

Environmental Traveling Companions



ADVENTURES TO AWAKEN YOUR SPIRIT

“For 35 Years, an able body was my passport to adventure. My horizons seemed limitless, until multiple sclerosis put me in a wheelchair. My wandering days seemed at an end. Or so I thought. ETC roused me into the outdoors again, with the equipment, staff and experience to adapt to my changing needs. **Imagination. Flexibility. Fellowship.** ETC’s amazing volunteers have brought me back to the campfire circle.”

Mathew Soyster, Participant



Environmental Traveling Companions (ETC)

opens the beauty and challenge of wilderness adventures to everyone, regardless of physical or financial limitations. Every year, over 2,000 people with special needs join ETC to raft whitewater rivers, ski across alpine meadows, sea kayak the waters of the Golden Gate, and sleep beneath the open sky. ETC trips enable participants to access the wilderness, gain environmental awareness, and share in the adventure.

Since 1972, ETC has shared wilderness experiences for disadvantaged youth, and people of all ages who are visually or hearing impaired, physically, or developmentally disabled, and people with life threatening illnesses. For many, it is their first outdoor adventure.

For all, it is one they will never forget!

WHITEWATER RAFTING



Experience the thrill of paddling through exhilarating rapids and the serenity of camping in a beautiful river canyon. ETC's accessible campground on the banks of the South Fork American River provides the perfect setting for an exciting one-day or multi-day whitewater adventure.

South Fork American River

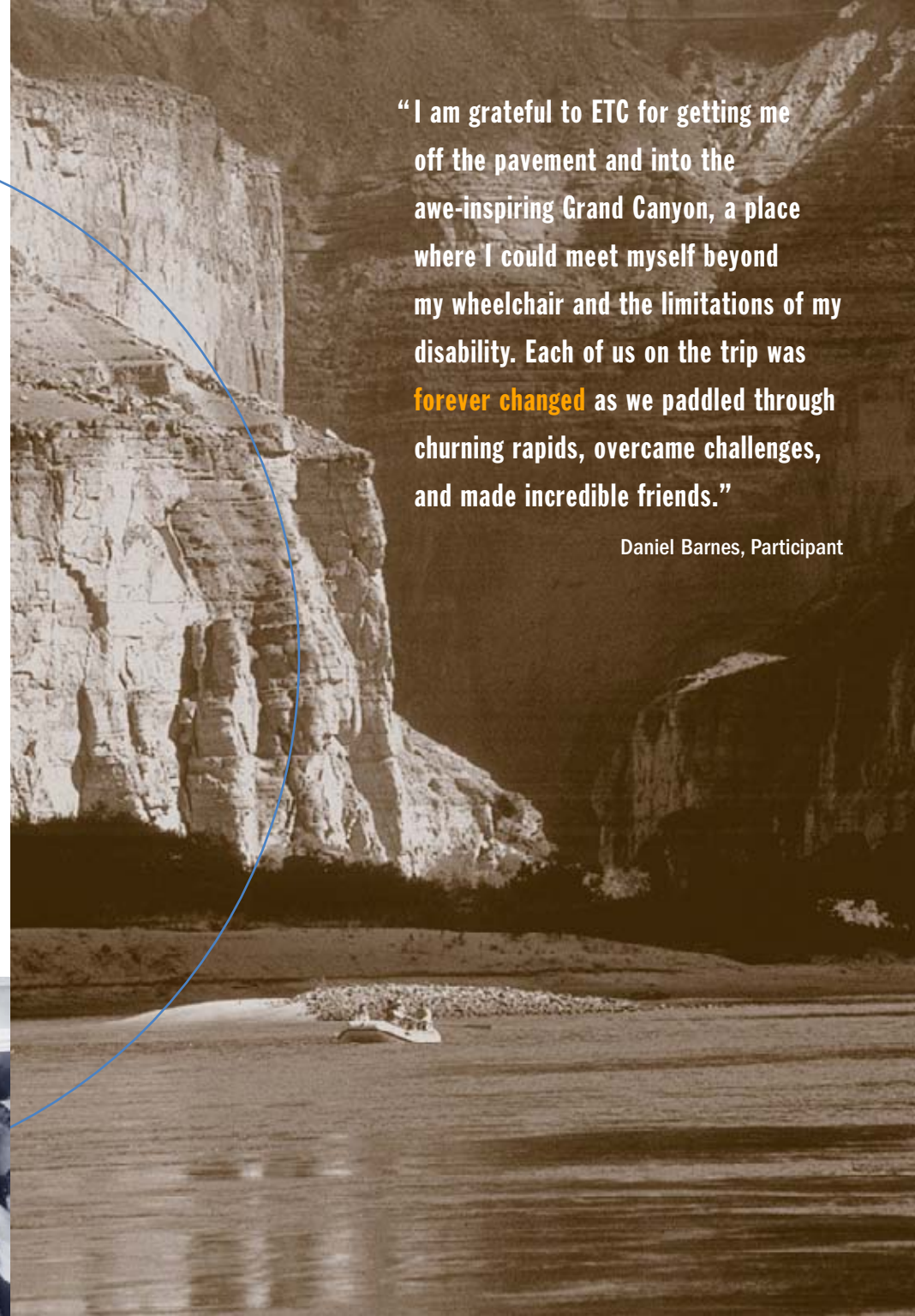
Come raft one of California's most celebrated whitewater runs. The South Fork American River is lively, playful, and offers a blend of calm water and thrilling rapids. In the heart of Gold Rush Country, the river winds through rolling hills and changes abruptly as the canyon narrows, creating the legendary Satan's Cesspool and Troublemaker rapids. The great variety of Class II and III rapids makes the South Fork perfect for both the beginner and the seasoned whitewater veteran.

