



Twin River Outfitters on the JAMES RIVER



FIFTY MILER AWARD- QUALIFYING CANOE CAMPING TREK

5 DAY / 4 NIGHT RIVER EXPEDITION

- * 50 MILER QUALIFYING - Truly one of the best river trips in the Mid Atlantic to obtain this award.
- * SO MANY RAPIDS - Trip includes over 120 rapids to keep it fun, but still suitable for canoe camping.
- * EXTRAORDINARILY SCENIC - Stunning Blue Ridge Mountain views the entire length of the trip.
- * A TRUE WILDERNESS EXPERIENCE - Compared to other more developed rivers.
- * NO CANOE PORTAGES REQUIRED - Paddle 63 miles without stopping.
- * UPPER JAMES RIVER WATER TRAIL - So cool it was made a Scenic Blueway Trail.
- * KAYAK THE JAMES RIVER GORGE - Mix up the fun and kayak the last day.
- * VIRGINIA SCENIC RIVER STATUS - Entire river section designated scenic by State of Virginia

**STUNNING
BLUE RIDGE
MOUNTAINS!**

**120+
RAPIDS!**

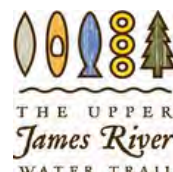
**63 TOTAL
MILES!**

MORE INFO

Paddle 63 miles of the historic upper James River in Virginia from the headwaters at Iron Gate to the Snowden Dam. Experience over 100 class I rapids, and 20 challenging class II rapids, and the infamous Balcony Falls (Class III) rapid that can be paddled around. Bring your fishing pole and try your hand at fishing along the way. Camp nightly at wilderness river side campsites locations along the way. Optional river clean up service project can be added and this trek meets the "50 MILER" award requirements.



5-Day trips start on Sunday or Monday



SCAN ME



5-Day/4-Night Schedule

Iron Gate to Snowden

DAY 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Orientation Times of 8:30am or 11am. (this will be selected at time of reservation) - Plan to arrive prior to orientation to complete waivers, pack gear, get fitted for PFDs, etc. - TRO will conduct orientation, provide river maps, and answer any questions about your trip. - Load up gear in dry bags, and drive to Iron Gate boat landing for launch - First night of camping will be at Gala campground <p>Total Day Paddle Length/Time: 11 miles / 5-6 hours</p>
DAY 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Paddle from Gala campground to Horseshoe Bend campground - Longest paddle day; TRO recommends starting Day 2 no later than 9am - Day 2 includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paddle a the most remote section of the Upper James River Water trail with a 11 mile stretch with only a single house visible. • Numerous river cliffs and seven sets of islands along your paddle <p>Total Day Paddle Length/Time: 18 miles / 7-8 hours</p>
DAY 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Paddle from Horseshoe Bend campground to Arcadia campground with stop in Buchanan/TRO 15 miles total paddle - Paddle length of Horseshoe Bend Campgroup to Buchanan: 9 miles / 3 - 4 hours - Resupply in Buchanan: water, ice, trash drop, access to your vehicles, restock food, charge phones, etc. - Paddle length of Buchanan/TRO to Arcadia Campground: 6 miles, 2 ½ hours <p>Total Day Paddle Length/Time: 15 miles / 5 - 6.5 hours</p>
DAY 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Paddle from Arcadia Campground to Wilderness Canoe (13 miles / 5 hours) - Camp at Wilderness Canoe Campground (camping fee paid by TRO) - 3pm: TRO staff will meet Troop at WCC to swap out canoes with kayaks - TRO will shuttle drivers back to Buchanan so your troop can have their cars at WCC campground that evening. This will allow you to pack your cars with gear, eliminating the need to carry gear on Day 5. It also speeds up your departure time by about 2 hours on Day 5. <p>Total Day Paddle Length/Time: 13 miles / 5 hours</p>
DAY 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <u>8:30am</u>: Pack camping gear into your vehicles and stage vehicles in parking areas - Kayak the most exciting and scenic section of your entire trip! - Launch by around 9am, for a <u>1 PM pickup at Snowden Take Out</u> - Drive back to Wilderness Canoe Campground & depart for home <p>Total Day Paddle Length/Time: 7 miles / 3 ½ to 4 hours (due to difficulty)</p>



