

The Silver Expedition is a 3 day journey to campsites more remote than those explored in the Bronze expeditions. The Silver Journey also explores a new mode of travel to widen the skills for all participants and allows different areas of the Colo Valley to be opened up for exploration.

A Pack and Paddle journey, the Silver expedition involves both hiking and a canoeing leg. The Canoeing leg permits for a new mode of travel to be introduced as a new challenge and allows for the flexibility of doing a hike, canoe journey or combination during the Gold Expedition. The expedition is about learning new skills and refreshing the knowledge gained during the Bronze courses. The journey by canoe also allows for students to cover new areas of the Colo Valley and Wollemi National Park not yet explored during the Bronze expeditions.



Getting Started

The Group Leader plays more of a supervisory role on the Silver expedition. They will accompany the group for the entirety of the expedition and assist when it is required. The Group Leader's more passive role allows for the students to experience a greater sense of self sufficiency and insists on them having a stronger role within the group to ensure its success. Each student is expected to contribute appropriately. It is often found that each individual will discover strengths and weaknesses that the group can share and benefit from or offer encouragement to help overcome.



The Canoe



The students will have a briefing about safety on the River including; information about what to do if the canoe capsizes; how to wear a PFD correctly; the different strokes used when canoeing etc

The canoeing leg is conducted on the Colo River, one of the cleanest rivers in NSW. Students enjoy paddling in a group and exploring the beautiful landscape. This is a particularly enjoyable activity during the summer months when there is a chance to go swimming during and at the completion of the canoeing journey.

The Hike

The hiking part of the expedition also covers new areas of the Valley. The challenge of the hike explores more difficult terrain, with both tracked and untracked areas covered, and gives students a greater sense of achievement once completed. Students learn to work as a team and assist each other. The campsites visited are more remote than those visited at the Bronze level. Campsites will have less facilities and you may have to dig a hole for toileting.



On the final day, students pack up their campsite and head out onto the last leg of their hike. All students end up back at Somerset Base at the end of their expedition to clean / dry any gear used for the expedition, pack up all equipment neatly and **debrief**.