Other Rivers

For the more adventurous, we also offer extended expeditions on the Klamath, Yampa, Colorado, and other rivers, all chosen for their safety, excitement, and spectacular scenery.

"I am grateful to ETC for getting me off the pavement and into the awe-inspiring Grand Canyon, a place where I could meet myself beyond my wheelchair and the limitations of my disability. Each of us on the trip was **forever changed** as we paddled through churning rapids, overcame challenges, and made incredible friends."

Daniel Barnes, Participant





SEA KAYAKING

Enjoy sea kayaking on beautiful San Francisco Bay and beyond. Paddle stable two-person kayaks, and enjoy the dramatic views of Angel Island, the Golden Gate, and the San Francisco skyline. Discover sea lions, pelicans, and local lore as we glide across the bay. ETC offers both one and multi-day trips customized to meet the needs of your group. No experience is necessary. We encourage people of all abilities to participate.

Angel Island Overnights

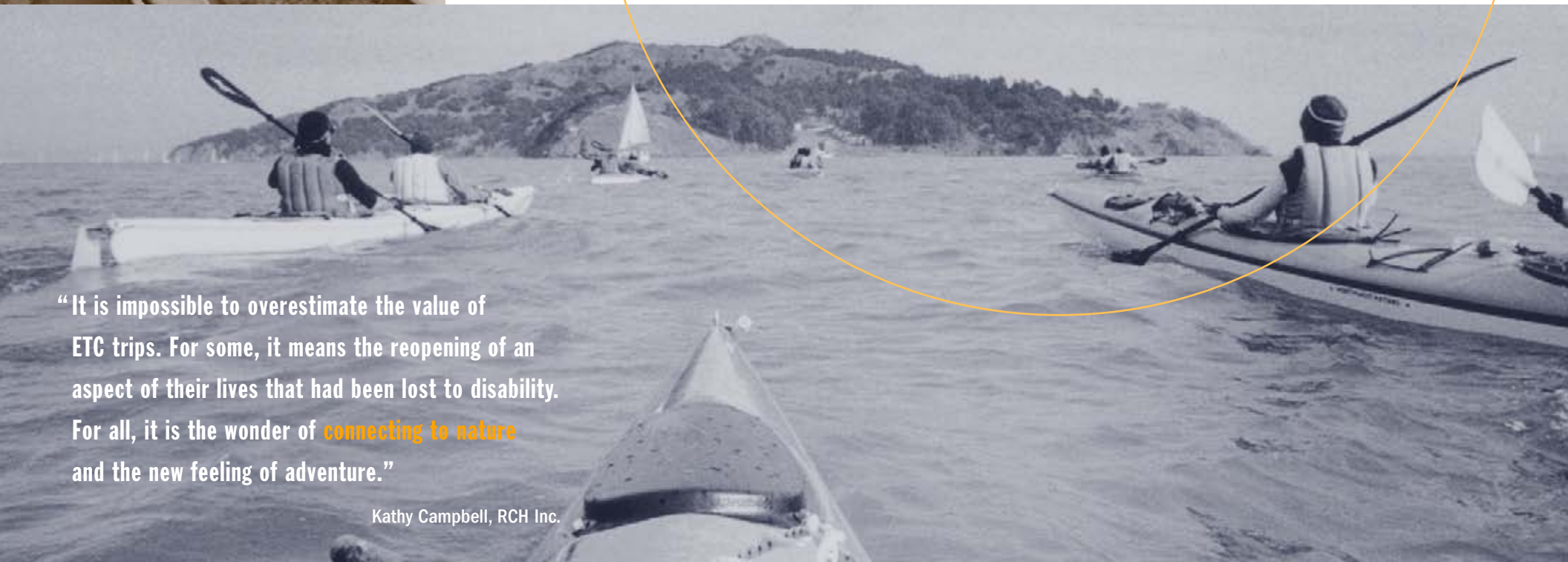
Angel Island, the “jewel of the bay” is our favorite overnight destination. After paddling across Raccoon Strait, we spend the night in a beautiful and accessible Victorian house restored to its Civil War era splendor. Join us for two or more days on the island and experience the amazing views, tranquil nights, and the island’s rich natural and human history.

