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The Upper New River is known for its smaller rapids suitable for young rafters.

## Whitewater Rafting Season with Adventures on the Gorge is Around the Corner; It's Not Too Early to Reserve a Rafting Trip and Overnight Accommodations

FAYETTEVILLE, W. Va., Feb. 23, 2022 - Like baseball, tiger lilies and the emergence of ramps (wild onions found in the region), a sure sign of spring in Southern West Virginia is a bright orange raft shooting the rapids on the New River.

Whitewater rafting begins April 1, and if the past two years are any indication, it's not too soon to start planning.

"Outdoor activities and rafting, in particular, have experienced renewed interest since spring two years ago," said Roger Wilson, CEO of [Adventures on the Gorge](#) (AOTG), the state's leading rafting outfitter. "Add in our location adjacent to our [newest national park](#) and we have every reason to believe people will continue to enjoy our adventure offerings."



The Gauley River is most popular in fall when dam releases are scheduled on weekends.



Adventures on the Gorge offers a variety of cabins and campgrounds.

AOTG will take its first guests down the New River April 1. The resort also offers [aerial adventures](#), [land adventures](#), [water adventures](#) and “[Learn To](#)” adventures.

Outfitters in the area built their businesses over the last 50 years or so rafting on the New and Gauley rivers. Most spring rafting occurs on the New River while Gauley River rafting is more opportunistic in spring as flows are dependent upon sporadic water releases from Summersville Lake. Gauley rafting then becomes predictable in September and October when the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers releases water on weekends on a set schedule.

Here’s what spring rafting looks like on the New and Gauley Rivers:

#### **Rafting the New River**

The intensity of the whitewater depends on the time of the year, and early-season rafters are attracted by the big waves, big holes and fast-running waters that mark spring on the New River.

The New River includes [Lower](#) and [Upper](#) sections. On the Lower New River, there is typically big whitewater in the spring and early summer with intermittent long, calm pools for swimming and floating. Rafting on the Upper New River begins in mid-May and is much calmer throughout the season, making this section a good choice for families with children as young as six.

#### **Rafting the Gauley River**

Adventures on the Gorge also offers [Gauley River](#) rafting trips beginning in mid-May. The frequency of Gauley River releases depends largely on rainfall as well as the amount of water that accumulates in wetlands - or glades - 3,000 to 4,000 feet above the rivers. During a particularly wet year, paddlers can count on intense, technically challenging whitewater during the spring. As summer approaches, there are typical trends in the amount of flow resulting in tighter channels of water, steeper drops and the use of a variety of boats includes duckies and smaller rafts.

While many rafters opt to make the drive home after a day on the river, others take advantage of AOTG’s overnight options. Through the years the resort has steadily expanded its guest amenities to feature restaurants, bars, retail stores, campsites and a variety of [cabin accommodations](#) ranging from rustic to luxurious. Several of the cabins have full kitchens and multiple bedrooms as well as campfire rings and picnic tables. Some cabins also offer hot tubs.

Last year the resort opened its Chestnut Ridge campground 30 tent sites, a bathhouse and four new glamping tents. The glamping tents measure 16’ x 20’ and are placed on a concrete pad. They each have two queen beds, bedside tables, dresser, dining table, refrigerator, coffee maker, heating, air conditioning, electricity, lights and Wi-Fi. The secluded 24’x36’ sites include a fire pit and picnic table.

Reservations can be made [online](#) or by calling 1-855-379-8738.

For more information about accommodations and activities, visit the [website](#) or connect with the resort on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#), [TripAdvisor](#), [YouTube](#), and [Vimeo](#) and by signing up for AOTG [e-newsletter](#).

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#### **What to know about Adventures on the Gorge**

Named one of the top adventure resorts in the country by [U.S. News & World Report](#), Adventures on the Gorge is located on more than 350 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](#).

**Media Links (please credit Adventures on the Gorge)**

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[Scenic fall winter](#)

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