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Adventures on the Gorge offers an array of adventures including whitewater rafting on the New River.



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Southern West Virginia Nets Prestigious Travel Writer Group for May 2020 Meeting

LANSING, W. Va., Jan. 7, 2020 - As many as 80 of North America's top travel writers will be exploring Southern West Virginia in May 2020 for a meeting of the Freelance Council of the Society of American Travel Writers (#SATW). The Freelance Council (FLC) Board of Directors of SATW unanimously voted to accept an extensive meeting proposal during its winter meeting in Japan last month.

The meeting proposal was developed by a private/public partnership that includes Fayetteville adventure resort [Adventures on the Gorge](#) (AOTG), [West Virginia Tourism Office](#), [Visit Southern West Virginia](#), [Charleston Convention & Visitors Bureau](#) and the [South Charleston Convention & Visitors Bureau](#).

The group will visit Charleston's Capitol Market, which features farm fresh produce and many other local products.



Cultural and historical attractions like the Exhibition Coal Mine will be featured.



Writers are intrigued by the prospect of the New River Gorge National River becoming the country's next national park.

SATW is the premier association of travel writers in North America, with members including writers for top print and online media outlets as well as well-known broadcasters, bloggers and influencers.

Scheduled for May 17-21 with options for pre- and post-meeting tours, the meeting theme is "Southern West Virginia: Reinventing a Destination." The schedule highlights the region's abundant adventures such as rafting the New River, exploring national parks and visiting makers such as artists and brewers in action. Meeting attendees will also learn about the region's history and culture.

The Freelance Council of SATW meets in domestic and international destinations twice a year, and members spend much of the time searching for material for their travel stories. Recent meetings were staged in Israel, Peru, Riviera Maya, Mammoth Lakes, Calif. and Columbus, Ohio.

"This is our opportunity to show and tell our most compelling stories to some of the nation's best storytellers and to demonstrate just why we call our little corner of this beautiful country 'Almost Heaven,'" said Chelsea Ruby, Tourism Commissioner for the West Virginia Tourism Office.

Meeting delegates will spend one night in Charleston at the [Holiday Inn & Suites Charleston West](#) and three nights at [Adventures on the Gorge](#). Delegates will experience many of the region's favorite travel adventures and explore notable attractions such as the [Exhibition Coal Mine](#) and [Tamarack: The Best of West Virginia](#). In Charleston, the group will experience treasures including [Capitol Market](#), the [Clay Center](#) and [JQ Dickinson Salt-Works](#). The meeting will include a panel session with some of the region's top tourism leaders to discuss how Southern West Virginia is continuing to emerge as thriving destination.

"Although many travelers from the mid-Atlantic and other surrounding regions may be well aware of the exquisite natural beauty and compelling adventures available in the New River Gorge, travelers from more far-flung regions of the country will be in for a pleasant surprise," said Roger Wilson, CEO of Adventures on the Gorge. "This is our opportunity to greatly expand the reach of that message so writers from around the country can tell their readers, listeners and viewers about us."


Although Adventures on the Gorge and the other tourism partners have already enlisted the enthusiastic support of attractions throughout the region, many partnership and sponsorship opportunities remain for entities that would like to showcase their brands and offerings to the group.

What to know about Adventures on the Gorge

Named one of the top six adventure resorts in the country by [U.S. News & World Report](#), Adventures on the Gorge is located on more than 250 acres along the rim of the majestic New River Gorge near Fayetteville, W.Va. The resort provides an array of outdoor experiences including whitewater rafting on the New and Gauley Rivers, aerial adventures, rock climbing, rappelling, kayaking, stand up paddle boarding, fishing, mountain biking and hiking. There are also restaurants, bars and shops as well as a small-group conference center. Visitors can choose from a variety of [accommodations](#) and [vacation packages](#).

Travelers can find out more about Adventures on the Gorge [online](#), by calling 1-855-379-8738, or connecting on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#), [Google+](#), [TripAdvisor](#), [YouTube](#), and [Vimeo](#) and signing up for AOTG [e-newsletter](#).

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