

HOW TO BOOK – TOURS & ADVENTURES

Please complete the booking form and forward via email, fax or post, with your credit card deposit or full payment, to PO Box 145, Katoomba 2780 (or the fax number listed on the final page). Participants under the age of 18 require the signature of a parent or legal guardian. Upon receipt of your payment we will forward your confirmation and course information.

BOOKING INFORMATION AND CONDITIONS – Please read carefully

Booking your Tour

To confirm your tour reservation, a deposit of \$220 per person or 25% of the tour fee is required, unless stated otherwise in Payment below. Reservations will not be held without a deposit. Fares are quoted in Australian currency, include GST and supersede all prices previously advertised. Please check the exact price of your tour (always current on our website) at time of paying the balance.

Payment for Programs and Adventures

Payment can be made either by cash, cheque, credit card (Mastercard, Visa) or money order. Cheques should be made payable to the Adventure & Photographic Company, or to Blue Mountains Guides for all walks (including Six Ft Track). Full payment is required 42 days in advance for all multiple day tours. Full payment in advance is also required for all canyoning trips costing \$199 or more. For the (half day) Beginners Abseiling Course we require full payment for 1-2 people or a deposit of \$250 for groups of 3 or more. For all other courses, trips and activities, other than those listed above, please provide full payment for 1-2 people or a deposit of \$350 for groups of 3 or more. Please note that participants claiming discounts (YH members, VIP cardholders, and others that we recognise) must make full payment in advance by cash, cheque or money order only. Credit card payment for these discounts will not be accepted. Discounts must be claimed in advance and not on the day of departure. These discounts can only be claimed off the **full scheduled price** and are not combinable with any other offer. Where children are travelling with an adult on an extended tour, and sharing a tent / room, a 20% discount off the full adult fare shall apply (maximum of 2 children per adult). For single day tours requiring a minimum of two to operate, there is an additional fee of \$25 per person if there are only two booked. All Private Guided programs (one on one) require full payment in advance.

Cancellation

Cancellations must be made in writing and such notice is not effective until received by the Company. Days of notice commence from the day notice is received (during office hours not being week-end or public holiday) by the Company. The following fees apply to each individual person on cancellation: 42 days and over – \$55; 41 to 14 days – 25% of tour fare; 13 to 3 days – 50% of tour fare. Less than 3 days – full fare price, regardless of circumstances. The Company strongly recommends that you obtain suitable private travel insurance prior to departure.

Inclement / Wet Weather Policy

Our activities will normally operate in all but exceptional weather conditions. Conditions such as fog, mist, drizzle, showers, rain, sleet and windy conditions do not affect normal operation of our activities. The Adventure and Photographic Company will make every effort to inform participants if delays, postponement, rescheduling or cancellation of activities is deemed necessary. Assume your booked activity is going ahead unless you are informed otherwise. The Adventure and Photographic Company, its management and staff reserve the sole right to decide whether activities are safe or appropriate to continue in less than perfect weather conditions. Participants that decide not to attend or participate in booked activities on the basis of the weather, against our policy / advice, will lose their deposit. Participants that transfer at short notice (less than 48 hours prior to the starting time of the course) on the basis of weather will lose their deposit. This is necessary to cover costs incurred in additional staff wages for unnecessary extra instructors, catering costs for wasted food / lunches, bus hire fees and other bookings that were turned away. In exceptional circumstances, we may, at our sole discretion, reduce or waive the loss of deposit if less than 24 hours notice of transfer is given. Remember, it is your responsibility to turn up for your course as arranged, regardless of the weather.

Failure to Show

Failure to show for a course, trip or activity will result in loss of deposit. For any course, trip or activity that requires full payment in advance, failure to show will result in the loss of the full payment. Assume course / trip / activities are operating unless you are informed otherwise by the Adventure and Photographic Company. Do not assume your course / trip / activity is cancelled because of inclement/wet weather. Please read our Inclement / Wet Weather Policy thoroughly. Remember, it is your responsibility to show up at the meeting place at the arranged time.

