

ASHLEY GORGE VIA FERRATA COMMERCIAL GUIDING AGREEMENT AND PERMIT

This GUIDING AGREEMENT AND PERMIT (the "Permit") is made on _____

by and between Uintah County, a political subdivision of the State of Utah (hereinafter the "Concessionaire"), with its principal place of business at 152 E 100 N, Vernal, UT, and _____, applying as an independent contractor ("Contractor").

RECITALS

WHEREAS, the Concessionaire has constructed and manages the Ashley Gorge Via Ferrata and has authority to permit guiding and instruction services for the public within the Ashley Gorge recreation corridor (the "Ashley Gorge") directly and through independent contractors;

WHEREAS, the Contractor is engaged in the business of providing professional guiding in via ferrata, hiking, and general mountain travel skills to the public;

WHEREAS, the Contractor has applied to the Concessionaire for permission to provide via ferrata guide services to the public in the Ashley Gorge and represents that it has the necessary tools, equipment, facilities and expertise to safely perform the services contracted herein;

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual promises, covenants, and conditions contained herein, the parties hereto agree as follows:

1. **Services.** Contractor shall be awarded user days in which to conduct commercial guiding activities in the Ashley Gorge during the 2025 via ferrata climbing season. The 2025 via ferrata "season" is defined as approximately March 1, 2025 to November 31, 2025. Exact opening and closing dates will be determined by Uintah County and communicated accordingly.
2. Contractor has paid to Concessionaire the required application fee.
3. Contractor has and will maintain an active business license within the State of Utah.
4. **Guide Training and Qualifications.** It is the responsibility of the guiding company to ensure that all guides operating under this Permit are professionally trained and competent to conduct safe and educational guided experiences on the Ashley Gorge Via Ferrata. While AMGA certifications such as the Single Pitch Instructor (SPI) are encouraged, they are not required. Guiding companies must maintain a training log and provide a summary of staff credentials upon request.
5. **Emergency Response Protocol.** All guiding companies must submit a detailed Emergency Response Protocol prior to initiating operations. This plan must include:
 - Communication protocols (radio/cell/spot)
 - Evacuation routes
 - Coordination points with local EMS
 - Staff roles and responsibilities in the event of an emergency
6. **Insurance.** Contractor shall provide insurance coverage meeting the following minimums:
 - \$1,000,000 per occurrence for general liability
 - \$2,000,000 aggregate
 - Uintah County named as additional insured
 - Proof of insurance and endorsement must be submitted prior to operations

