



RIVER RAT BASH & PADDLE FEST: 2011

June 4&5 - bring your tribe!

Hosted by Melissa Wright from K-97, Classic Rock, in Grande Cache during HIGH WATER, The River Rat Bash is a weekend of rafting, kayaking & mayhem for those who like a little paddling. Plus camping, steak BBQ, live entertainment, awards and prizes. You'll even get the t-shirt. This year's event will include camping, rafting, paintball, a steak BBQ, a hypnotist show, and local musicians. We have expanded the event to include a paddling festival with workshops and trips. The event is sponsored by K-97 Radio, Travel Alberta, the Alberta Whitewater Association, the Town of Grande Cache and Wild Blue Yonder Adventure Tours Ltd.

Melissa Wright has enthusiastically hosted the Rat Bash for 3 years, and attended the event's predecessor, The KRock Bush Party. The 2011 event has been scheduled for 3 weeks later to occur during high water season, promising maximum thrills! With the addition of the paddling festival and increased capacity, we anticipate attracting over 250 people to a sold-out event.

REGULAR RAT

Rafting: Raft the Sulphur River with Wild Blue Yonder! An excellent introduction to white water rafting. The trip is safe for ages 9, yet exciting enough that every age has fun. Experience team paddling through the spectacular Sulphur Canyon. The winding canyon walls make for plenty of navigating around boulders and through small to medium sized waves. During high water you'll spend about 1.5 hours on the water, paddle hard, and get soaked! At the confluence of the Sulphur and Smoky Rivers we enter the well-known Sulphur Gates. The last half hour we float down the Smoky River. Trips leave at 8:30am, 12:30pm, and 4:00pm on Saturday, June 4 and 9:00am and 1:00pm on Sunday June 5. See next page for details.

Steak BBQ & Show: A delicious steak dinner will be provided for all Rat Bash and Paddle Fest participants on Saturday at 7:30pm. Beer tickets will be available for purchase. Following the dinner, enjoy an evening of live entertainment. The evening events will take place at the Fireman's Park BBQ Area, transportation will be provided from the campground.

Camping: The Grande Cache Municipal Campground is located adjacent to the town of Grande Cache and the Golf Course (see map next page). This is an excellent RV campground with tenting available. Nicely treed, open sites. Full showers, laundry and washroom facilities. All Rat Bashers will be given a \$20 coupon, valid only on Saturday June 4, only one coupon per site.

Grande Mountain Lodge: Not a camping rat? Enjoy breathtaking views in newly renovated rooms with prices you can afford. Call 780-827-2007, let them know you are a Rat Basher, and receive 10% off your stay!

Cost: \$100/person

Rat Kids (youth under 12): \$50/person



Rafting Trip Information:

Meet at the Wild Blue Yonder booking counter by the Grande Cache Tourism and Interpretive Centre (see map below) at your trip time. We provide transportation to and from the river. Have a snack before you come! At the counter you will finish your trip payment and fill out the waiver and medical form. Use the Centre bathrooms before getting on the bus. We drive you to the Gear House and size you into rafting gear. Wear a swimsuit under your clothes, and shoes that can get wet: you will be provided with a thermal wetsuit. Leave your dry clothes in the change rooms. All required gear suited to the trip is included. What you need to bring is listed below. Once everyone is ready, it is about a 5-minute drive to the parking area. From there, it's a 10 minute walk down to the bottom of the canyon. There are several steep sections of trail, which most people can manage, but those with walking impairments or vertigo may require assistance. The guides do a safety briefing once they have readied the boats, and we launch! Everyone must paddle as the guides call out instructions. Children 9 to 12 (this can vary) sit in the middle of the boat and do not paddle until we reach the calmer Smoky. On hot days, we pull out water guns on the Smoky River! Once we reach the end of the trip, it is only a 5-minute drive back to the change rooms, after changing we take you back to the booking counter.

WHAT TO BRING:

Mandatory:

- Swimsuit or extra set of underclothes.
- Shoes that can get wet & will stay on your feet and have grip on the bottom. Old runners or sport-style sandals work the best. No thongs!
- Dry shoes for after

Optional:

- Towel to dry off
- Sun glasses, sunscreen
- Extra medication if necessary
- Waterproof cameras available at the counter

WHAT WE PROVIDE:

- Thermal full-body (sleeveless) wetsuits
- Neoprene socks to keep your feet warm
- Wind/water resistant splash jackets
- High impact ProTech whitewater helmets
- Wetsuit jacket on cold days
- Mitts on cold days
- Splash pants on very cold days
- White Water Rafting approved PFD's
- Transportation to & from the river

Deposit & Cancellation Policies: This trip requires a full payment to book. Cancellation or no shows will not receive a refund or credit. Trips go as scheduled, rain or shine. Trips may be substituted in case of very high or low water. Substituted or re-scheduled trips can be declined and a CREDIT will be issued. Credits are transferable, valid for 2 years, but ONLY for future trips.