5-Day/4-Night Packing List

TWIN RIVER OUTFITTERS PROVIDES THE FOLLOWING:

- Trip orientation & safety briefing
- Detailed river maps
- All boats / PFDs / paddles & all shuttles
- 7 gallon water containers (1 gallon/per person/per day)
- Commercial grade dry bags and dry boxes



TROOPS SHOULD BRING THE FOLLOWING:

- Camping tent
- Sleeping bag, camp pillow, sleeping pads (most campsites are on gravel)
- Camp stove, pots, pans, plates, utensils, and dish cleaning gear
- Cooler for ice (not wider than 32")
- Food (4 breakfasts, 5 lunches, 4 dinners, & 4 river snacks)
- Clothes, toiletries, footwear 2 sets; river shoes and camp sandals
- Folding camping chair (Room in canoe for such comfort items)
- Fishing pole / tackle / license (optional)
- Throw rope, first aid kit
- Headlight / flashlights / lanterns
- Small folding shovel for digging cat holes
- Ample supply of sunscreen, bug spray, hats, & sunglasses for troop

TRIP LEADER HELPFUL INFORMATION:

- There is some down time each day, so plan accordingly (fishing, outdoor skills, games, white water merit badge, etc.)
- Cell phones: Verizon and Sprint seem to work the best, coverage available about 95% of trip. Bring your charger and charge your phone half way through the trip when you stop at Buchanan.
- Groups can resupply in Buchanan on day 3 so pack accordingly
- Firewood available to purchase
- Outfitter Liability waivers required for all participants. The waivers will be collected during check-in by the Outfitter. Please have these completed prior to arrival.
 - Form available online at TwinRiverOutfitters.com

**TROOPS ARE WELCOME TO CONTACT OUR RESERVATION OFFICE AT (540)-254-8012 OR
SEND EMAILS TO TWINRIVEROUTFITTER@GMAIL.COM WITH ANY QUESTIONS.**

RIVER CLEAN UP SERVICE PROJECT

Twin River Outfitters is happy to assist any Scout Troop participating on a 50 miler trip to conduct a “RIVER CLEAN UP SERVICE PROJECT” as part of the 50 miler award qualification.

Conditions for "River Clean Up Service Project" per Scouting BSA:

- “During the time on the trail or waterway, complete a minimum of 10 hours each of group work on projects to improve the trail, springs, campsite, portage or wilderness area. If after checking with recognized authorities, it is not possible to complete 10 hours each of group work on the trail, a similar project may be done in the unit's home area.”

To assist in the service project TRO will:












- Provide trash bags
- Pick up tires/garbage left at any boat landing or TRO campgrounds
 - If you leave trash at a location, please notify us so we can schedule a pick up.
 - Text: (540)-798-6564
 - Provide location and general description of garbage contents

Comments:

- Safety first!!!
 - Don't pick up any trash in a Class II rapid or near any unsafe water
 - Don't pick up anything sharp or rusty items
- Please ensure tires, bags, and/or debris are left clear of boat launch site.
 - Trash should be visible for pickup but out of the way.
- **As a THANK YOU from Twin River Outfitters, each scout member can select one complementary T-Shirt OR Hat following completion of their trip.**



Legend

-  Small boat launch
-  Boat launch
-  Commercial campground
-  Canal
-  Mile markers
-  Bridge
-  Landmark
-  Class I Rapid
-  Class II Rapid
-  Appalachian Trail
-  Park*

*All land along river bank is private property unless noted otherwise.

