

ADVENTURE



**First-Year Trips
Custom Programs
Gear Rentals**

We've got lots going on, and we're here to tell you about some of our offerings!

Adventure WV First-Year Trips (FYT) are peer-led, adventure-based experiences that prepare students for life at WVU. Trips offer participants diverse opportunities to meet other first-year students, learn about themselves, and connect with WVU.

FYTs run every week of the summer (including an 'Early Move-in' option), with 3 differing trip models for incoming students to choose from.

FYTs By The Numbers

Since its inaugural program in 2003 with 14 students, FYTs are continuing to grow significantly!

8 Weeks of FYTs over the summer

4-8 FYTs running per week

44 total FYTs: 15 Quest, 15 Explore, 14 Odyssey trips total

15 NSO Basecamp Sessions total in June

300 NSO Basecamp student spots total

800+ FYT student spots

40+ Student staff members

What Our Programs Focus On

Through outdoor adventure challenge, FYTs focus on working with students to...

1. Meet other incoming first-years and develop a foundation of **supportive relationships**
2. Set **goals** and reflect on **values** for college
3. Experience **independence** and **personal responsibility** in a facilitated environment
4. Develop **self-awareness** through challenge and reflection
5. Foster positive **relationships with WVU**
6. Get involved with **leadership, teamwork, service**
7. Experience fun **outdoor** recreational opportunities

More details about FYTs

Despite the variety of choices available to students, all programs are similar at their core. On any FYT, students can expect:

Peer-Led by current WVU students with 300+ hrs of training

Small groups: Groups of 10-20 students with 2-4 trip leaders

Team-building through activities and initiatives

Adventure Activities: backpacking, climbing, rafting, service, etc.

Daily Discussions: Making the Transition, Strategies for Success, Diversity and Inclusion, Healthy Decisions

Positive Community: Students live, travel, cook, play, learn together under the guidance & mentorship of student staff

Cell-Phone Free Environment (Check out our Cell-Phone Letter)

Affordable: \$95 or less (Free for Pell Grant eligible Students)

All First-Year Trips are similar at their core.



All trips are \$95 or less.

All equipment is provided

Earn 1 Fall Credit

No experience necessary

Build strong relationships

Many students say it was their best decision in their first year at WVU.

FYTs are designed for beginners.

No previous experience expected nor required.

A lot of students are “on the fence” about whether trips are “for them.” Check out what some participants say about their trip:

“

All of these new relationships helped me move from high school to college extremely well, because I knew that we would all still hang out with each other when we got to school. I had never clicked so fast with a group of people, and I knew that they would be in my life for the long run, and I am excited to experience this new chapter with my new best friends.

“

Everyone was kind of nervous and uncomfortable when the trip started. But as time went on, we all became friends and got to start our college experience together. This really gave us an advantage for the other students that may have done just regular move-in. It gave us a head start on our new friendships and our college experience.

“

I was at peace, the only person awake in the entire campsite, drinking in the beauty of the world around me. The last few days had been my favorite days of my entire summer, as the people I was surrounded with were constantly smiling, happy and accepting of the person I am. I came into the program terrified of college and exited with my arms around 16 of my new closest friends, ready to tackle whatever came our way.

DIFFERENT OPTIONS FOR ADVENTURE



Quest

Participants on **QUEST** trips have the opportunity to sample an exciting array of adventure activities from a central, basecamp location.



Explore

Participants on **EXPLORE** trips will enjoy a smaller group experience, more time in the great outdoors, and a sense of challenge and accomplishment, while visiting some of the most popular places in West Virginia.



Odyssey

Participants on **ODYSSEY** trips will travel all around the great state of West Virginia, while trying their hand at some of the most outstanding adventure activities the state and surrounding area have to offer.

Find out which option is right for you



Quest

Participants on QUEST trips have the opportunity to sample an exciting array of adventure activities from a central, basecamp location.

Activity Highlights

All Quest participants will engage in rock climbing, challenge course elements, whitewater rafting, and will give back to the local community. Other activities will vary.

Where do you stay?

Basecamp with rustic cabins

Trip Length

5 days



Explore

Participants on EXPLORE trips will enjoy a smaller group experience, more time in the great outdoors, and a sense of challenge and accomplishment, while visiting some of the most popular places in West Virginia.

Activity Highlights

All Explore participants will learn the basics of backpacking while traveling through a pristine area of WV and will trips conclude with whitewater rafting at the New River Gorge.

Where do you stay?

Combination of tent camping & backpacking

Trip Length

6 days



Odyssey

Participants on ODYSSEY trips will travel all around the great state of West Virginia, while trying their hand at some of the most outstanding adventure activities the state and surrounding area have to offer.

