



HOUSEBOAT ITINERARIES

Launching from the Wahweap Marina area - Towing a Powerboat

DAY 1:

From the **T-DOCK** at Stateline Boat Rentals head **SOUTH** toward the mighty **Glen Canyon Dam**. At **RED BUOY 2** you'll approach a "No-Wake Zone." As you pass through the second wakeless speed buoy line and **GREEN BUOY 1**, bear left and head up the **Narrows**. (Note: This area is usually congested and at times has rough water, so proceed at a slow safe speed.)

You will be traveling around the backside of **Antelope Island**, named for its shape. As you pass the Antelope Point Launch ramp and come to another "No-Wake Zone" you'll notice the construction sight of the new Antelope Point Marina. Just past **RED BUOY 12**, you'll want to head uplake, **NORTHEAST**, toward your right. (Note: Be careful NOT to proceed past the **WHITE WARM CREEK BUOY** into **Warm Creek**, unless you plan to make your overnight anchorage there; it dead ends and this route will not take you uplake.)

If you've gotten off to a late start, **Warm Creek** is a good place for overnight camping and has many nice beaches. On either side of **Warm Creek Bay**, you'll find beaches with good anchoring and great spots for campfires. One benefit of camping in **Warm Creek** is you'll likely see a spectacular sunset to go along with a great view of **Castle Rock** (named for its shape resembling a castle).

If you do not make your overnight anchorage at **Warm Creek**, then proceed toward **Padre Bay**, and you'll have **Two Options** for your night's stay:

Option 1: At **RED BUOY 16** veer left toward **Gunsight Canyon** where there are beautiful white sand beaches and lots of areas to hike. This is a great place for skiing and fishing; small mouth, large mouth and striper bass are common here. The butte at the mouth of this canyon resembled a giant gunsight to early river explorers, hence the name. At higher levels of water, you can proceed into **Padre Canyon** through a narrow slot in the middle of the ridge that houses **Gunsight Butte**, however at lower levels you must go out to the main channel to **RED BUOY 22** and turn left to proceed to the other canyons – **Padre Canyon, Kane Creek** or **Kane Wash**.

Option 2: At **RED BUOY 22** turn left and head toward the back of **Padre Bay** to **Padre Canyon** or **Kane Creek Canyon** or **Kane Wash**. Each of these canyons offers excellent beaches for setting up your base camp, allowing you to use your powerboat to explore the other canyons more in depth. While traveling through **Padre Bay**, you can see a spectacular view of the slim **Cookie Jar Rock**, rising from the sandstone mounds on the west shore. Each of these three canyons can provide you and your crew with a fun time fishing as well as hiking to the tops of the surrounding sandstone hills.



TIME TO REACH Option 1 or 2 from T-Dock: about 2.75 to 3 hours.

Once you've secured your campsite, daylight permitting, you can tour **West Canyon** in your powerboat. At the back end of **West Canyon** you'll find an excellent hike, taking about 2 hours round trip. In the spring, you can encounter beautiful waterfalls and cool yourself off in the cascading pools. The canyon walls are narrow, offering the drama of a slot canyon.

DAY 2:

Proceed uplake through **Padre Bay** toward **RED BUOY 40**. At this point, if you veer to your left in the main waterway you will head toward **Dangling Rope Marina** nestled next to the canyon walls. This is a great place to stop and refuel your boat(s) and refresh yourself and your crew. The soft serve ice-cream is terrific on a hot day! This marina is not accessible by land.

TIME TO REACH Dangling Rope from Padre Bay: about 1.5 to 2 hours.

As you leave **Dangling Rope**, you will again be heading **NORTHEAST**, toward **Oak Creek Canyon** located between **RED BUOY 50 & GREEN BUOY 51**. At lower levels of water, **Oak Creek** offers white sand beaches that are great for anchoring and building your nightly campfire. Using this area as a base camp allows you to explore many exciting areas in close proximity.

TIME TO REACH Oak Creek from Dangling Rope: about 1 to 1.5 hours.

Time permitting, once anchored for the night at **Oak Creek**, use your personal water craft (PWC) or powerboat and head to the back of **Oak Creek** for a special hike to the **Navajo Stairs** carved in the mountain. The hike should only take 45 minutes each way. Climbing to the top of the sandstone mound with the aid of the carved stairs (small pucks in the sandstone) will reward you with a magnificent view of other pillaring sandstone towers.

Another scenic area you can explore from your base camp is **Secret Canyon** located at the mouth of where you entered **Oak Canyon**, on the right hand side. (Note: A houseboat will NOT fit into this canyon.) Your PWC or powerboat allows you to creep back into a narrow slot canyon and experience its peace and solitude. Fishing is good here; you'll find small mouth, large mouth and striped bass. At times, you may catch a walleye or two.

DAY 3:

If you are on a 3-DAY Trip, the morning of your 3rd day would be the time for you to begin your return trip to **Boat Rentals**. You'll want to **leave no later than 8:00am** from **Oak Canyon** or the **Rainbow Bridge** hiking area to allow enough travel time to **return to Boat Rentals by 2:00pm**.



