

## Backpacking – Guadalupe Mountains National Park

November 21-25, 2018

Trip Rating: Intermediate/Strenuous

### Fees:

**\$300/400**

- Prices reflect the UT student and RecSports member/non-member prices.
- Refunds will be issued, minus a \$50 administrative fee for those participants who cancel by 5:00pm on the cancellation date.

### Dates & Times:

<b>Pre-Trip Meeting:</b>	Wednesday – November 14 @ 6:30pm
<b>Pre-Trip Location:</b>	Outdoor Center - Gregory Gym 2.104
<b>Trip Departs:</b>	Wednesday – November 21 @ 6:00am
<b>Trip Returns:</b>	Sunday – November 25 @ 6:00pm (approximate time)
<b>Cancellation Date:</b>	Friday – November 9 by 5:00pm

### What to Expect:

Guadalupe Mountains National Park is the world's premier example of a fossil reef from the Permian Era. The park is known for its extensive hiking and backpacking opportunities in one of the nation's most pristine wilderness areas. Birding, history, and many other opportunities to learn and have fun await visitors in this hidden gem of West Texas.

Guadalupe Mountains National Park also features the highest peak in Texas, Guadalupe Peak (8,751 feet above sea level). The trip will backpack and side hike through the park, enjoying some of the most scenic views in Texas including summiting Guadalupe Peak. Due to the intermediate skill necessary for this difficult trip, previous backpacking experience is required.

The nature of a group expedition requires the full cooperation of every participant with the trip leaders and other members of the group. Humor, flexibility, involvement, and an open mind to new experiences will create a rewarding experience for all.

### What to Bring:

**When packing, please keep in mind that cold and harsh weather conditions are possible.** Good equipment can protect your body from these elements and really make a difference in your comfort level.

*The following list is meant to assist you in determining what equipment you will need to bring. Trip guides will review this list at the pre-trip meeting and will make changes and suggestions as needed.*

- Hiking boots—Durable, supportive, preferably waterproof
- Clothes – recommended quick-drying, synthetic clothing including:
  - long sleeve shirts, t-shirts, pants, shorts, synthetic or wool socks, long underwear top and bottom, heavy fleece, jacket for rain and cold/snow.
- Warm cap or hat for cold weather
- Hat and Sunglasses
- Bandana
- Pack towel
- Gloves
- Eating utensils - spoon, travel mug, bowl or plate (no glass)
- Water bottles or hydration pack - at least 2 liters
- Flashlight or headlamp
- Toiletry items - sunscreen, bug spray, lip balm, toothbrush, personal meds

- Money for meals on the road
- Set of clothes to leave in vehicle for return trip

#### **Outdoor Recreation Program Will Provide:**

- Transportation
- Campsite Reservations
- Food during non-driving part of trip (all meals on road to be paid for by participant)
- Tents or tarps/ground cloths
- Internal Frame Backpack (available upon request)
- Sleeping bag and pad (available upon request)
- All group gear

#### **Medical Insurance:**

- The University of Texas at Austin and Recreational Sports cannot be held responsible for any injury, property loss or damaged equipment while participating in an Outdoor Recreation Program activity.
- All participants must be covered by medical insurance.
- For UT students - A \$5.00 per day charge will be added to the cost of the trip for those students who cannot provide proof of current medical coverage at the time of registration.
- You will not be permitted to participate if we have not received payment for this insurance or a copy of your insurance card prior to the trip departure.

#### **Required Forms:**

- All participants will be required to complete a medical authorization form, a health history form, and a release and indemnification agreement.
- [Adventure Trip Participant Required Information \[Digital Form\]](#)

#### **Refunds, Cancellations and Transfers:**

- Cancellation dates vary for each trip. This is the date after which no refunds will be given.
- An administrative fee will be charged for all cancellations.
- Recreational Sports reserves the right to cancel the trip due to insufficient registrations, inclement weather or other unforeseeable circumstances. If such a cancellation is necessary, the participant may choose between transferring to another available activity or being issued a full refund.
- For registrations paid online, approved refunds will be credited back to your credit card within 1-2 weeks. For all other approved refunds, the University Accounting Office will mail refund checks in approximately 4-6 weeks.
- **If for any reason you decide not to go on the trip the morning of the trip departure or if you are running late, please call us!**

#### **Pre-Trip Meetings:**

- Pre-trip meetings are mandatory for all participants.
- Participants who do not attend the pre-trip meeting for the adventure trip they are registered for will forfeit their spot on the trip and will not be eligible for a refund.

#### **Physical Fitness:**

- All trips require varying degrees of physical fitness. Please take the trip rating seriously. We are not qualified to evaluate your fitness level so you must evaluate your fitness level as appropriate for any given trip. If you are unsure of your physical condition you should consult with a physician before the trip.
- If you are unable to participate fully in a trip due to inadequate fitness your course fee will not be refunded. Additionally, it is very important that you not misrepresent your fitness level as doing so could cause the trip itinerary to be altered mid-trip to accommodate you. Having to alter a trip itinerary will

have a negative impact on the experience of your peers and could lead to an emergency or rescue situation.

#### **Dietary Preferences:**

- If you have any special dietary needs or food allergies please make them well known at the time you register for your trip. If you have a special dietary requirement you may be required to pay an additional food supplement fee. This fee will be used to purchase food specifically to meet your dietary preference or need. If you have any questions or concerns regarding menu planning and preparation please contact us.

#### **Weather:**

- In the event of inclement weather, do not assume the trip is or will be cancelled. The Outdoor Recreation Program will make that decision based on the weather report obtained for the area where the activity is planned and regardless of current conditions in Austin. You will be contacted if the trip is cancelled or if the departure time has changed. Please show up and assume the trip will go if you haven't heard otherwise from our staff prior to the trip departure.

#### **The Fine Print:**

- The Outdoor Recreation program staff makes every effort to provide you with an enjoyable trip. You will assume the responsibility for many decisions affecting yourself during the activity, however, the guides have final authority and will not hesitate to dismiss those whose conduct is detrimental to themselves, the group or the activity site.
- Participants should be aware that outdoor activities can be physically demanding with inherent elements of risk and danger beyond our control. These risks include, but are not limited to the potential for accidents or illness while traveling to and from the activity sites, or while participating in activities in rugged mountain, wilderness and river terrain. While we do not assume liability for personal injury or death, every effort is made to minimize these risks.
- **No alcohol or drugs are allowed on any Outdoor Recreation program trip.**

#### **Important Phone Numbers:**

<b>Programs Office</b>	512.471.3116	GRE 2.204	512.232.4150 [fax]
<b>Outdoor Center</b>	512.471.8047	GRE 2.104	