



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



Ice carvers will create sculptures and demonstrate their techniques.

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Adventures on the Gorge Celebrates Rafting Season with Annual Fire & Ice Festival

FAYETTEVILLE, W. Va., April 7, 2018 - The water will be high, the fire hot and the drinks cold when Southern West Virginia's [Adventures on the Gorge](#) (AOTG) hosts its [Fire & Ice Festival](#) April 21.

The popular festival is an offshoot of the "Icebreaker weekend," which originated some 40 years ago when Rivermen, one of the outfitters which merged to form AOTG, threw its first early-April bash. This year's festival is especially meaningful to the resort's founders as it marks the 10th anniversary of the year they created Adventures on the Gorge, which has been named one of the [top adventure resorts](#) in the country.

The festival begins Saturday, April 21 at 5 p.m. with a pig roast (Chef Jon Stone's 1000th), live music by Emmalea Deal and ice sculptures on display in the AOTG Canyon Rim Courtyard. An ice carving demonstration will take



The finished products will be displayed Saturday night.



A wood tower encased in ice will be set on fire to symbolize the change of seasons.



Spring rafting on the Lower New River features big waves.



The Fire & Ice Package includes accommodations in a cabin or the campground.

place at 6 p.m., and the fire and ice tower will be set ablaze at 8:30 p.m. at the same time Treet begins its live music set. Meanwhile, an “ice luge” will be available for adult beverages in Chetty’s Pub.

Ice sculptures will be created by an all-star lineup including nine-time world champion and ice carving gold medalist Aaron Costic and other award-winning ice sculptors such as Junichi Nakamura, Greg Butauski, Stephan Koch and Jeff Myers.

“Here in southern West Virginia, it is perfectly fitting to celebrate the start of the rafting season and the rough-and-tumble heritage of the region’s whitewater with a good bonfire, the roar of chainsaws, loud music, a well-roasted pig and lots of laughs,” said Dave Arnold, vice president of strategic partnerships, co-founder of the resort. “We’ve all come a long way since we started rafting the New and Gauley Rivers, most of us living in riverside tents and pooling our pennies so we could buy another case of cold ones. The festival prompts memories of the fun we had and reminds us of the fun to come as we launch another season of adventure.”

Arnold founded Class VI, which merged its operations with Rivermen and other outfitters to form Adventures on the Gorge 10 years ago.

AOTG is offering a Fire & Ice Package featuring rafting on the Lower New River, two nights of accommodations, the festival, live music, one breakfast, one lunch and a pig roast dinner.

The Fire & Ice Package includes accommodations Friday and Saturday nights and meals on Saturday. Rates per person range from \$129 in the campground to \$269 for double occupancy in a one-bedroom Outback Cabin. Groups can stay in multi-bedroom cabins as well.

To reserve a package, call 1-855-379-8738.

More about Adventures on the Gorge

In 2017, [Adventures on the Gorge](#) was named one of the top six adventure resorts in the country by [U.S. News & World Report](#). The resort is located on more than 250 acres along the rim of the majestic New River Gorge near Fayetteville, W.Va. and provides an array of outdoor experiences including whitewater rafting on the New and Gauley Rivers; an aerial adventure park, two zip line courses; rock climbing; rappelling; kayaking, stand up paddleboarding, fishing, mountain biking and hiking. There are also restaurants, bars and shops.

Travelers can find out more about Adventures on the Gorge [online](#), by calling 1-855-379-8738, or connecting on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#), [Google+](#), [TripAdvisor](#), [YouTube](#), and [Vimeo](#) and signing up for AOTG [e-newsletter](#).

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