Change of Party Numbers

Please keep us informed of changes in your party numbers so we can accurately plan for lunches, transport and the appropriate number of instructors. We prefer at least 24 hours notice but later notice is better than none at all. Parties that fail to inform us of a change in numbers and that turn up with fewer than the booked number of people will result in loss of deposit for each missing person. In the case of any course, trip or activity that requires full payment in advance, the full payment will be forfeited for each missing person. This is necessary to cover costs incurred in additional staff wages for unnecessary extra instructors, wasted lunches and other bookings that were turned away. If the Adventure & Photographic Company office is unattended, please leave a message on the answering machine as well as calling the mobile phone number listed on the website. If you are organising a group, you are advised to collect payment in advance from each group member, to safeguard yourself.

Credit Policy

Participants who fail to complete their booked activity after commencement due to any reason whatsoever including injury, sickness, fatigue, incompetence, adverse weather conditions, vehicle breakdown and delay caused by other parties, will normally be given credit for future activities (not transferable to another person). No refund of monies paid will be made in these circumstances.

Conditions of Travel

The Company reserves the right to cancel any ticket or booking or to refuse to carry any passenger where payments have not been received by the Company within the times specified in the tour brochure. It is a condition of carriage that a passenger has paid all tour monies prior to the departure of the tour.

The Company reserves the right to alter or change the accommodation, carriers or coaches at any time for any reason. The Company reserves the right to cancel or alter the itinerary and/or tour without notice as may be found necessary for any reason whatsoever including, but not limited to, road, weather or traffic conditions, non- performance of suppliers, industrial action, operational conditions and requirements. All additional expenses incurred as a result of any delays, cancellations or alterations will be the sole responsibility of the passenger.

A minimum number of bookings are required to operate a tour and also to ensure an enjoyable group atmosphere. Where sufficient numbers cannot be achieved, the Company reserves the right to cancel a scheduled departure. The decision to operate the tour is usually made 20 days prior to the scheduled tour departure date, however in some instances, this decision may not be available until 14 days prior to the departure date.

Where a tour is cancelled prior to the departure date, according to clauses 2 or 3 above, we shall endeavour to offer the nearest possible alternative tour (subject to a refund or payment to cover any tour price difference) or, if this is not acceptable, refund your monies in full. Any special passenger requirements must be notified to the Company at the time of booking. No passenger will be permitted to embark or continue on the tour while their mental or physical condition is, in the opinion of any representative of the Company, such as to render them incapable of caring for themselves, or whereby they become objectionable to other passengers, or they become a hazard to themselves or other passengers. The Company will not be responsible for expenses resulting in such persons being precluded from completing the tour for any such reason.

The Company can give no guarantee as to the exact arrival, opening or departure times for attractions and operators used by the Company in the tour. The Company will not be liable for failure to make connections with any other services and/or missed tour inclusions.

In the event of industrial action affecting air, rail or tour related transportation the Company will make every effort to contact the client and advise alternative arrangements. However, if contact is not made, passengers should phone the main office number.

The Company reserves the right to vary the price advertised or printed to cover any significant increase in airfare, fuel price, Government taxes and charges, or other tour related tariffs and costs. Passengers are reminded that this is a condition of travel.

Where the Company does not operate the tour, attractions, excursions and / or optional tours (hereinafter called the "Tour Inclusion") which may be included in the tour itinerary or associated with the tour, the Company shall not be liable for any loss, damage or injury occasioned to any person or property as a result of any such Tour Inclusion undertaken during the tour whatsoever or howsoever the same may be caused whether as a result of negligence or otherwise. These tour inclusions may include activities such as trekking, climbing, exploring, and swimming. The passenger unreservedly accepts that these activities involve varying degrees of risk.

To ensure all passengers have the opportunity to enjoy front and window seats, a daily seat rotation system is employed. Whilst the Company will take all reasonable steps to provide an enjoyable tour, the Company accepts no liability for any loss of enjoyment whatsoever and howsoever experienced by the passenger.

