

# Frequently Asked Questions about Wilderness Welcome

Why should I go on Wilderness Welcome?

The Wilderness Welcome program provides students with a smooth transition into college life while creating unique, lasting relationships with peers. Students are able to create a large network of friends while exploring the amazing Southwest.

Do I need any experience?

Experience in the outdoors is not required. We do ask that participants come ready for adventure with enthusiasm to participate, meet new people, and challenge themselves physically and mentally along the way.

Does the Wilderness Welcome count as my overall Orientation?

Although the Wilderness Welcome does act as a gateway into the NAU community, it does not cover topics on class scheduling and academic questions that the New Student Programs Orientation covers. NAU Outdoors highly recommends that students attending the Wilderness Welcome also attend an Orientation session on campus. To set up an Orientation date or to find out more information, contact New Student Programs at 928-523-0632.

What is included in the cost?

The fee for each trip covers transportation (from NAU), food, trip leaders and guides, group cooking gear, activity and outfitter fees, campground fees, National Park fees, and permit fees. You will be responsible for your own personal gear as well as a tent, sleeping bag, sleeping pad, and backpack. These items, as well as other outdoor gear, are available for rental at the NAU Outdoors rental window in the recreation center.

What do I pack my clothing in for the River Trip?

Good Question. The river trip is the only “experience” that does not require a backpack. Students may bring their personal gear to NAU in a duffel bag, trash bag, or backpack, but will ultimately transfer their gear into a river dry bag. The dry bag is about the size of a 4,000 cubic foot backpack, but will keep gear dry while on the water. We ask that students bring a large trash bag to line the dry bag for added protection.

How can my son/ daughter get to Flagstaff from Phoenix?

Your son or daughter can get to Flagstaff from Phoenix via the “Friendly Shuttle”. It cost students \$35 and runs a few times a day. For more info, go to: [www.afriendlyshuttle.com/](http://www.afriendlyshuttle.com/) This website will provide you with the information you need to book a shuttle to Flag.

What about storage? When can my son/daughter move into the dorm? Will they have help moving?

This is a very popular question. As parents, you have two options:

1. You can bring your child’s belongings with you on the first day of the program and place it into storage (we provide storage tanks right here on campus where your son/daughter’s belongings will be very secure and accessible)

**OR**

2. You can bring your child the first day with everything he/she needs for the trip, and then bring his/her belongings with you at the conclusion of the program. This will obviously only work if you plan on moving your son/daughter into their dorm at the conclusion of the program.

If you have any additional questions about storage, transportation, or other program details, please call Matt Hartman at (928) 523-2732.