Activity Highlights

All Odyssey participants will travel around West Virginia, engage in a variety of aerial adventures, and experience whitewater rafting. Other activities will vary.

Where do you stay?

Combination of tent camping and rustic cabins

Trip Length

6 days



Partnership Trips

Adventure WV partners with several colleges and organizations on campus to provide trips for students in the same college, major, or organization:

- Chambers College (3 trips)
- Statler College (2 trips)
- Honors College (4+ trips)
- Eberly Army ROTC
- LGBTQ+ & Allies (1 trip)
- College of Applied Human Sciences
- Reed College of Media
- Exercise Physiology
- Davis College

Assisting With Transition

Since 1986, research shows increased FY student retention, GPA, and graduation rates from participants in Outdoor Orientation Programs, as compared to non-participating students and even other pre-orientation experiences. Research on the AWWFYTs align with this:

11.4% change in retention rate from those who participated to those who didn't (in-state students) (2013-2016)

8.2% change in retention rate from those who participated to those who didn't (out-of-state students) (2013-2016)

9.9% change in retention rate from those who participated to those who didn't (Low EFC students) (2013-2016)

What They're Saying About Us

FYTs are all about making connections with other students and learning from expert upperclassmen leaders.

Trips come highly recommend by participants.

99%

of participants recommend the program to other incoming WVU students

99%

of participants give their trip a grade of A or B

99%

of students said their trip met or exceeded their expectations

AND... **99.6%** of participant parents would recommend this trip to other parents of incoming students

Summary

We are here to be a part of improving the First Year Experience, assist in students' transition to college, and partner with other areas of WVU for student success.

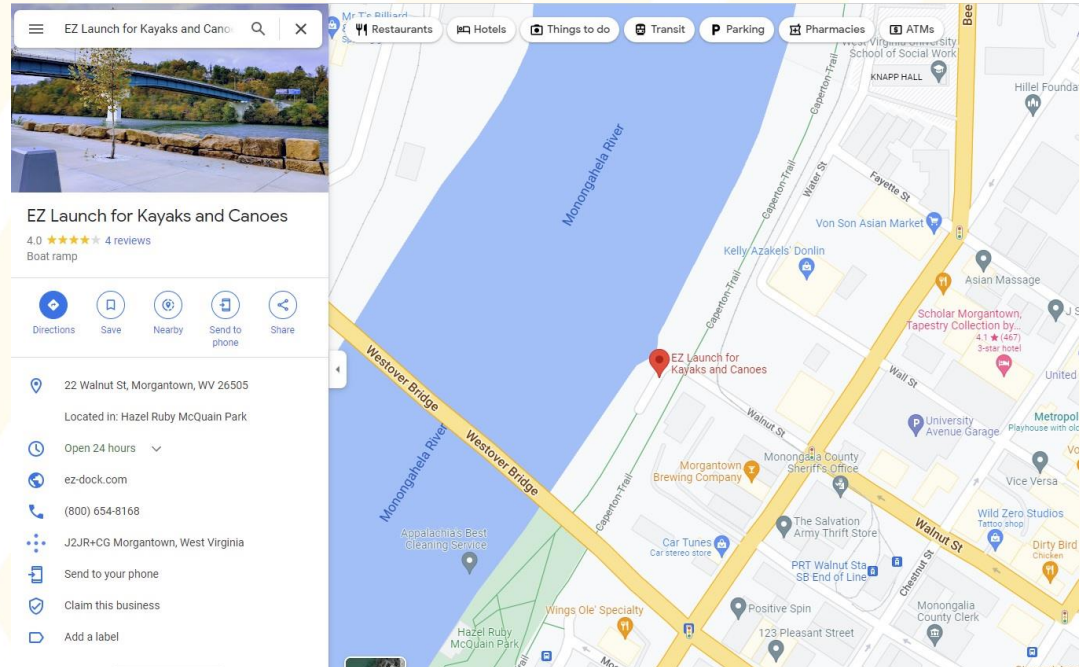
Keep an eye on (and refer students to)
<https://adventurewv.wvu.edu/first-year-trips>

Help us to spread the word as you work with potential and future incoming students to WVU

Registration is now open!

(NSO Basecamp registration opens in March with general NSO registration)

Morgantown Adventure Outfitters



Outdoor Education Center

- Custom Programs
- Leadership and Teambuilding
- Bring Everyone Together



Overnight Programs

- Summer Camps
- Retreats
- Conferences



Zipline Canopy Tour

- Unique to WVU
- Open to Everyone!
- Easy online booking



Questions?