Sole Use of Room / Tent for Extended Tours

Where accommodation or tent camping forms part of any tour, rooms are provided on a twin share basis. Single rooms or sole use of a tent may be requested. An additional fee applies. The availability of tents is limited, so please book early. The Company accepts no responsibility for the suitability of the rooming partner and it is a condition of travel that single passengers willing to share accommodation accept the rooming partners allocated by the Company. If a passenger at any time during the tour considers the rooming partner to be unsuitable, the Company will, subject to availability and at the additional cost of the passenger, arrange single accommodation.

Luggage Allowance for Extended Tours

One case or bag per person, the sum of its length / width and depth not to exceed 140cm (56") plus an overnight bag (airline bag size) which may be carried within the vehicle. You may also bring a travelling rug, (for the cold nights), small cushion to use as a pillow if you wish. Maximum weight of all luggage not to exceed 20kg (44lbs). Due to strict government vehicle weight regulations we are required to enforce and adhere to this limit. If your luggage exceeds this weight, we ask that you make alternative arrangements for the excess luggage to be forwarded to the termination point of your tour. For the Six Ft Track hike, please bring soft travel bags for ease of stacking and transport. Wheeled suitcases are useless in bush campsites.

Clothing and What to Bring

Casual gear is all that's necessary. 3 to 4 changes of outer garments including shorts, pullover and waterproof jacket, several changes of underwear and socks, rubber soled walking shoes, swimsuit, towel, warm pyjamas or tracksuit (warm sleeping gear is essential as inland nights can be very cold, particularly May through August), hat, torch, camera, a small flask for drinking water, pillow and travel rug. Don't forget your insect repellent, sufficient film / flash card / digital storage media and spare batteries for your camera. Remote shops and stores may not carry your requirements. Our confirmation email usually contains information on what to bring, particularly for single day tours. Please read that and ensure you bring items suitable for that activity.

Wildlife Sightings

Because of the nature of Australian wildlife, the Company does not guarantee sightings of any specific species of flora or fauna whatsoever. Much of Australia's wildlife is nocturnal and is not normally visible in the daytime. Passengers must be prepared to rise very early and / or arrive at destinations late in order to see nature at it's best.

SIGNED.....DATE.....

BOOKING FORM – TOURS & ADVENTURES

ADVENTURE & PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPANY PTY LTD, trading as
RIVER DEEP, MOUNTAIN HIGH and BLUE MOUNTAINS GUIDES
ABN 80 091 801 464

Name.....Age.....Male/Female
Address.....
Telephone (Home).....(Work).....Mobile.....
Email Address.....
I would like to participate on.....on the following dates.....
.....
Additional Participants
.....
I will be travelling by car train other.....to the meeting place
Previous experience / tours with us.....
Any medical problems we should be aware of.....
.....
Any special dietary requirements.....
Boot size (rock climbing only).....Height (cycling only).....
How did you find out about our services?.....

Payment Details

Enclosed is cheque/money order for \$.....as deposit/full payment.
Or debit my credit card for \$.....
Mastercard Visa Card number.....
Expiry date.....Signature.....

Release and assumption of risk

In consideration of the above tour/expedition being provided for the fee indicated, I, for myself, my heirs, executors, and administrators, hereby waive all or any claim, right or cause of action which I or they might otherwise have for or arising out of loss enjoyment, loss of life or injury, damage to or loss of property of any description whatsoever which I may suffer or sustain on the tour/expedition and activities undertaken in connection therewith. I also agree to act in a safe and appropriate manner while using the facilities and services provided, and to abide by all directions given by Company staff. This waiver will operate for the Adventure & Photographic Company Pty Ltd, its principals, its instructors and agents.

Signature.....Date.....
(Parent or guardian if under the age of 18)

Please forward with your payment to:

Adventure & Photographic Company Pty Ltd,
PO Box 145, Katoomba NSW 2780

Phone: 02 4782 6109
Mobile:0410 619 086

Fax: 02 4782 7630

International: Phone: +61 2 4782 6109

Fax: +61 2 4782 7630

Office location: 2/187 Katoomba St, Katoomba. NSW. Australia
(See contact details page of the website for directions and map – rdmh.com.au)

- It is recommended that you photocopy the Booking Form before completing it and sending it to us. This way you can retain the original Booking Form and a complete copy of the Booking Information and Conditions.