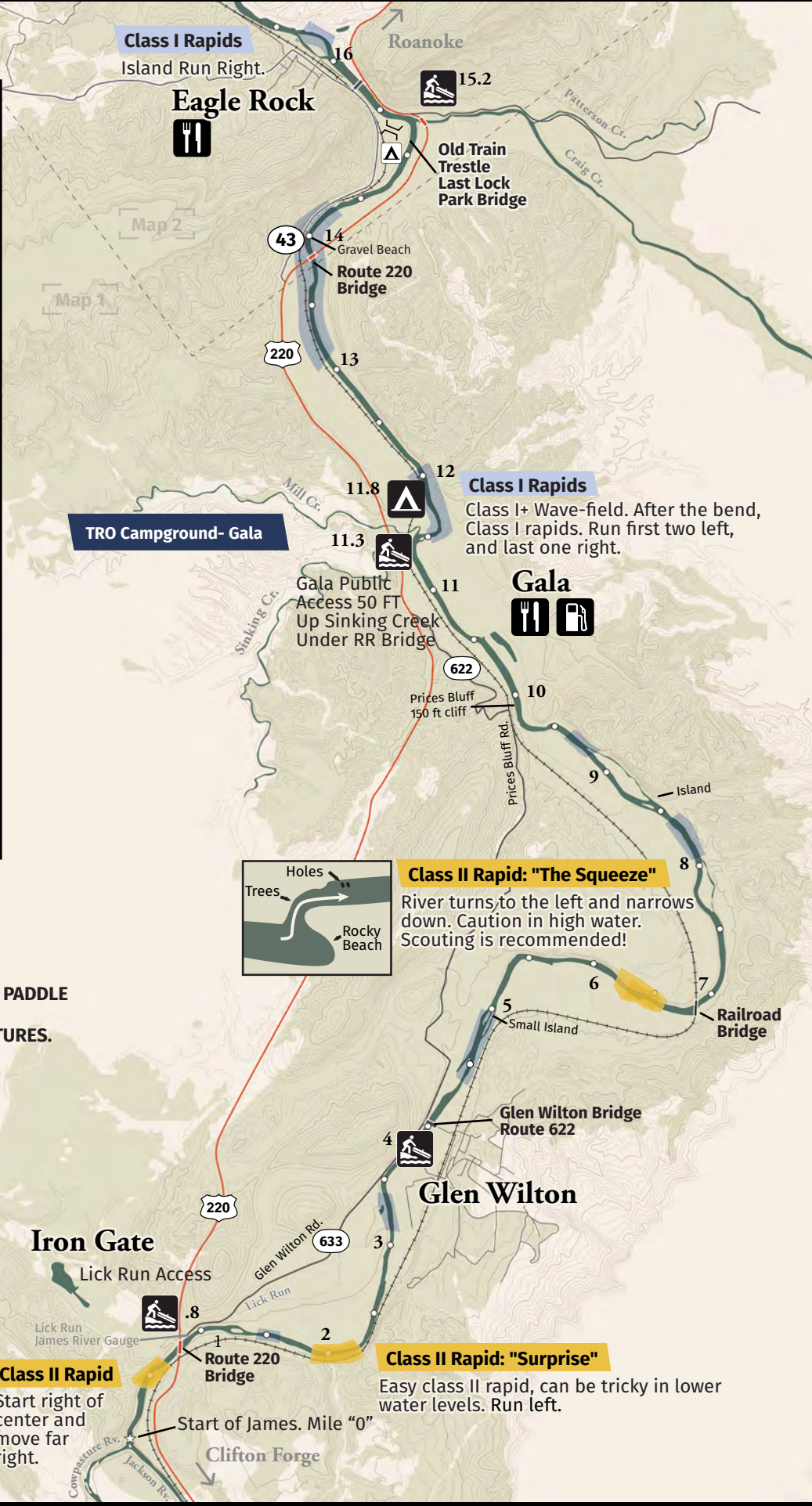
These maps have been orientated so that the river always flows from the bottom of the map to the top of the map. This allows paddlers to orient themselves in the river in terms of river right and left while paddling downstream.

General Safety

- 1) ALWAYS WEAR A LIFE JACKET.
- 2) ALCOHOL AND PADDLING DON'T MIX.
- 3) KNOW THE RIVER WATER LEVELS. – DON'T PADDLE WHEN RIVER IS TOO HIGH.
- 4) KNOW THE WEATHER & WATER TEMPERATURES.
- 5) KNOW HOW TO CONTROL YOUR BOAT.
- 6) NEVER PADDLE ALONE.
- 7) KNOW YOUR ROUTE.



