

IW Adventures Participant Guidelines

Purpose

IW Adventures fosters camaraderie, connection, and mental health support for veterans through travel and adventure. While we embrace irreverence and the unique culture of our veteran community, our mission comes first, and our collective behavior directly impacts its success.

Scope

These guidelines apply to all IW Adventures participants, volunteers, and leaders. Violations may result in removal from events, loss of leadership roles, or restrictions from future participation.

Respecting Local Customs, Laws & Regulations

IW Adventures takes veterans around the world, and with that comes the responsibility to respect the laws, customs, and cultural norms of each destination.

- Follow all local laws and regulations. Ignorance of the law is not an excuse. Participants must comply with all legal requirements of the country, state, or city they are visiting.
- Respect cultural traditions and expectations. Some locations may have different views on attire, behavior, alcohol consumption, and public interactions. Be mindful and respectful to avoid unintentional offense.
- Understand travel restrictions and safety concerns. If a destination has specific rules or advisories, they must be followed to ensure a safe and smooth experience for all.

Failure to respect local customs or laws not only jeopardizes individual participants but also damages IW's reputation and mission.

Community Conduct

We rely on the support of local communities, businesses, and organizations to host our events. Their continued trust is essential, and we must represent the veteran community in a positive light.

- We are guests wherever we go. Treat local residents, businesses, and officials with courtesy.
- Follow local directives. Adhering to local rules ensures we maintain good relationships and can continue hosting future events.
- Be an ambassador for the IW mission. Our actions should reflect positively on our community and purpose.

Behavior & Inclusivity

IW Adventures is dedicated to providing a safe, welcoming environment for all veterans and their families. Disruptive or harmful behavior will not be tolerated, including but not limited to:

- Harassment, bullying, or intimidation. This includes verbal abuse, discrimination, or unwanted advances. No means no.
- Hate speech or inflammatory content. This includes religious, political, racial, or divisive messaging on clothing, flags, banners, or other visible materials.
- Sexual misconduct. Unsolicited sexual advances, harassment, or assault will result in immediate removal and potential legal consequences.

Our organization supports veterans of all backgrounds. Discrimination of any kind—based on race, ethnicity, gender, orientation, disability, or any other factor—will not be tolerated.

Clothing & Decency

IW Adventures encourages self-expression, but all attire must be appropriate for public settings and respectful of fellow participants.

- Cover the essentials. Genitals, buttocks, and breasts (for females) must remain covered at all times.
- No offensive material. Clothing must not contain profanity, hate speech, sexually explicit content, or anything that could be deemed inappropriate by the public.
- Respect local norms. Dress appropriately based on location and cultural expectations.

Alcohol & Drug Use

Drink responsibly. IW Adventures events are not bar crawls. Alcohol may be present at some events, but:

- Public intoxication, underage drinking, and providing alcohol to minors are strictly prohibited.
- Bringing outside alcohol into establishments or consuming alcohol in unauthorized locations is illegal and not tolerated.
- Look out for your fellow veterans. Help each other make smart choices and respect those who choose not to drink.

IW participants are subject to all local, state, and federal laws regarding drug use. Anyone caught using or distributing illegal substances will be removed. If in a location where marijuana is legal, please step away from the event before partaking out of respect for those who may be subject to drug testing or other restrictions.

Social Media & Public Image

IW Adventures relies on social media to promote our mission and connect with veterans. Our online presence should reflect the same professionalism, inclusivity, and mission focus as our in-person events.

Prohibited content on IW Adventures platforms:

- Nudity or explicit imagery
- Political content or fundraising not affiliated with IW
- Harassment, negativity, or slander toward individuals or organizations
- Unauthorized marketing or sales

We use dark humor and irreverence to connect, but strong leadership is required to ensure our image remains professional, mission-driven, and inclusive.

Consequences of Violating These Guidelines

Violations of these guidelines will be addressed in accordance with IW's Incident Response Policy and may result in immediate removal from events, loss of leadership roles, and/or restrictions from future participation.

Our mission depends on our actions—let's make sure they align with the purpose of bringing veterans together through adventure and camaraderie to improve mental health and prevent veteran suicide.