

Nantahala Outdoor Center (NOC) is the nation's largest outdoor recreation company featuring a diverse collection of more than 120 different river and land-based adventures in the Southeast. Known for premier whitewater rafting tours, the center also offers hiking, biking, zip lining, international adventure travel and paddling instruction at its world class paddling school. NOC operates on eight rivers in four states and has three retail stores specializing in outdoor gear. A wide variety of on-site lodging, two restaurants and a breathtaking mountain setting make NOC a prime vacation destination and adventure hub. NOC was founded in 1972 with its main campus based at the intersection of the Appalachian Trail and Nantahala River on 500+ national forest acres near Bryson City, NC. It's home to over 20 Olympic athletes including two Gold Medalists. NOC's core mission has always been to expose guests to the physical, mental and social benefits of outdoor recreation.

# EMBARK ON ADVENTURE







**LAKE TOURS & RENTALS** 



**SHOPPING** 



**ON-SITE LODGING** 

## WHITEWATER RAFTING

NOC has guided more guests down whitewater rivers than any other outfitter. The crystal-clear Nantahala River is the perfect family-friendly river to enjoy mountain scenery and exciting rapids in the spectacular Nantahala Gorge. For eight miles, guests splash through bouncing waves and spin on fast currents under the guidance of a highly-trained NOC river guide. After enjoying views of the surrounding gorge, guests experience the ultimate finale at Nantahala Falls. With the minimum age being 7 (or 60 pounds), families often make this river part of their annual vacation plan.

## ZIP LINING

NOC boasts two aerial adventures for adrenaline lovers. The Mountaintop Zip Line Tour combines breathtaking views of Great Smoky Mountains National Park and Fontana Lake with thrilling zip lines—including the half-mile-long Mega Zip. Unlike other canopy tours, this one is above the trees. The Zip Line Adventure Park's (ZLAP) 16 aerial obstacles and 550' Wesser Zip challenge guests to balance, reach and climb 40' above the ground. The ZLAP's state-of-the-art auto-belay system allows large groups to enjoy the course and makes it easy to go back for more.

## **EVENTS & FESTIVALS**

NOC hosts almost 30 events every year ranging in scope from family-friendly weekend celebrations to whitewater competitions, a guest appreciation festival, marathons and more. The center was home to the 2013 ICF Canoe Freestyle World Championships and hosted the ICF Junior & U23 Wildwater Canoeing World Championships last year. On the less serious side (and to ring in autumn), NOCtoberfest is a fam-fave event, where participants dash through Nantahala Falls collecting pumpkins that have been tossed into the river.



### **GROUPS & GATHERINGS**

For more than 40 years, NOC has been the top location for multi-day group retreats offering outdoor activities and packages. Whitewater rafting trips, zip line tours and group-friendly outdoor adventures keep attendees excited, engaged and participating. NOC adventure retreats are available to church groups, sports teams, boy scouts/girl scouts, family reunions, corporate teams and summer adventure programs. Nantahala Group Packages offer ready-to-go adventure packages that are easy to plan with group reservationists who help build custom trips.

### **LESSONS & TRAINING**

NOC's world-renowned Paddling School offers canoeing and kayaking lessons with the most experienced instructors in the nation. Courses vary in skill level, learning style and duration. Swiftwater Rescue Training is ideal for enthusiasts, professional first responders and river guides. Wilderness Survival School provides training on gear and tactics for surviving in the backcountry. SOLO Wilderness Medicine prepares outdoor professionals to address emergencies with hands-on, outdoor training and real scenarios. Raft Guide School is a one-of-a-kind program where students learn essential skills to work as a professional river guide through the industry's gold-standard training program.

### 2016 OLYMPIC HOPEFUL

NOC athlete **Michal Smolen** could very well be the next U.S. Olympic paddling medalist.

With the following titles already under his belt, he's reaching for Gold!

- · 2015 World Championships Bronze Medal Winner
- · 2015 US National Champion
- · 2014 World Cup Bronze Medal Winner
- · 2014 U23 World Championships Gold Medal Winner

Michal took his first strokes on the Nantahala River, and he's grown up paddling at NOC—this world class athlete is on the road to Rio in 2016! For more information visit michalsmolen.com.



Visit **noc.com** for more information: videos, event listings, course schedules & more!