Paddlers launching at Iron Gate Beach, mile 0.8.

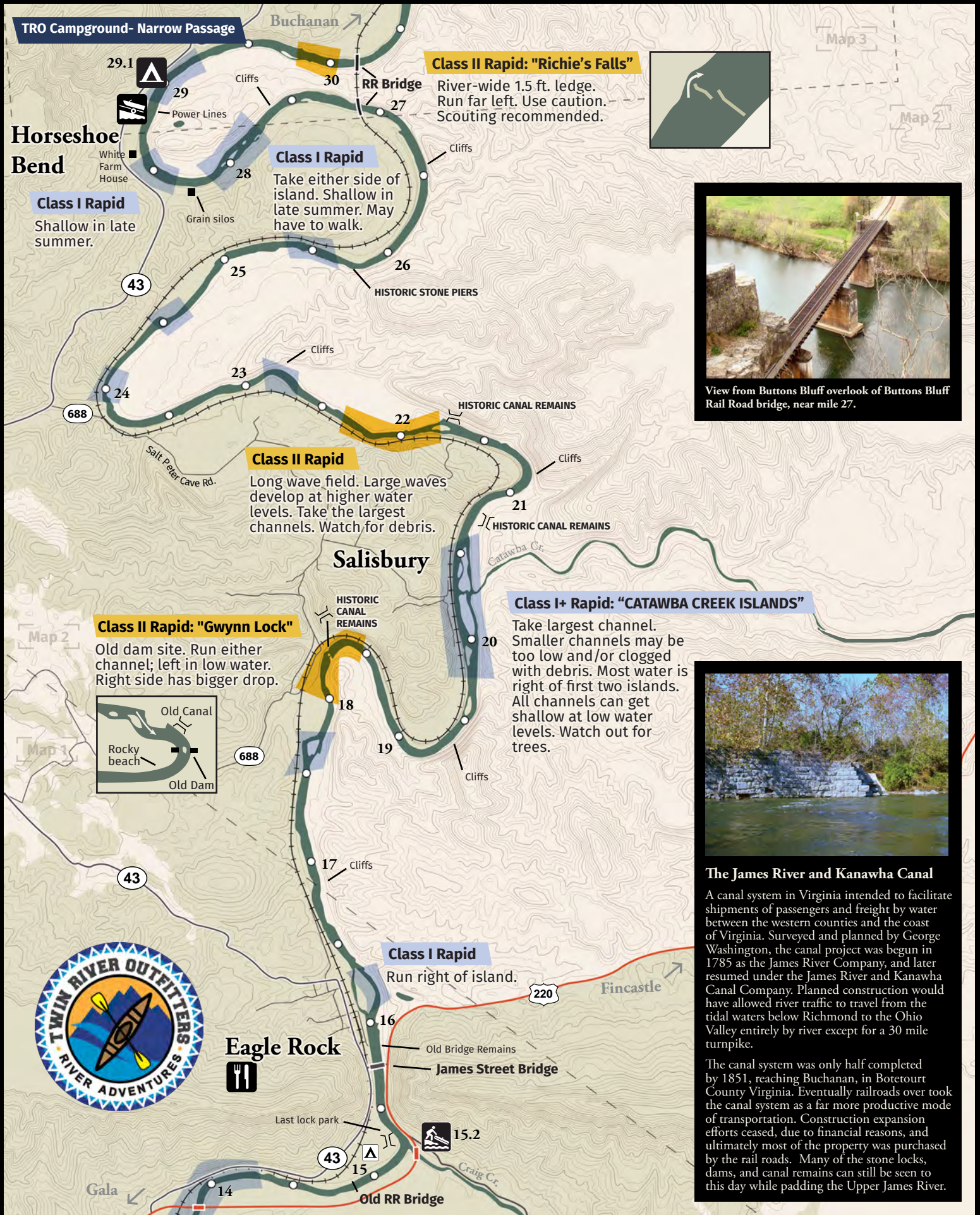


Class II Rapid
Start right of center and move far right.

Class II Rapid: "Surprise"
Easy class II rapid, can be tricky in lower water levels. Run left.

Class II Rapid: "The Squeeze"
River turns to the left and narrows down. Caution in high water. Scouting is recommended!