The next morning, while your houseboat is anchored in **Oak Creek**, take a powerboat back to just between **BUOYS 49 & 50** to the mouth of **Forbidding Canyon**. As you wind back into this canyon, you will pass a wakeless buoy line, take the next left turn. You'll proceed through a very narrow passage; be careful to travel at a slow safe speed. This will take you to a **courtesy dock** provided by the **National Park Service (NPS)**. You can park/secure your powerboat next to the walkway and then walk to the end of the walkway where a dirt path begins. This path takes you to **Rainbow Bridge**. This hike is 1.75 miles one way. Be sure to take plenty of water with you; there are no facilities on the path, only back where you moored your boat. (Note: A houseboat can travel to this area, however it is much easier to maneuver a smaller boat here.)

Rainbow Bridge is a wondrous, breathtaking rock formation that is known as one of the Seven Wonders of the World. It is the world's largest natural Bridge, and quite likely the most photographed natural wonder in the American West.

This day of travel will allow you and your passengers to enjoy the magnificent views of the carved and varnished red rock formations surrounding Lake Powell.

DAYS 4-5:

After visiting **Rainbow Bridge**, proceed up the main channel to the mouth of the **San Juan River** at **GREEN BUOY 57**. Here you'll find many beaches that allow you to anchor and use your PWC or powerboat to explore more terrific areas of interest. If you don't have a smaller craft for exploring; you can motor your houseboat to discover the interesting sites in the immediate area.

**TIME TO REACH mouth of San Juan River from Rainbow Bridge area:
1.5 hours.**

Before you reached the mouth of the **San Juan** – between **BUOYS 52 & 53** – you passed **Anasazi Canyon**. This canyon offers a great beach for anchoring and an excellent hike. Depending on the time of year, there is a small waterfall for you to enjoy at the back of the canyon, which is about a 45-minute hike one way. **Anasazi Canyon** is a long eerie gorge which contains great splotches of colorful lichen and desert varnish.

For the night's stay, you can settle at the mouth of the **San Juan** or in **Anasazi Canyon**.

On a **5-DAY Trip**, allow enough time to travel back to **RED BUOY 36A** at which point you will find **Rock Creek Bay**. There are three Canyons in this area; **Rock Creek Canyon**, **Middle Rock Creek Canyon** and **Dry Rock Creek Canyon**. Each offers great beaches for anchoring, fantastic fishing and a breathtaking sunset or sunrise against the colored towering buttes. In this area, you'll find several small arches

and caves. In fact, you can drive your PWC or small powerboat into one particular cave in the back of **Rock Creek Canyon**. This canyon area is out of the wind and can be a great waterskiing location.

DAYS 6–7:

After spending the night of Day 5 at either the mouth of the **San Juan** or on one of the nearby beaches, head uplake to **Hole in the Rock** at **RED BUOY 64**. You can drive your houseboat or smaller boat right up to its base and tie off.

Hole in the Rock is a hike for experienced hikers. You will be hiking over large rocks and boulders straight up the canyon. At the top, you will feel a sense of accomplishment and there is a sign-in area for those who make it all the way. **Hole in the Rock** is where the Mormon San Juan Mission trekked in search of a new route across the Colorado River in 1879-1880. They spent 45 days blasting the surrounding rock to permit a passage for wagons down a mile-long grade descending 1,064 feet. Approximately 233 men, women and children, 83 horses, ox-drawn wagons, and several hundred cows and sheep traveled down this slope. All were lowered down the slope with ropes and then rowed across the swiftly flowing Colorado River on a boat that was assembled right on the shore. It's remarkable to visit this place, picture what occurred here in your mind's eye, and realize that not a single person or animal was lost during the trek.

On the evening of Day 6, as you look for a camping spot, we recommend you head back down lake to an area between **BUOYS 46 & 28**. There are many small canyons offering good anchoring beaches just off the main stream.

If time permits, **Last Chance Bay** has many side canyons with good anchoring beaches. **Mountain Sheep**, **West Canyon** and **Dungeon Canyon** offer solitude, small hikes into slot canyons, and great fishing. (Note: As you approach the back of these canyons, be careful to watch for light colored areas of the water where rocks are just beneath the surface and could damage your boat's bottom or propeller.)

At the mouth of **Last Chance Bay** you will find **Gregory Butte**; look carefully and you can see that a portion of this butte is shaped like a camel.

DAY 7:

Heading back to the Marina can be a little rushed, so make sure you allow time for your return trip to **Boat Rentals**. Give yourself enough time for refueling and making a **prompt return at 2:00pm**. If you are staying in **Last Chance Bay**, allow at least 3 hours for your return trip. **Last Chance** is near **RED BUOY 28**. As you reach the **Narrows**, remember to travel at a safe slow speed because you'll be sharing the waterway with many other



boaters as well as Tour Boats. Once you reach the **breakwater**, radio the **Boat Rentals Office** for assistance in piloting to the **Fuel Dock**. After refueling and settling into the T-Dock where you'll disembark, remember our **FREE Porter Luggage Handling Service**. Just ask your Houseboat Attendant for assistance, and we'll gladly carry your gear, luggage and belongings off your houseboat and up to your vehicle for you.

We hope you have a Lake Powell Houseboat Vacation that rewards you with a lifetime of great memories. And we'd love to **see you again next year!**