

Diamond Down Logistics
Diamond Creek Mile 226 to Pearce Ferry ramp mile 279

Going below Diamond Creek is a strong consideration for any river trip. The information below is for you & your group if you decide to utilize the Pearce Ferry take-out.

There are about six rapids between 226 & 237 mile rapid. Excellent side canyon hikes & it is still the Grand Canyon all the way to Grand Wash Cliffs at 277 mile.

Lake Mead officially starts at 240 mile so you'll have about 37 miles of lake to traverse. However, there is great current all the way to the take-out.

How long will it take you? This information is approximate, but you can easily go by our calculations.

10,000 cfs or lower: You can float at 3 mph

15,000 cfs: You can float at 4 to 5 mph

20,000 cfs: You can float at 6 to 7 mph

If your group floats or rows with the boats separate & you do not raft up, times can be slightly faster. If you do a group float & all raft up together, your times might be a bit slower.

Camps ♦ Hikes ♦ Helpful Ideas

RM: 226.2 R - Truck Seat – Excellent camp right below Diamond Creek. Enter rapid at DC & row strongly to R.R.. You can see the camp from the top of the rapid.

RM: 229.3 L – Travertine Canyon/Grotto – Nice short hike to waterfall. Is possible to hike above the waterfall if you hike up the left side when looking into the canyon. Hualapai River Runners stop here between 10-11 am from March through October. Can be busy at this time of day.

RM: 230.5 L – Travertine Falls – Nice camp. Tight pull-in – Hug river left for quick pull in. Spectacular 80' waterfall.

RM: 231 Rapid – At low water this is a significant rapid. Hard one to scout.

RM: 232 – The Fangs – Scout on R.R. – Low water runs are tricky – Higher flows are pretty straight forward.

RM: 234 – Fun rapid.

RM: 235.3 L – Bridge Canyon/Rapid – Nice camp, nice hike to spring.

RM: 236.1 R – Gneiss Canyon – Last rapid of the Canyon as of 12/11. Small camp.

RM: 238.7 L – Bridge City Camp – Nice big camp with all kinds of relics & evidence left from the Bridge Canyon Dam Site Project. Hike here available up to the Tapeats Platform.

RM: 240 R – Separation Camp – Nice camp. Hike with plaque on the wall here to commemorate the lost Powell's Men from 1869.

RM: 242 R – 242 Canyon & Camp – Hike is awesome through the Schist & Tapeats Narrows. Camp is marginal at high water.

RM: 243 R – Camp is great.

RM: 246.2 L – Spencer Canyon – Hualapai River Runners use this as a lunch spot. There is a composting toilet there, and the canyon has year-round water & is a nice hike.

RM: 249 R – Surprise Canyon, Big Beach – Most likely it is two camps. Nice hike – Redwall Narrows are a ways up, but well worth it if you have the time.

RM: 250 R – Tomahawk – Nice camp – improved 2/11.

RM: 253 R – Small camp, but works if necessary.

RM 260 L – Quartermaster – A narrow trail accesses this beach from behind the tammies. This is 'el centro' helicopter zone – From sunrise to sunset – Beware.

RM: 264 R – Dry Canyon – improved 2/11 – Nice multi-level camp. Still in the helicopter zone.

RM: 265 – Sand Bar Island – In the middle of the river. You can see the Sky Walk here on river left. Might be submerged above 22,000 cfs.

RM: 269.4 R – improved 2/11 – Look closely for this one. It is there.

RM: 273.5 L – Nice camp – improved 2/11.

RM: 275 L – Columbine Falls – No camp. Nice short hike - Trail & access is there but you can miss it easily!

RM: 278 L & 278.5 L – Several nice camps here. The last ones before Pearce Ferry take-out

RM 279 – Pearce Ferry Take Out.

Helpful tips if you raft-up and float Lake Mead to Pearce Ferry Take-Out

Night floating & rafting up to traverse Lake Mead is becoming more & more popular due to the steady current on the lake as well as the expensive Hualapai fees.

When rafting-up always rig the boats together with 2 cam straps going to the corners of the frames. D-rings will not handle the potential stress so always go frame-to-frame. The two oars on the outside of your barge are great for maneuvering. It is required by the Park Service to have a white light shining 360° during all darkness hours. A headlamp is good, but a chemical stick is best. Ceiba can easily supply these.

Be careful on the boats at night! If you do fall in, scream loudly to let your rescuers/helpers know you could use some assistance. You should always have 2 people awake, alert & being the night watchmen. When you get close to the take-out always separate the boats and pull in individually. Do not try to pull the whole barge in together. Bad idea, do not try it!

Feel free to contact Ceiba with any questions: 1-800-217-1060 or ceiba@ceibaadventures.com