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The Guide's Guide Augmented: Reflections On Guiding Professional River Trips



Synopsis

The definitive--and only--how-to book on professional river guiding, The Guide's Guide Augmented presents a comprehensive philosophy and a wealth of detailed methods for creating "Deep Fun:" Life enhancing river trips which entertain, inspire, educate, thrill, heal & delight! Used by guides, outfitters and trip leaders worldwide, The Guide's Guide Augmented covers every aspect of the multifaceted art of river guiding: People, leadership and conflict-resolution skills; all aspects of a guide's role in creating fun, uplifting, learning-filled trips; safety talks; guide training; signals; knots; high-water safety; swiftwater rescue; emergency evacuation & coping with accidents; minimizing liability; expedition food planning; nature interpretation made fascinating; boatloads of hilarious river, land & bus games which really bring people together; and much, much more!! At 316 pages, The Guide's Guide Augmented includes a completely updated version of the original 1981, 140-page Guide's Guide contents, plus a wealth of new material. Some of our guides think we're crazy to sell The Guide's Guide and crazier still to sell The Guide's Guide Augmented because they feel these books give away our trade secrets, our competitive edge, the philosophy and methods which distinguish the trips of Whitewater Voyages from those of other outfitters. I really believe, however, that the safer and better all rafting trips and outdoor recreation experiences, the better for all of us. The more people who return home in one piece, thrilled and delighted with their river trip or outdoor outing, the more river rafting and outdoor recreation in general will be seen as a great thing to do and the more all outfitters, the recreating public and our rivers, forests and other recreation resources will benefit. It is my hope that The Guide's Guide Augmented will be helpful, even inspirational, to guides, trip leaders, outfitters, government agency river and recreation managers, private boaters and adventure travel companies of all sorts. Any individual, company or group which practices the philosophy and methods presented in this book is welcome to consider The Guide's Guide Augmented their own staff manual. Although the myriad users of this book are independent, far flung adventurers, guides, private boaters, outfitters, tour operators and recreation resource managers, at the very same time, ideally, we are all working together to enhance the quality of life on--and win friends for--this planet! The highest purpose of this book is to contribute to this broad, growing, wonderful effort--which is, after all, an ongoing quest of planet-saving proportions.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

As someone in the process of starting a rafting company, RiverIndia.com, I needed a book with thorough, dependable information covering all aspects of whitewater rafting. The Guide's Guide surprised me in its completeness and in-depth treatment of everything from knots, guiding, cooking, forms, games, and more! William McGinnis, one of California's whitewater pioneers, should be commended on this meisterwerk. It is a great help to those of us who hope to follow in his footsteps.

Bill McGinnis has written an excellent reference for anyone involved with professional river guiding. Every chapter reflects years of experience and conveys information with comprehensive clarity that's easily understood and transcends the obvious. The heart and soul of the commercial river experience are the people involved, the guests and guides. Everybody wants to be happy and accepted, even uplifted, and Bill's section on the Guests, Guides and Staff relations offers valuable insights that are real and superb. In addition all the nuts and bolts info including safety talks, raft/paddle instruction, river running etc are offered by an expert who is humble and wise at the same time. There's so much to be learned by anyone interested in making every day on the river the best, and this book is a fine friend in this regard. As an active professional guide for 25 years and 16 years as an outfitter I'm still learning and Bill's book is a great reference for me and my company. I recommend this book with high regard. John McDermott Owner/Head Guide River Dancers Rafting and Kayaking Inc.

My friends and I have been rafting for well over 10 years and we all learned something new from this book. In fact, we fight over the book, so I have come today to purchase my own copy. The book includes EVERYTHING pertinent to whitewater boating and river life. The book is not only for guides; every boater should own this book. The book is well written.

This is a great book for all outfitters and guides in the adventure travel industry, not just river guides or outfitters exclusively. Having worked in the guiding industry since 1990 for various outfitters including Mountain Travel Sobek as their Operations Manager for International rafting trips I can say without reserve this is a must read for anyone doing any guiding, period. if you are a 40 year veteran you may think some of the topics are not insightful as you already know the answer, however it is well organized and well thought out so no points or gaps are missed. I am going to send a copy to each of my guides this winter to read before they show up at the warehouse in June for our first trip of the season. James Ellsworth Middle Fork River Expeditions, owner[...]

The Guide's Guide by William McGinnis is an excellent book containing a lot of detailed and very practical information covering all aspects of rafting useful for managers, leads, guides and even trip guests. The book is written by the person who has the hands-on experience in every level of field guiding as well as in company management. What makes the book really unique is that besides very specific whitewater rafting information it's filled with pearls of practical wisdom and advices. The book is fun to read and could be interesting not only for rafting professionals but for anyone who deals with team building and events management.

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