



Montana Orientation Expedition

The Experience:

Get out and adventure! This Orientation Expedition will provide the opportunity for exploration and investigation while canoeing the path of Lewis & Clark's voyage on the Upper Missouri River in Montana. This strength-based, fun, dynamic, natural and unique programming will use the powers of the environment as a catalyst and stage for Middlebridge students to focus on commanding their life's journey. The historic and scenic Upper Missouri River Breaks National Monument provides the powerful and extraordinary environment for appropriate challenges. During expedition travel, students will face challenges just as in daily life. Students will be met with high-spirited and dynamic challenges that will require them to work collectively to problem-solve, take initiative, create vision, and develop leadership skills. Participants will also develop expedition based skills such as camp craft, canoe skills, navigation, and a sense of place. Our experiences are led by a knowledgeable and highly-skilled group of professional guides. Course Objectives for this experience are:

Community Building:

Expedition Mentality, Activities, Initiatives, Exercises, Group Journal.

Leadership:

Roles and Responsibilities, Communication, Decision-Making, Goal-Setting.

Technical Skills:

Paddles Skills, Camp Craft, River Hydrology.

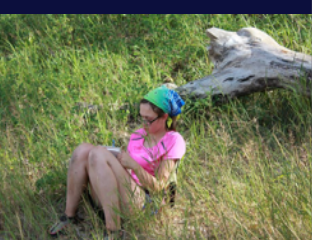
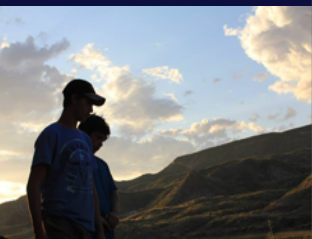
The Leadership

In conjunction with veteran Middlebridge School staff, Breakwater Expeditions will be directing this expedition. We are a team of highly-skilled outdoor professionals with years of experience in developing and leading adventure programs and expeditions for young adults, teens and families.

Our staff: Veteran MBS staff member **Heidi Bruening** will travel with our students and work with Breakwater Staff for the entirety of our Montana summer adventure. She will be joined by **2 additional Middlebridge** staff members.



Zach Burns, Lead Guide and Program Facilitator for Breakwater Expeditions, has over 15 years of experience designing and delivering diverse adventure-based and experiential programming with youth and adults nationally and internationally. He's a passionate educator and facilitator, dedicated to delivering engaging programming to maximize the clients experience and growth through an accelerated learning process. When Zach isn't working, he can be found with friends and family exploring "the playground that awaits" along the Northshore of Lake Superior.





The Destination

Our journey will begin with students and staff flying into Missoula, Montana. Upon our arrival in Missoula, we will shuttle to the majestic waterway of the **Upper Missouri River**, where we will follow in the footsteps of the 1805 expedition of Lewis and Clark. This flat-water float features cottonwood trees, sandstone cliffs rising vertically from the water, and natural rock sculptures. Along the way, we hope to see big horn sheep, antelopes, and various birds of prey. We will then head to the mighty **Clark Fork River**, outside Missoula, MT, where participants will spend one day river boarding and the next day whitewater rafting. We will finish off back in Missoula, MT, before flying home.

FAQ's

- **Dates:** June 25th-July 8th, 2016 (Orientation Weekend at Middlebridge is June 25-26th, Leadership Reflection Days at Middlebridge are July 7-8th)
- **Trip Cost Per Person:** \$7,500
- **Reservation Deposit:** \$1,000 per student, due with contract
- **Cost Includes:** Flights, lodging, ground transport, expedition expense, tents, sleeping bags, gear
- **Participants:** 15-18 Middlebridge Students
- **Guides:** Breakwater Expedition's qualified guides will provide a safe, fun, and meaningful adventure. Veteran Middlebridge School staff will also attend the trip.
- **Climate:** June/July Montana Temperatures (55 - 95 degrees)
- **Tents:** We sleep in 2-3 person high quality tents.
- **Canoes:** We paddle sturdy expedition Royalex canoes, 17-21 ft.
- **Clothing:** See Packing List.
- **Gear:** We will provide sleeping bags and all necessary camping and paddling gear for students.
- **Cuisine:** Healthy fresh food, vegetables, fruits, nuts, grains and meats. We accommodate special dietary needs.

Join us on this amazing leadership expedition!

Please contact Shannon Leventhal; sleventhal@middlebridgeschool.org, or 401-788-0800

Question for the Guides? Email Shannon Leventhal, or:

Contact: Lars Hall (Breakwater Expeditions)

Call us: 208-263-0277

Email us: info@breakwaterexp.com

Web: www.breakwaterexpeditions.com



Montana Orientation Expedition Itinerary:

June 25-26: Arrive at Middlebridge School for summer registration. Students will spend the weekend planning and preparing for the trip with Middlebridge staff.

June 27th: Fly into Missoula, MT

Participants will fly from Providence to Missoula and stay the night in Missoula, MT.

June 28th: Shuttle to the Upper Missouri River

We will drive to Great Falls, MT. While in Great Falls, we will stop by the Lewis and Clark Interpretive Museum and then shuttle to Coal Banks Landing on the river's edge and set up camp. We will host a Canoe class, finalize trip preparation, and camp along the river.

June 29-July 3rd: Canoeing the Upper Missouri River!

Over the course of the next few days, we will paddle 48 miles of river, see big horn sheep, river otters and beavers, and hopefully much more of local wildlife. We will swim, hike the slot canyons, and explore the area.

July 3rd: Shuttle to Alberton Ranch, MT

We will get off the river and travel to Alberton Ranch on the Clark Fork River, where we will resupply, clean gear and shower. We will camp at Alberton Ranch.

July 4th: River Boarding on the Clark Fork River and Fireworks in Missoula!

Water fun on the Clark Fork River will take place in the morning and then we will head to Missoula to gaze at the 4th of July Fireworks.

July 5th: Whitewater Rafting

The morning will be spent whitewater rafting on the Clark Fork River, and then we will shuttle back to Missoula and have a final meal together.

July 6th: Fly back to School, Missoula to Providence.

July 7th-8th: Debrief and reflect on an amazing trip. Create an educational presentation to share with students returning in the fall, as well as a personal reflection journal to capture the essence of the adventure experience. Enjoy hot showers and laundry trips to clean clothes/gear. Middlebridge will host an off campus summer banquet the evening of July 7th, before all students depart on the 8th