Class I Rapids
Class I+ Wave-field. After the bend, Class I rapids. Run first two left, and last one right.



TRO Campground- Narrow Passage

Buchanan

Map 3

Map 2

29.1

29

Cliffs

30

Class II Rapid: "Richie's Falls"

River-wide 1.5 ft. ledge. Run far left. Use caution. Scouting recommended.



Horseshoe Bend

Class I Rapid

Shallow in late summer.

Class I Rapid

Take either side of island. Shallow in late summer. May have to walk.

43

25

HISTORIC STONE PIERS

23

Cliffs

26

688

Salt Pier Cave Rd.

Class II Rapid

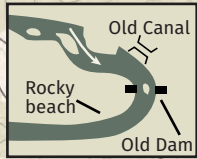
Long wave field. Large waves develop at higher water levels. Take the largest channels. Watch for debris.

HISTORIC CANAL REMAINS

Map 2

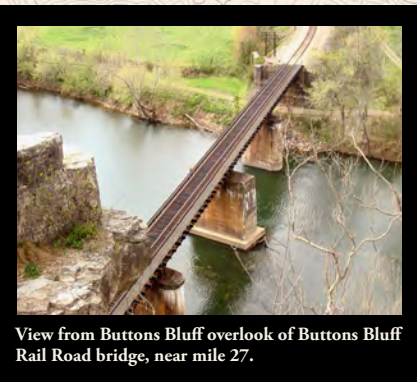
Class II Rapid: "Gwynn Lock"

Old dam site. Run either channel; left in low water. Right side has bigger drop.



Class I+ Rapid: "CATAWBA CREEK ISLANDS"

Take largest channel. Smaller channels may be too low and/or clogged with debris. Most water is right of first two islands. All channels can get shallow at low water levels. Watch out for trees.



View from Buttons Bluff overlook of Buttons Bluff Rail Road bridge, near mile 27.

Salisbury

HISTORIC CANAL REMAINS

21

HISTORIC CANAL REMAINS

20

Catawba Cr.

Map 1

688

18

19

Cliffs

43

17

Cliffs

Class I Rapid

Run right of island.

220

Fincastle



Eagle Rock



Old Bridge Remains

James Street Bridge

Last lock park

15.2



43

15

Old RR Bridge

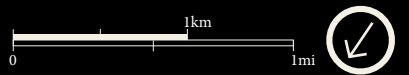
Craig Cr.

