



adventure in nature
for all the family

Rafting

Rafting with Adventure Norway is on the Mandal River starting in Bjelland. The river is grade 2 – 3 which makes it an ideal choice for people wishing to try rafting for the first time. While the river gives us lots of fun and surprises it is an extremely safe river which allows us to take children from 6 years old.

We have experienced and highly trained guides who are annually updated with river rescue and safety courses. The guides make the trip so if you're looking for more adventure and excitement let them know, they have a multitude of games and adventures that you can take part in as we raft down the Mandal river.

Further up river there is a power station so we have the pleasure of guaranteed minimum water levels throughout the summer.

History:

Mandal River, at the turn of the last century, had the best salmon fishing in Norway. It was particularly popular with English gentry who enjoyed long summers and abundant salmon. The river is again returning to its former glory as a Mecca for salmon fishermen with a catch of over 11 tons of salmon in 2006.

The river was for many years a lifeline to the forestry industry in the community. When hand saws were used for felling trees and horses were used to draw the timber out the river was used to float the timber out to the port of Mandal. This method of transport was being used up till the 1950s and we can still see some of the sunken logs during our raft trip.

From the 1950s the only people to experience the beauty of the upper Mandal River were experienced kayakers who had the skills to manoeuvre their kayaks through the rapids. In 2003 Adventure Norway began the first rafting of this beautiful unspoilt river. Each year many people now enjoy the nature, the beauty, the peace and the excitement of rafting the upper Mandal River.



adventure in nature
for all the family

About the trip:

We meet at Adventure Norway rafting centre in Hessa, you will be given a brief about the trip and all your questions answered, this takes about 15mins. We have time to collect our swimming costume, visit the toilet then get wetsuits fitted and change for rafting. Our valuables are secured and we leave our clothes at the changing rooms. We then load the rafts and take our minibus to the start point just north of Bjelland.

We start on a section of flat water where we take time to cover all the safety and prepare everyone for the trip. The raft trip then takes us 6km down the unspoilt Mandal river, away from the bustle of everyday life, at one with nature. We finish back at the raft centre in Hessa, get changed and enjoy reflections of the trip over a coffee or cold drink.

Trip length: Distance 6km. You will be with us for about 3 hours; we are on the water for about 2 hours.

Age limits: Minimum 6 year old.

Season: From early May until late September.

Temperature: In May air temperature can be in the mid 20s but water temperature can be as low as 8, by late June the air temperature is in the 30s and water temperature is around 18.

Equipment: You will be supplied with; wetsuit, windproof jacket, buoyancy aid and helmet
You need to have; swim suit, jogging shoes and towel.
In the spring take woollen socks and long underwear, life. Also warm clothes to put on after the raft trip.

Rafts: Our rafts have a capacity for 7 adults plus the guide.
With children under 12 we require 2 adults.

Booking: We run several trips daily so call to make a booking. Advance booking can be done by e-mail.