



International Scale of River Difficulty

- Class I/Easy* Few or no obstructions; fast moving water with riffles; risk to swimmers is slight
- Class II/Novice* Wide Clear channels; occasional maneuvering; rocks and medium-sized waves are easily missed by trained paddlers, swimmers are seldom injured; assistance is helpful but rarely needed.
- Class III/Intermediate* Rapids with moderate; irregular waves which may be difficult to avoid and capable of swamping a canoe; complex maneuvers in fast current and narrow passages require good boat control; large waves, holes and strainers may be present but are easily avoided; powerful current; scouting advisable; swimmers are unlikely to be injured but assistance may be needed to avoid a long swim.
- Class IV/Advanced* Intense, powerful rapids; turbulent water; may involve long, unavoidable waves, holes or constricted passages demanding fast maneuvers under pressure; may require “must” moves about dangerous hazards; risk of injury to swimmers is moderate to high; group assistance to swimmers requires practical skills.
- Class V/Expert* Long, obstructed, turbulent rapids; drops may contain very large unavoidable waves, holes or steep congested chutes with complex demanding routes; several of these factors may be combined at the upper level of this class; rescue is extremely difficult; above average rescue skills are essential.
- Class VI/Almost Impossible* Difficulties of Class VI are carried to the limits of navigability; very dangerous; risks are high and rescue may be impossible; for teams of experts only under favorable conditions.

River Information

Trip	Beg.	Int.	Adv.	Family	Groups	Min. Age	Length
<u>Chattooga Mini</u> Class rapids II - IV	*	*		*	*	8	4 hrs
<u>Chattooga III</u> Class rapids II – IV	*	*	*	*	*	8	7 hrs
<u>Chattooga IV</u> Class rapids III – V		*	*		*	12	7 hrs
<u>Nantahala</u> Class rapids I – III	*	*		*	*	7yrs or 60 lbs	4 hrs
<u>Ocoee Upper</u> Class rapids III – IV		*	*	*	*	12	3 hrs
<u>Ocoee Middle</u> Class rapids III – IV		*	*	*	*	12	3 hrs
<u>Pigeon</u> Class rapids II – IV	*	*		*	*	8	2 hrs
<u>Lower Pigeon</u> Class rapids I - II	*			*	*	4	2 1/2 hrs