Gala

14

Map 2 Eagle Rock—Horseshoe Bend Miles 14—30

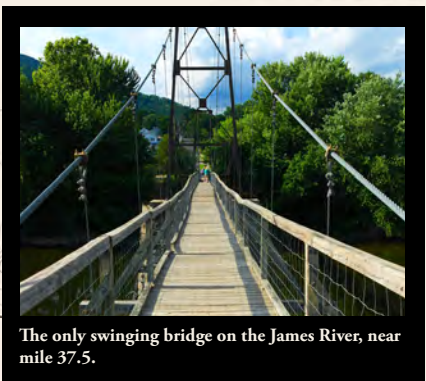
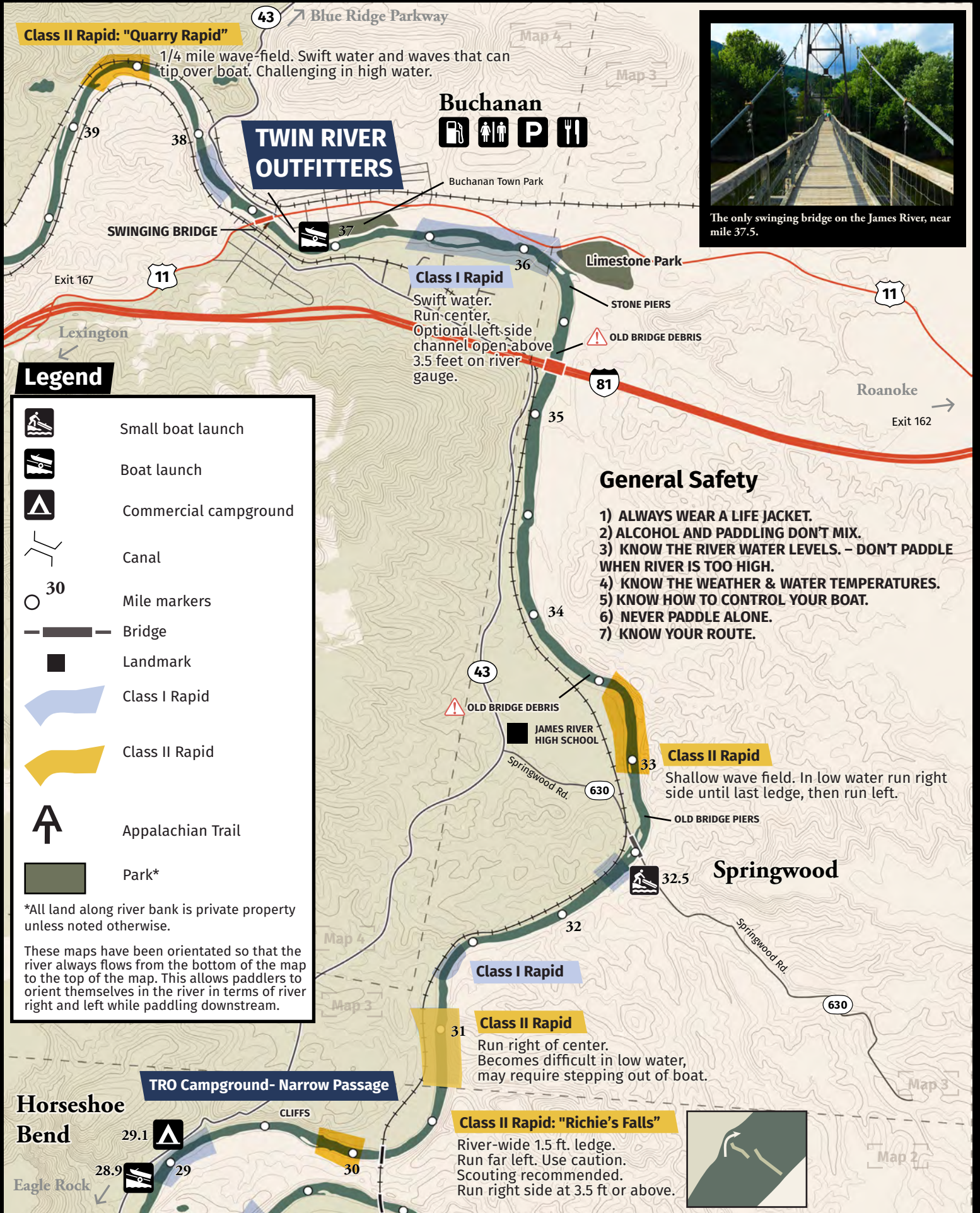
After hours and urgent issues call or text 540-261-7334 OR 540-798-6564



The James River and Kanawha Canal

A canal system in Virginia intended to facilitate shipments of passengers and freight by water between the western counties and the coast of Virginia. Surveyed and planned by George Washington, the canal project was begun in 1785 as the James River Company, and later resumed under the James River and Kanawha Canal Company. Planned construction would have allowed river traffic to travel from the tidal waters below Richmond to the Ohio Valley entirely by river except for a 30 mile turnpike.

The canal system was only half completed by 1851, reaching Buchanan, in Botetourt County Virginia. Eventually railroads over took the canal system as a far more productive mode of transportation. Construction expansion efforts ceased, due to financial reasons, and ultimately most of the property was purchased by the rail roads. Many of the stone locks, dams, and canal remains can still be seen to this day while paddling the Upper James River.



Map 5

Map 5

Map 4



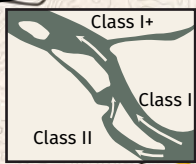
Arcadia take-out

Call 540-254-8012 at Arcadia Bridge. Take out 150 yds past bridge on river right. Gravel road with Breeden Bottom Campground sign. Last pick-up 5:30pm. No exceptions!

