



## 7-DAY CLASS IV+ ITINERARY (ANTIOQUIA)

This year we are offering a cataraft and inflatable kayak trip (hardshell kayakers also welcome) for **advanced** rowers/paddlers. On our Advanced Whitewater Trip you can expect to run some of Colombia's best **Class III+ to IV+** runs in the Antioquia area. What could be better than a week of challenging whitewater in a tropical paradise? These trips are for the more adventurous souls that have true Class IV+ experience. The rivers tend to be steep, flows fluctuate widely on a daily basis, and there is a strenuous portage. While in Antioquia we will stay at the Expedition Colombia hostel or camp along the rivers on overnight trips. You will be required to **bring your own** camping equipment (hammocks and mosquito netting recommended) and will be **on your own** for food, including on the overnights. On these trips we will be provided a 4x4 vehicle for the shuttles. **Fly-in or meet the group in Medellin.** Many may choose to continue the adventure with us to the San Gil area for another week of boating. It may be possible for someone to join the group solely for the San Gil portion of the adventure.

These are small-group (4 to 6 people max) trips for people that **bring their own equipment** down with them. A few kayaks may be available locally to rent at additional cost. There is a 14-foot cataraft package available for rent which is perfect for the overnights, but too big for the other rivers. You can purchase one of our "International Travel" cataraft packages to bring down as well.

## SAMPLE ITINERARY

\*Please note that this is a sample itinerary, actual trips may be different due to water levels and the ability level of the group.

**Day 1:** Travel and arrive to Medellin airport. A driver will pick us up and transport gear to San Francisco (about 2 hours) where we will stay in the Expeditions Colombia hostel.

**Day 2:** Paddle the Rio Calderas rafting run (Class III/IV). This is an adventurous descent on intermediate, but thrilling whitewater, flowing in a pristine valley. Look for wildlife and enjoy the chances to swim in the calmer sections. Relax on a secluded beach for lunch. Guide/safety kayak supplied. Night in hostel.

**Days 3 and 4:** Paddle the Rio Verde (Class III/IV). Start the adventure by hiking down the valley while pack-mules carry the gear. At the river, refresh with a swim in the emerald green water that gives the river its name. Learn about river safety with our professional safety kayakers. Enjoy a beautiful canyon hike up a side creek of the Rio Verde. Camp riverside at Puente Samana and resupply food. Includes safety kayakers.

**Days 5 and 6:** Paddle Rio Samana (Class IV+ with a portage). Begin an amazing descent on Class IV+ whitewater through a pristine rainforest. Travel through a beautiful silver-blue rock canyon. Witness rare birds, butterflies, and exotic plants in this lowland tropical rainforest. Camp overnight in the rainforest, close to a secluded lagoon and natural swimming pool. Take a river-side walk and swim before enjoying a camp-fire. After breakfast, continue to paddle the Rio Samaná. The Samaná's world-class whitewater is only matched by her stunning scenery. Her warm waters crash over granite boulder fields and intensifies in a grey-blue canyon. Clear creeks drop from high mountain peaks into blue swimming pools and cascading waterfalls accessible only from the river. Paddle and take out at Narices, a small Colombian village. Then there is 4 hours of 4x4 on private roads to get back to the hostel. Night in Hostel. Includes safety kayakers.

**Day 7:** Boating on the Rio Caldera, Cocorna or Santo Domingo. Includes shuttle, no guide. Night in the hostel.

For the Rio Verde and Rio Samana, they will supply 2 safety kayakers, as at is the minimum necessary to do these runs safely. These runs are really remote, the access to the Verde is hard, requiring hiking in (a workout) with the mules. The Samana is harder, with a tricky portage in the middle.

Includes:

- Transport from Medellin to San Francisco in private vehicle
- Local 4x4 shuttles to and from rivers
- Hostel in San Francisco
- Safety kayakers on the more difficult runs

Trip does not include:

- Flights to/from Colombia
- Lodging/meals before and after the trip
- Camping equipment on overnights
- Meals during the trip
- Alcohol
- Gratuities for the safety kayakers
- Rental of equipment or personal gear
- Transport to the Medellin airport if you are only staying this week

## COST OF THE TRIP DEPENDS ON THE NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS

Expedition Colombia can provide camping equipment (hammocks, mosquito nets) and do the food prep for the overnights (**highly recommended**) but will be a group decision (all in or not) for an additional cost.

NOTE: The “normal” cost of a weeklong trip including the Rio Verde and Rio Semana overnights plus some extensions is around \$1700 USD and we will be getting a great discount.