



**BLAZIN' PADDLES**

**Rules of the River**

- ▶ Wear your life vest while in your kayak at all times
- ▶ Watch out for wildlife
- ▶ Wear sunscreen and drink plenty of water
- ▶ Secure your boats and equipment at all stops
- ▶ Treat equipment with respect
- ▶ Pee in the river, pack out poop
- ▶ Respect the line at Emerald Cove
- ▶ All life threatening emergencies call 911

**Hoover Dam**

**Sauna Cave**

**Gold Strike Canyon**

**Boy Scout Canyon**

▲ Mile 62

▲ Mile 60

**Arizona Hot Springs**

Mile 55 ■

**Gauging Station**

**Emerald Cove**

**Gauger's House**

▲ Mile 52

**Willow Beach**



Map is not drawn to scale,  
distance between Arizona Hot  
Springs and Emerald Cove is  
about 5.5 miles.



## Sauna Cave ■ 🧭 ☀️

Originally it was going to be a tunnel drilled by the workers of Hoover Dam, but when they encountered 120-degree water, they had to abandon the site.

**Directions:** Immediately after you launch at the base of Hoover Dam, you will go under a wire that spans the river. Stay as far to the right as possible. After a couple hundred feet you will see a clearing in the bushes with a makeshift rope/ladder. The thermal cave is at the top of the ladder on the right. If the water is low you will either come to a fork in the river where you need to stay right, or you will need to beach the kayaks and walk to the entrance.

**Approx. Distance to Finish:** 12 miles/6 hours of paddling

## Gold Strike Canyon and Hot Springs ■ ☀️

Home to an old gold mine as well as a hike up a canyon to different temperature thermal pools

**Directions:** A couple hundred feet past Sauna Cave you are greeted with a slot canyon on the Nevada side. Make sure you hug the right side of the river especially in fast moving water.

**Approx. Distance to Finish:** 11 miles/5.5 hours of paddling

## Boy Scout Canyon ■ 🧭 ⏳ ☀️

A fun and challenging hike with a stream of hot spring water and several rope obstacles

**Directions:** You will see your first mile marker (62) on the Arizona side of the river about 15 minutes after leaving Gold Strike Canyon. The river will curve to the left but stick to the right. After the curve you will see the opening of the slot canyon.

**Approx. Distance to Finish:** 10 miles/5 hours of paddling

## Arizona Hot Springs ▲ 🧭 ⏳ ☀️

A series of 4 soaking pools that get hotter the higher up you climb.

The last and possibly best chance to soak in some hot springs on your tour.

**Directions:** You will see mile marker 60 on the Arizona side of the river. In the distance you can see the beach for this hot spring about 1/2 mile on the left. If you pass outhouses on the left you have gone too far. After you beach your boats and start your hike, keep left at the fork near the outhouse and continue down the trail for 5-10 minutes until you reach the ladder to the pools.

**Approx. Distance to Finish:** 8 miles/4 hours of paddling

*Arizona Hot Springs will be the last stop for a while. On this next stretch of the river, we recommend finding a nice beach to stop, swim, and have some lunch.*

## Gauging Station ■ 🧭

A 100+ year old gauging station clings to the Nevada side of the canyon walls where it was once used to measure water levels, sediment, and flow rate prior to the construction of Hoover Dam.

**Approx. Distance to Finish:** 3 miles/1.5 hours of paddling

## Emerald Cove ▲ 🧭

A small cove on the Arizona side of the river that shines an intense emerald, green color when the sun hits the water just right. The cave is very popular and the line to get in can be over an hour long. Please wait in line with all other people and do not take more than a couple minutes in the cave. Although it is a very popular photo opportunity for social media, it should not be seen as the highlight of the trip.

**Approx. Distance to Finish:** 2.5 miles/1.25 hours of paddling

## Gauger's House ▲

All that's left of this sight is the house's foundation and a spectacular view. Between the gauging house and station a series of catwalks and cable cars can be seen which provided the gauger access to the station from his house.

**Directions:** This can be a great last stop before entering the marina. After Emerald Cove you will see mile marker 53 on the Nevada side of the river. The gauging house can be accessed by a beach/trail on the opposite side.

**Approx. Distance to Finish:** 1 mile/30 minutes of paddling

## Willow Beach ▲

A popular fish hatchery and marina for recreational boaters and fishermen.

This is your takeout area.

**Directions:** Willow beach is located between mile marker 53 and mile marker 52.

The easiest way to get to the primitive craft take out is to stay on the Nevada side of the river and when the river bends to the right you will see the takeout location directly ahead of you on the Arizona side. Most likely you will see other kayakers being launched and taken out from that area. PLEASE DO NOT take out at the motorboat ramp.

### Legend

Nevada Side (Right) ■

Arizona Side (Left) ▲

Involves Rope or Ladder 🧭

Stay in Your Boat 🧭

Longer Stay Suggested ⏳  
(Between 30-60 min.)

HD2W Tour Only ☀️

Take out time for Hoover Dam to Willow Tour is 4:00pm at Willow Beach.

Take out time for Willow Round Trip Tour is 3:00pm at Willow Beach.