TRO Campground- Arcadia

Class II Rapid: "Jennings Creek"

Left channel at island is class II rapid. Ledge sticks out from left bank past first island and forces water sharply to right. Stay to right in the bend. Right channel is class I+ and typically low in summer.



Class I Rapid

Shallow late summer.

Class II Rapid

Run left of center, aiming for downstream V.

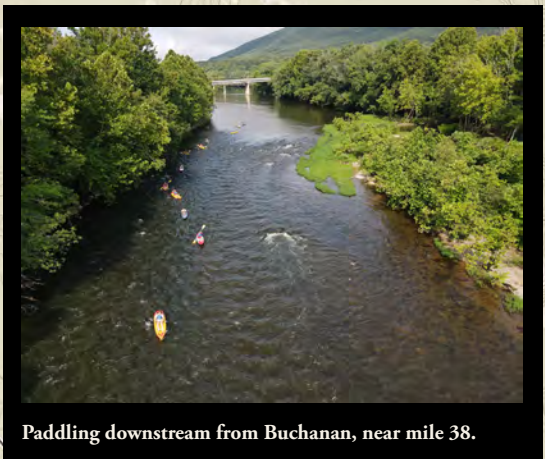
Class II Rapid: "Quarry Rapid"

1/4 mile wave-field. Swift water and waves that can tip over boat. Challenging in high water. Run center-left.

Class I Rapid

Run right downstream V.

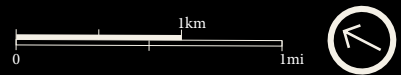
TWIN RIVER OUTFITTERS



Paddling downstream from Buchanan, near mile 38.

Map 4 Buchanan—Alpine Miles 36—48

After hours and urgent issues call or text 540-261-7334 OR 540-798-6564



Lexington



Glasgow Timber Steps and Boat Ramp, mile 59.

Exit 180



Legend



Small boat launch



Boat launch



Commercial campground



Canal



30

Mile markers



Bridge



Landmark



Class I Rapid



Class II Rapid



Appalachian Trail



Park*

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Glasgow



59

Class III Rapid

Maury River entering James River. Last take out before Class III section.

58

National Forest Camping

Locher Tract N.F.

Wilderness Canoe Company Campground

Old Canal and Lock Remains

Jellystone Campground

56.9

56.3

56



Natural Bridge Station

Arnold Valley Bridge

Black RR Bridge

Class II Rapid

Double ledge run left to right between ledges.

130

708

Class II Rapid

Foot and a half drop. Run left of center

54

Natural Bridge



55

Class I Rapid

Smith Tract N.F.

53

Class I Rapid

National Forest Camping

Exit 175



51

Class II- Rapid

Two foot drop. Run far left over ledge and then right.

Class II Rapid

Rocky ledges across from boat landing. Run center of main channel, left of first ledge, and right of center on second ledge.