Tomales Bay

Pristine waters and abundant wildlife make this a true wilderness paddling adventure bordering Point Reyes National Seashore.

“It is impossible to overestimate the value of ETC trips. For some, it means the reopening of an aspect of their lives that had been lost to disability. For all, it is the wonder of **connecting to nature** and the new feeling of adventure.”

Kathy Campbell, RCH Inc.



CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING



Thick blankets of snow turn the Sierra into a playground for your group each winter. Whether cross-country skiing, playing in the snow, exploring the giant sequoias, or just sipping on hot cocoa in our cozy cabin, your winter adventure will be filled with plenty of laughter and fun!

Bear Valley Nordic

We ski on groomed trails at Bear Valley Cross-Country Ski Resort, which offers all levels of challenge. ETC's cabin is located in Arnold, California, just down the hill from Bear Valley.



Become an Outdoor Leader

Challenge yourself as we follow a watershed sea kayaking, whitewater rafting, and backpacking. ETC offers unique 2-4 week Youth Leadership Schools for teens, ages 14-18. Students learn about watershed ecology, food production, and environmental issues. We provide opportunities for graduates to put their skills into action and give back to their community by volunteering as assistant leaders on ETC trips. Students of all abilities and backgrounds are encouraged to apply. Sliding-scale scholarships available.



“Over 90% of our corp members that participated in the ETC ski trip have never seen snow. I believe that our adventures with ETC are keystones for personal growth and for showing young people **new possibilities** for their future, outside of the often oppressive inner city. Thank you and we'll see you next year on the slopes.”

Chris Pederson, East Bay Conservation Corp



YOUTH LEADERSHIP SCHOOLS



Fundraising Benefit Trips

Share the adventure!

Join us for a full moon sea paddle, a whitewater rafting trip, or a longer expedition benefiting ETC's scholarship fund for disabled and disadvantaged adventurers. ETC benefit trips are a perfect way to add a little spice to birthdays, anniversaries, and other special occasions. Sign up for a pre-scheduled date, or create a trip of your own with 10 or more.

Whitewater Rafting

American River The South Fork American River provides an exciting introduction to rafting for first-timers and a lively Class III challenge for whitewater veterans. ETC adds excellent guides, great food, and a stunning river camp to make the South Fork an exceptional rafting adventure for friends, families, and companies.

Longer Trips For the more adventurous, ETC offers spectacular trips down the Colorado, Yampa, and other rivers.

Sea Kayaking

Moonlight Paddles Paddle from our base in Sausalito to Sam's Anchor Cafe in Tiburon, where a delicious dinner awaits. Journey back under the full moon, pausing for an illuminating perspective of the San Francisco skyline.

Baja Kayak the crystalline waters of Baja, and explore one of the world's richest seas. Paddling and camping along the Sea of Cortez shores gives us opportunities to explore white sandy beaches, snorkel among friendly sea lions, and feast on great Mexican cuisine.



Volunteer

Our diverse and dedicated volunteers are the heart and soul of Environmental Traveling Companions. They are highly trained in wilderness skills, first aid, disability awareness, and environmental education. Every volunteer brings their own special talents and enthusiasm to the adventure. That's why so many groups return year after year!

Donate

Your generous donation will play a vital role in making ETC's programs possible for hundreds of disabled and disadvantaged participants. Help us make life-changing adventures come true:

Become a donor and receive ETC's newsletter and invitations to special trips and events.

Ask your employer to match your gift or sponsor an ETC program or benefit trip.

Make an "in-kind" contribution. Our wish list includes outdoor gear, office equipment, vehicles, etc.

Remember ETC in your will, retirement or other estate plans.

Call for more information: (415) 474-7662.

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Contact us for details. ETC is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. All contributions are tax deductible.

YES! I AM INTERESTED IN ENVIRONMENTAL TRAVELING COMPANIONS

Send me more information about ETC's programs:

- WHITewater RAFTING
- SEA KAYAKING
- CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING
- YOUTH LEADERSHIP SCHOOLS
- BENEFIT TRIPS

I am interested in becoming an ETC volunteer for:

- WHITewater RAFTING
- SEA KAYAKING
- CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING
- YOUTH LEADERSHIP SCHOOLS
- OTHER SKILLS _____

I am enclosing a contribution of: \$30 \$50 \$100 \$250 \$500 \$1,000 Other \$ _____

Name _____

Organization _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Fax _____

E-mail _____

Credit card # _____ Exp. date _____

Signature _____



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Environmental Traveling Companions
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San Francisco, CA 94123

ETC is an equal opportunity service provider.



etc

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“The wilderness of the mountains,
rivers, and seas awakens in us a
new sense of **freedom**. We’re free
to explore our own limits and that
sense of proud fulfillment is much
more powerful than the sense
of disability.”

Jim Noyes, paraplegic sea kayak guide

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

JOIN THE ETC FAMILY FOR AN ADVENTURE OF A LIFETIME !



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