BACKPACKING

Grand Canyon National Park

SPRING BREAK: March 4 - 12, 2017

COST: $1,135 (if you have your own personal gear)

REGISTRATION FEE = $200
2nd PAYMENT, DUE DEC. 2 = $335
3rd PAYMENT, DUE JAN. 13 = $350
4th PAYMENT, DUE FEB 10 = $250
$1,135

** TO RENT PERSONAL GEAR FROM THE RENTAL CENTER = $81.75
(backpack, sleeping bag & pad, rain suit, pack cover, headlamp).

REGISTRATION: Sign up on-line! Go to www.vanderbilt.edu/outrec, click on the Trip Schedule drop down and select Grand Canyon. The registration link will take you to the Iris website. For this trip, you can enter in the amount you will pay on-line. Please pay $200 & register by midnight, Wed., Nov. 16.

PRE-TRIP MEETING: Meeting #1: Tuesday, Nov. 28 at 6:00 pm at the ORC.

There will also be an all-day training hike and meetings at the ORC that each participant must attend.
TRIP OVERVIEW:

Get in shape now for the trip of a lifetime!! This year, we will be travelling in style, by flying to Phoenix and using a chartered bus for local transportation to go to THE Grand Canyon National Park in northern Arizona. There will be two hiking groups, each backpacking for seven days on the trails off the south rim of the canyon. Exact hiking trails will be determined after the hiking permits are received. The total hike is approximately 40 miles, however plan to backpack some 8 -10 mile days.

This trip is designed with the experienced backpacker in mind. Enthusiastic beginners are welcome; however, a good to high level of fitness is necessary to be able to hike with a backpack that may weigh one-third your body weight. The two Pre-Trip Meetings and Training Days are designed to teach participants what to expect, what to bring, and to plan the menu. Temperatures can vary from a low of the 20's on top and 40's on the bottom, to a high in the low 80's inside the canyon. Needless to say, the scenery will be spectacular, and this will be a trip you will not soon forget!

Due the scope of this big trip, participants are required to attend one of two pre-trip Training Days which involve a Training Hike (with a weighted pack). This hike will help determine your ability to withstand this amazing trip. This hike will be part of an all day event from 7:30 am to 5:00 pm. The rest of the day will be spent at the ORC covering important details for the trip.

Dates for the Training Days are Saturday, Jan. 21 and Saturday, Feb. 4. We will begin at the ORC and hike at Percy Warner Park.

COST INCLUDES: Transportation (via airplane & charter bus), Group Equipment, Camping and Hiking Permits, Park Entrance Fees, On-the-Trail Food, and Hotels on each end of the trip. Participants will be responsible for their own personal equipment and "travel food".

>>> THIS TRIP IS LIMITED TO 18 PARTICIPANTS. . .

. . . SO DON'T DELAY IF YOU ARE INTERESTED!!
This trip will not be offered again until March 2019 . . . So don't miss out on this great opportunity!

TRIP COORDINATORS: Julia Grabowski, Madison Hattaway, Alisha Newton, and Sean Wilkinson.

For more information: Call Linda at 615-343-7898
Call the Outdoor Rec. Center at 615-343-8182
E-mail to: outdoorrec@vanderbilt.edu

On the following page is our overall itinerary, followed by the permits we received LAST TIME.
OVERALL ITINERARY:

Saturday, March 4:  - Fly to Phoenix, AZ (Southwest Airlines)
   - Charter Bus to Flagstaff
   - Hotel and dinner in Flagstaff

Sunday, March 5:  - Charter Bus the rest of way to Grand Canyon N.P.
   - Stop at restrooms.
   - Each hiking group gets dropped off at their trail heads.
   - Begin hiking DOWN into the canyon.

Monday - Friday:  Hike and set up camp every day except for the designated “Day of Rest”. Some days are long (8-10 miles) and some days are short (4-5 miles).

Saturday:  - Hike UP and OUT of Canyon
   - Charter bus picks up groups
   - Spend a couple hours: taking showers, getting food/snacks, purchasing souvenirs.
   - Drive to Phoenix, stopping for dinner in Flagstaff.
   - Hotel in Phoenix

Sunday, March 12:  - Shuttle to airport
   - Fly back to Nashville
   - Return and deal with group equipment at the ORC
   - End of a great spring break trip!
Example of past VU Trail Permits: (we are still waiting for 2017 permits)

Hiking Mileages for the Kaibab Group:

Day 1 = 7.0 miles . . . Down! (-4,780 ft.) . . . Camp at Bright Angel Campground

Day 2 = 7.7 miles . . . Up & “Across” (+1520’) . . . Camp at Lonetree Canyon.


Day 4 = Rest/Explore at Grapevine Canyon

Day 5 = 3.5 miles . . . “Across” . . . Camp at Cottonwood Creek.

Day 6 = 1.9 miles . . . Up (1,780’) . . . Camp at Horseshoe Mesa Campground.

Day 7 = 3.0 miles . . . Up (2,500’) . . . Hike out to the top of Grandview Trail.

31.8 total miles (approximately)

Hiking Mileages for Grandview Group:

Day 1 = 5.5 miles . . . Down! (-4,280 ft.) . . . Camp at Cottonwood Creek

Day 2 = Rest/Explore at Cottonwood Creek and Horseshoe Mesa

Day 3 = 5.0 miles . . . “Across” . . . Camp at Hance Creek

Day 4 = 6.4 miles . . . “Across” and Down (-1,000’) . . . Camp at Hance Rapids

Day 5 = Rest/Explore at Red Canyon at the Colorado River

Day 6 = 6.4 miles . . . “Across” and Up (+1,000’) . . . Camp at Hance Creek

Day 7 = 4.9 miles . . . Up (3,700’) . . . Hike out to the top of Grandview Trail

28.2 total miles (approximately)

Note: The “Across Days” are on the Tonto Trail, which generally follows the 1500’ contour, in and out of most side canyons.
More photos from past canyon trips:
Don’t forget . . .

. . . that space is limited!

Sign up by midnight on Wed. Nov. 16 to insure a spot on this incredible trip!