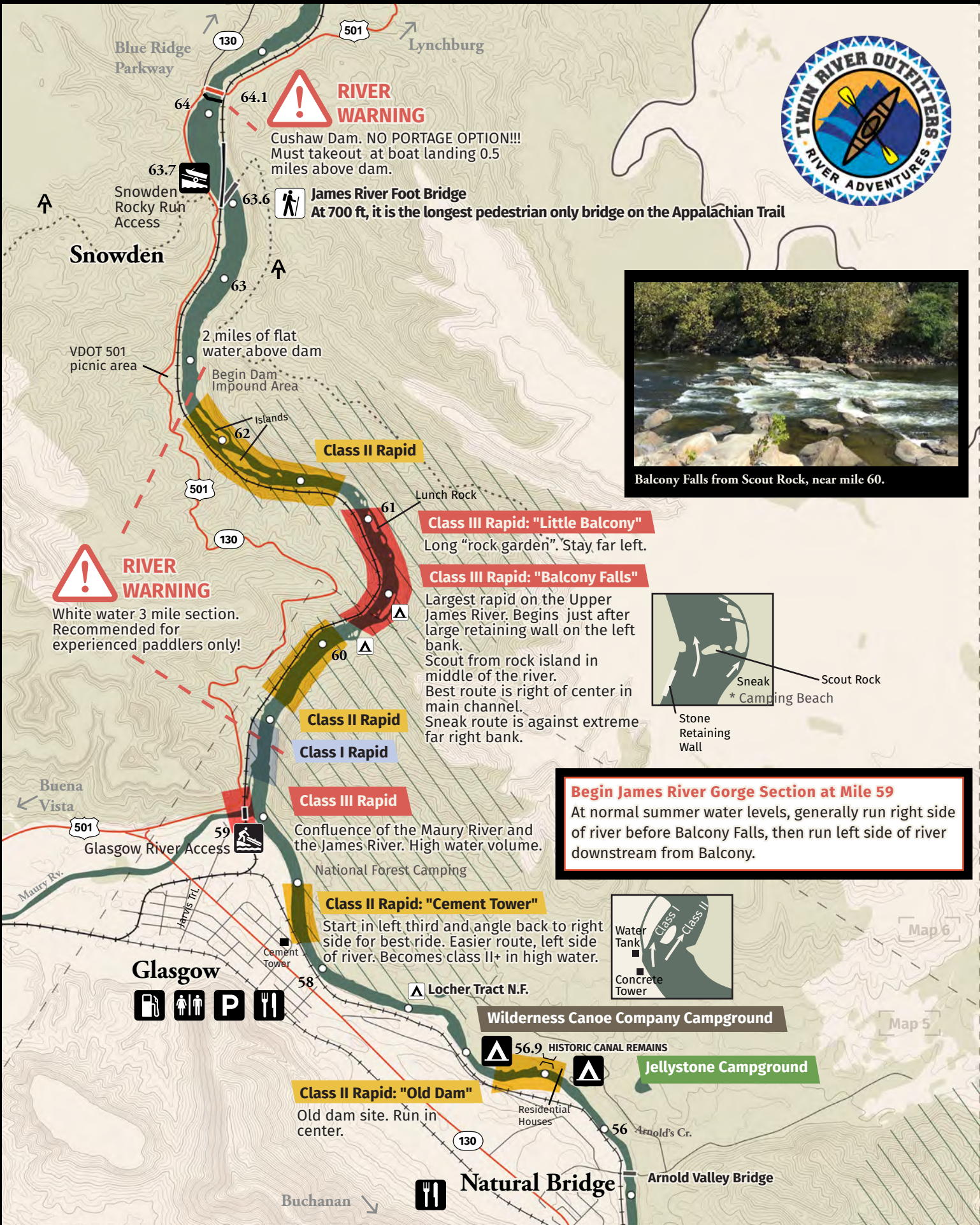
81

Roanoke

Alpine

48





RIVER WARNING

Cushaw Dam. NO PORTAGE OPTION!!! Must takeout at boat landing 0.5 miles above dam.

James River Foot Bridge
At 700 ft, it is the longest pedestrian only bridge on the Appalachian Trail

RIVER WARNING

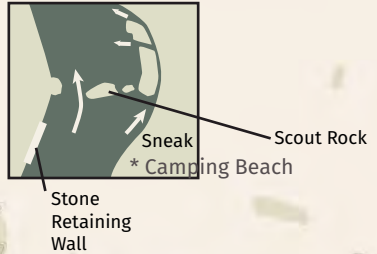
White water 3 mile section. Recommended for experienced paddlers only!



Balcony Falls from Scout Rock, near mile 60.

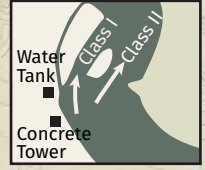
Class III Rapid: "Little Balcony"
Long "rock garden". Stay far left.

Class III Rapid: "Balcony Falls"
Largest rapid on the Upper James River. Begins just after large retaining wall on the left bank. Scout from rock island in middle of the river. Best route is right of center in main channel. Sneak route is against extreme far right bank.



Begin James River Gorge Section at Mile 59
At normal summer water levels, generally run right side of river before Balcony Falls, then run left side of river downstream from Balcony.

Class II Rapid: "Cement Tower"
Start in left third and angle back to right side for best ride. Easier route, left side of river. Becomes class II+ in high water.



Class II Rapid: "Old Dam"
Old dam site. Run in center.