

## Eric Hertz's Biography

Eric Hertz has been river guiding for over 30 years. He has run hundreds of rivers covering tens of thousands of miles and has organized and run trips on nearly every continent. Eric began guiding at the age of 16 on Idaho's Middle Fork of the Salmon. When he was 18 he began guiding on the Colorado River through the Grand Canyon which he did for 5 seasons. He has been featured numerous times on television including National Geographic Adventure, P.B.S., Discovery and E.S.P.N. . He has also been featured in magazines and adventure books including: National Geographic (yellow), Outside, Conde Naste Traveler, American Way (American Airlines), Men's Journal, the Big Book of Adventure Travel and Travels Along the Edge:

*"If one canyon contained the best rapids from North America's classic rivers, it would not equal Chile's Futaleufu," says Hertz. And he should know. His company, Earth River Expeditions, pioneered the Futaleufu, making the first commercial raft trips in the winter of 1991 and has since established itself as one of the premier rafting companies in the world. It runs rafting expeditions on the world's wildest rivers, from the Primrose in the Yukon to the world's deepest canyon of the Colca in Peru to China's Great Bend of the Yangtze."*

*—American Airlines Magazine, February, 2001*

Eric has pioneered commercial rafting on more classic rivers in the past 15 years including: Patagonia Chile's class 5 Futaleufu which many consider to be the greatest whitewater river in the world, Peru's class 5 Colca Canyon through the deepest walled canyon on earth, China's 2 mile deep class 5 Great Bend of the Yangtze, Tibet's culturally exotic Upper Yangtze, Tibet's class 5 Poe Tsang Po, British Columbia's Headwall Canyon, Quebec's Magpie and the Yukon's Primrose. He has also organized and led numerous exploratories and first descents:

*"I've rafted with Eric down some tough rivers—the Futaleufu in Chile, the Colca in Peru. He's one of the best in the business—obsessed with safety. Coming to China*

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*was his idea. First thing tomorrow morning we plan to set out for the Shuiluo (scway-lo), a wild tributary of the Yangtze, or Jinsha, River whose 150-mile-length, locals say, has never been run before. Paralleling the border of Tibet and Burma, the Shuiluo carves a deep gorge through a series of 16,000-foot mountains. The few hundred ethnic Tibetans who live nearby hunt wild goats and sheep, grow wheat, and pan the river for flakes of gold. He founded Earth River Expeditions in 1990."*


***— Jon Bowermaster, National Geographic Magazine, November 1996***

In 1989, Eric founded Earth River Expeditions. The company's first two destinations were Quebec's Magpie and Patagonia, Chile's Futaleufu:

*"Earth River Expeditions are the premier River runners of the world. Their staff includes many of the finest guides to be found. From the Colca River in Peru which runs through the deepest walled canyon on earth to the powerful Great Bend of the Yangtze that dumps off the Tibetan Plateau they have organized and guided descents down some of the toughest whitewater on the planet."*

***—ESPN Television***

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