposit, it is understood that the same credit card will be used to pay the remaining balance of the trip at the scheduled time, unless other arrangements are made in advance. When paying by credit card, you will be asked to sign a credit card authorization.

#### River Trips

Deposit: 50% of the trip cost confirms and guarantees a reservation

Balance: 100% of the trip cost is due 90 days prior to the trip

#### Cabins and Dinner

Payment for lodging and meals is due 7 days prior to a reservation date, unless a credit card is provided to hold your reservation.

### **CANCELLATION POLICY:**

#### River Trips

Fishing and Rafting Reservations

Cancelations for fishing and rafting trips are not accepted

***\*Trip insurance is highly recommended if possible***

\*\*IF BLACK CANYON ANGLERS CANCELS A TRIP DUE TO EVENTS THAT ARE OUT OF OUR CONTROL (E.G. UNSAFE WATER LEVELS), BLACK CANYON ANGLERS WILL REBOOK YOUR TRIP DURING THE SAME SEASON AT NO ADDITIONAL CHARGE. IF YOU WISH TO REBOOK YOUR TRIP THE FOLLOWING CALENDAR YEAR, A \$50 PER BOAT PROCESSING FEE WILL BE ASSESSED.\*\*

#### Cabins and Dinners

Payment for lodging and meals is non-refundable 7 days prior to a reservation date. Any cancellations or changes must be made greater than 7 days before your reservation.

**Rain Out Policy:** Black Canyon Anglers does not cancel, reschedule, or refund trips impacted by weather or river conditions. All efforts will be made to conduct the best trip possible with the given situation.

**Food:** Trips include hot breakfasts, tasty lunches and gourmet dinners complete with appetizers and dessert. All meals are included starting with lunch on the first day and ending with lunch on the final day. On overnight trips optional canned beverages (beer and soda) may be purchased and packed in per your request.

**Optional Beverages:** Due to insurance requirements, we do not provide alcoholic beverages on river trips, but if guests on overnight trips want to order and pay for the purchase of beverages, we can arrange to have it packed in. Please place your beverage order at least 7 days prior to the trip. All prices include

handling and the extra horse pack-in fee. Beverage prices are high due to the extra cost required to pack the gear down by horse. Only beverages available in aluminum cans, boxes and plastic bottles may be ordered. If an ordered item is not available, we will do our best to substitute it with a comparable item. You are welcome to bring your own glass bottle beverages (wine and liquor) as part of your personal gear. Normally beverages are chilled in the river. For an additional fee, a cooler with block ice can be provided. Black Canyon Anglers is not responsible for any theft of beverages left on Chukar beach during the horse pack.

available beer and soda per 6-pack (MP + is Market Price plus pack fee):

\$ MP + soda - Coke, Pepsi, 7-Up, Sprite, Mountain Dew, Dr. Pepper, and diet versions of these sodas

\$ MP + soda - Lemonade, Iced Tea, Bottled Water

\$ MP + soda - Gatorade

\$ MP + beer - Domestic beer

\$ MP + beer - Import beer

\$ MP + beer - Microbrew beer

\$ MP + BOTA boxes of wine

ice cooler filled with block ice: \$125.00

**Recommended Equipment List:** On overnight trips, each guest is provided with a "waterproof" river dry bag with shoulder straps in which to carry his/her personal gear.

**River:**

**refillable personal water bottle** (very important)

hat

polarized sunglasses

sunscreen

quick drying shirts and shorts (wet wading is standard from mid June through early September)

insulating layers, non cotton (weather dependent)

rain gear

day pack (to organize and access personal gear such as camera, sunscreen, fishing gear, etc.)

**Camp:** (tents are provided)

\* pillow (optional)

\* sleeping bag

\* sleeping pad

\*\*flash light or headlamp

dry shoes and socks

dry change of clothes (warm layered clothing – nights can be cool before mid June and after early September)

towel and toiletries

insect repellent

**Fishing:**

\* wading boots (no cleated boots allowed)

\* wading socks (for wet wading)

\* stocking foot waders (early and late season trips only)

\* or \*\* fly rod and reel (5-6 weight with floating line) one back up rod and reel is suggested per group

\*\* leaders (9 foot in 2x, 3x, 4x)

\*\* tippet (2x, 3x, 4x)

\*\* strike indicators, split shot and fly floatant

\*\* flies

\* = available for rent

\*\* = available for purchase at the fly shop

**Bring an appreciation for Mother Nature, a sense of humor and a flair for adventure as we bring the same to these trips!**

For any questions feel free to call 970-835-5050 ... Amended 10/25/22