



# Into the Wild: Canadian Outback Rafting

James and Steve Corbett spent most of their childhood exploring BC's outdoor paradise. As adults, they entered different professions – but their love for local wilderness continued to reunite them. The brothers decided to start a rafting company, which would allow them to transform their passions into careers and continue to explore the province together. In 1992, Canadian Outback Adventures was born, offering single and multiday rafting trips in remote areas of the province. James and Steve hired young rafters, teaching them the craft of guiding; soon, the company was earning widespread acclaim for connecting adventurers with stunningly scenic rivers, mountains and glaciers, and re-introducing rafting – once considered dangerous and purely for adrenaline junkies – as an accessible and family-friendly activity.

In 2015, Graham Young joined forces with fellow enthusiasts to invest in the brothers' company. He and his partners called the reborn venture Canadian Outback Rafting, and the company has continued to evolve and grow ever since.

Graham has rafted on every continent except for Antarctica, travelling to more than 30 countries to explore the wilderness. Early in his career – intent on becoming a raft company owner – he travelled to the wildest rivers he could find in Australia, Costa Rica, Honduras and other outdoor oases. He then returned to BC, drawn to the region's unparalleled combination of distinctive scenery – glaciers, old-growth forests and snow-capped peaks – and sheer variety of rapids.

Today, Canadian Outback Rafting is renowned for offering all-encompassing wilderness adventures for people of all ages and skill levels. The company adheres to strict safety standards, and is part of the BC River Outfitters Association, one of the highest ranked organizations in the world for safety in rafting. The company now employs up to 30 seasonal guides, and offers an annual scholarship position for Indigenous youth that provides one student with a coveted guiding opportunity.

Adhering to a mandate that every person should be able to experience the thrill of rafting, Canadian Outback Rafting invites guests to choose their own adventure with several trip options: mild scenery-centred floats, adrenaline-pumping rapids or something in between. A few years ago, guides led a 10-day excursion through the Yukon, BC and Alaska, an incredibly difficult-to-reach area. Among the trip-goers was a quadruple amputee, who would not have been able to access such a remote part of the province without the support of seasoned rafters.

Canadian Outback Rafting offers a truly exceptional experience, guiding people from around the world into enchanting pockets of BC, so they can revel in the beauty of pristine wilderness. Despite decades-long success and steady growth, at its heart, the company stays true to the Corbett brothers' original vision: to offer personalized, intimate adventures that bring people closer to nature, and to each other.