



PROGRAM DETAILS

CHILDREN OF THE FALLEN: SAN JUAN RIVER EXPEDITION

This program invites children of fallen service members and first responders to carry on the legacy of their loved ones as they experience the transformational power of rafting down the San Juan River. This challenging and empowering expedition will provide opportunities to build community with like-minded peers, explore personal passions, and ultimately discover:

WHAT'S WITHIN YOU IS STRONGER THAN WHAT'S IN YOUR WAY.

- **EXPERIENCE RUGGED WILDERNESS**
- **LEARN COMMUNITY & TEAMWORK**
- **DISCOVER POWERFUL CONNECTIONS, WITH THE LAND AND ITS PEOPLE**

The stunning scenery of the desert never fails to awe and inspire those who take the time to discover its riches. This region showcases dramatic geologic formations and sits at a crossroads of American Indian, Spanish and American cultures. As a testament to the unique combination of natural and cultural history in the region, the Colorado Plateau boasts the country's highest concentration of National Parks and Monuments. On this expedition, participants will fly in and out of Phoenix, Arizona and spend a night camping near Flagstaff on the first and last nights of the program. The river trip includes 6 nights rafting 80 miles of the San Juan River from Sand Island (near Bluff, UT) to Clay Hills (near Lake Powell). This section of river is calm (class I-II rapids) and provides ample opportunity for hiking, relaxing and exploring ancient ruins accessible only by river. There's no better place to contemplate your place in the universe than under the desert sky's magnificent canvas of stars.

NO ONE COMES HOME UNCHANGED.





Day 1: Travel to the Phoenix, AZ

Today you travel to Phoenix, AZ where you will meet up with the rest of the group and the trip leaders. Together you will travel to a campground outside of Flagstaff, AZ where you'll spend the night and participate in an opening ceremony.

Day 2: Travel to San Juan River

Today you travel to launch site of the river trip called Sand Island (about 3.5 hours), learn about safety protocols and then begin your San Juan River adventure!

Days 3 - 7: San Juan River Float Trip

On days 3-7 you experience one of our country's most magnificent rivers. Each day, you may hike to some ancient cliff dwellings, float down the river in your life jacket, have a mud fight, or simply enjoy the solitude and beauty of the southwest. Each day includes time on the river as well as plenty of hiking. This is mostly a flat-water float trip (not whitewater rafting, class I-II rapids).The desert sky comes alive as you sleep on sandy beaches under the stars every night. Over 6 nights, 7 days, you travel about 80 miles from Bluff, UT to Clay Hills Crossing, near Lake Powell.

Day 8: Finish River Trip, Transition

Today you spend your last morning on the river and then help your guides unload all the boats and pack up the gear around lunch-time. From the "take-out" you have about a 5 hour drive back to the campground where you began. Here, you participate in a closing ceremony, make your No Barriers Pledge and prepare for travel the next morning.

Day 9: Travel Home

This morning, the group travels together from the campground to the Phoenix airport. Everyone says their goodbyes and flights depart for home.



For additional details, application information and eligibility criteria, visit:

<https://www.nobarriersyouth.org/learning-afar/children-of-the-fallen/>

Dates:

July 22 - July 29, 2019

Final Application Deadline: February 15, 2019

Program Fee/ Scholarship Info: Thanks to generous support from passionate donors, this expedition is provided free of cost (including up to \$500 flight credit and all ground-costs).

Contact: rachel.strommen@nobarriersusa.org and at 970.484.3633 x 314

Group Make-up & Eligibility: This program is open to youth ages 14-18 who have lost a parent or loved one who served in the military or as a first responder (i.e. law enforcement officers, firefighters, EMS providers). The group will be accompanied by No Barriers Youth and Grand Canyon Youth staff from airport pick-up to airport drop-off. Scholarships are reserved for those who have not previously participated. *Note, though no prior river or outdoor experience is required, participants must be physically and mentally prepared to spend 8 nights camping and living in the great outdoors!

This expedition is made possible through partnership with the nonprofit Grand Canyon Youth. www.gc youth.org

