

IBC Men's Canoe Trip FAQ 2026:

When is the trip? Where is it and where can I get more area info?

April 24-26 at Sparrowhawk in OK. It's about a 4.5hr drive from DFW. The majority will arrive Friday after 4pm and we plan to leave Sunday before noon. You may arrive and leave when you would like within that time however needed. It's tent camping and Man food all weekend. ;)

Outfitter - Sparrowhawk, North Ben George Road, Tahlequah, OK (rafts/kayaks and our campground)

What do I need to bring?

You need a tent, some sleeping bags, and your personal clothing and personal needs. The group needs like cooking equipment, drinks, and food will be provided. Oatmeal and PBJ are also provided substitutes. Please bring your own supplemental food if you have dietary or food allergy restrictions, beyond the published menu, and those substitutes.

Directions to our campsite area? Transportation?

About a 4.5hr drive, on your own. The Campground is at **Sparrowhawk, North Ben George Road, Tahlequah, OK (4.5hr drive)** <https://goo.gl/maps/Comb3vXJ52jcg5iX7>

There is no group transportation, but we encourage carpooling. Come and go on your schedule.

What are the Costs? What's included?

Trip Cost: **\$90 for Adults and Teenage Boys, and \$60 for Boys 12 years and younger.**

Register at <http://www.irvingbible.org/men> by Friday 5pm 1 week before the trip week. This is so the background checks are all complete. **Boats #s are limited!**

Food, drinks, and a tent campsite are included, as well as a Raft or Kayak.

Who can come? Can I bring the whole family and my dog?

Every man is welcome to join in this Men at IBC tradition. Many men will bring sons and we think that one-on-one time is important if you are bringing your son(s). The only age restriction is set by the outfitter which they have listed as 5yrs old and up. Please keep attendance to these two family members. Single guys are welcome and many come traditionally. Please leave pets at home, as they are not permitted.

What if I want a cabin or I want to stay in an RV I have?

We're providing tent camping spots. You are welcome to plan other lodging, but you need to reserve and pay for these options yourself offsite. We can't have any travel trailers at the campsite because there are few hookups, nor available ground space. There are many good options in the **Tahlequah, OK** area. Contact me if you have questions.

Phone numbers for out there?

Sparrowhawk Outfitter office is (918) 456-8371. Please ask leadership first if you have a trip question.

What accommodations do the campsites have?

The camping area where we will cook and eat has a water and electric drop, but just enough for cooking and a couple lights. Sorry, no trailers allowed in our area. We should have good parking, shade, and level spots for TENTS right on the river. We have two bathrooms, usually showers are available

How will food and meals be done? Do I need to bring anything or help?

Meals and beverages will be provided for Friday Dinner through Sun Breakfast.

Sunday lunch is on your own since most will be on the road. You may want to bring a few snacks or your own food.

HELP: Everyone will be required to HELP out with one meal, so please jump in where you see a need. This will help even out the cooking, cleaning, and preparation load for the group.

What about activities? Where are they at?

We will be floating a scenic fairly calm section of the Illinois River just NE of Tahlequah, OK. This will take most of your Saturday. You have your choice of using a Raft or Kayak. There are other activities you can do in Tahlequah, OK area if you wish but the river floating/camping will probably be enough.

Boat and Trip Choices?

You will choose before leaving for RAFT or KAYAK and an 8mi or 12mi trip, so please decide. Kayaks are SOT 1 or 2 person, Rafts are 3-5 person. Both trips are scenic with no fast rapids type river trips. Inexperienced boys with Dad.

What about this campfire? I hear I have to say something?

We will have a campfire with our Son(s) Saturday night. (just like we do on the Father Daughter trip) This campfire is a time to affirm your love and pride in your son(s) verbally at the campfire for all men to hear. This is a very powerful part of the trip that is encouraged, but your attendance and participation are optional.

If you have more trip questions you can contact leadership here (email preferred):

Erik Monson 817-505-3355 mobile erikmonson@gmail.com Looking forward to seeing you there!

Probable Canoe Trip Itinerary and Menu:

(Outfitter may change for Canoe leave times, and we may change menu so it's TBD)

Fri around 4:30pm Myself and anyone helping arrive at Sparrowhawk at Tahlequah, OK. Unload trailer, setup kitchen and start cooking. Everyone arrives as they can and sets up a personal camp.

Fri 6:30-10pm - Eat as you arrive Dinner (usually chili and hotdogs)

Sat 7:45am - Announcements and Big breakfast (usually Pancakes and Bacon). Busy morning, please be there 10min early and Do NOT sleep in.

8:30am - Everyone makes river lunches with sandwiches, chips, and fruit to eat

9am or TDB - We meet at outfitter office and leave to float the Illinois river

1-4pm - Everyone should be arriving back to camp off the river, play field games and relax.

6:30pm – Huge camp dinner (BBQ Chicken with sides. Extra: crawfish, corn and sausage)

At Dark – The Men's Bonfire To affirm our sons. Desert afterward **Sun**

8am - Another big breakfast (usually breakfast burritos with sausage) **Sun**

8:30am - Praise and Worship followed by a devotional

Sun by 10am - Get camp all cleaned up, packed and loaded up to go back to IBC. Head back to Dallas.

Sun about 2-3pm - Unload group stuff at IBC and get it all put up. Rest! ;)