

SINGLE PITCH INSTRUCTOR & VIA FERRATA INSTRUCTOR

Position

Both a single pitch climbing/rappelling instructor and a Via Ferrata climbing instructor in the Red River Gorge, Kentucky

What is a Via Ferrata?

Via Ferrata is an outdoor style of climbing in which the climber is secured to a cable system while traversing a cliff face with the aid of iron hand and foot rungs.

Employment Information

This position is LOCATED IN CAMPTON KY. Although the hours will fluctuate between 32-45 hours over 3-5 days per week including weekends, one can expect about 40 hours and 4 days. This position is also seasonal (March 1st through December 1st). Although the position is seasonal, we love employing developing professionals who desire to grow in and with the company throughout multiple seasons.

About Southeast Mountain Guides

Our mission is to help people who want to experience rock climbing or become rock climbers. At Southeast Mountain Guides (or "Southeast"), we believe in connecting authentically with people; therefore our crew is made up of professional, servant leaders who are hardworking team players.

We offer **Via Ferrata** (cabled climbing system), **Guided Rock Climbing**, and **Guided Rappelling** services in the Red River Gorge, Kentucky; a world-class destination for both rock climbing and hiking.

Position Description

What is so great about this position is that there is a multitude of variety but it is all about rock climbing. That makes this position great for individuals that are passionate about introducing others to climbing; and therefore passionate about not only climbing but also the outdoors; and of course, passionate about people. In a normal work week you might be the instrumental person that gets a climbing partnership safely and progressively climbing on their own, but the next day you may be the lifeguard as the Boy Scout Troop experiences their first introduction into rock climbing on our cabled climbing course. This position may be the right fit for you if you are truly desiring to be a part of a client's climbing journeys as you connect authentically with each person, all the while living and working in the Red River Gorge, Ky!

Position Responsibilities

As a Single Pitch Instructor

- Lead rappelling trips in the Red River Gorge, KY
- Lead single pitch climbing trips on sport and traditional climbing routes in the Red River Gorge, KY; the Breaks Interstate Park, VA; and Jackson Falls, IL
- Work with all client profiles including *beginners*, such as families & kids seeking a fun day experience; *moderately experienced*, such as adults seeking gym to crag instruction; *advanced*, including youth from competition teams seeking route selection & beta or the traveling business person looking for a trustworthy belay partner.
- Check clients in and run a basic point of sale system
- Maintain all Southeast guided climbing and rappelling equipment

- Regularly meet with Southeast leader(s) & other instructors for continuing guide development

As a Via Ferrata Instructor

- Facilitate 45-minute hands-on Via Ferrata orientations to clients
- Supervise clients as they climb the Via Ferrata course and provide correction as needed
- Perform Via Ferrata rescues (provide aid to clients) by climbing to the client, hauling them with a rope and 3:1 haul system, and lowering them to the ground
- Clean and inspect climbing equipment
- Clean, tidy, and help maintain the facility and grounds
- Basic manual labor such as trail maintenance and weedeating

Minimum Qualifications

- Certified (or upcoming certification) to guide single pitch terrain such as AMGA SPI or equivalent
- Certified (or upcoming certification) to provide wilderness medical aid such as WFA or higher
- Ability to guide 5.10 sport and 5.8 trad in the RRG
- Phenomenal people & communication skills including the ability to connect authentically to all types of people
- Personality that is in alignment with Southeast's core values which includes an understanding and passion for Southeast's services, mission, standard, & core values
- Ability and passion for teaching or instructing
- Must enjoy working outdoors in all conditions: heat, cold, rain, snow, etc.

Preferred Qualifications

- Desire to work for multiple seasons and grow in and with the company
- Guiding experience
- Extensive climbing experience in the Red River Gorge, KY
- Climbing experience in the Southeast, USA
- Ability to guide 5.9 trad & 5.11 sport (or higher)
- Own a reliable AWD/4WD vehicle with ability to access any climbing area in the Red River Gorge

Hours/Pay/Schedule

During the interview process you will learn more about how this position is paid, but the pay scale is **\$19 per hour** when working as an SPI and **\$15 per hour** when working as a VFI.. Overtime occurs over 40 hours and is paid at time and a half.

Although the days and hours will fluctuate on a weekly basis, this position can expect approximately 40 hours over 4 days per week. A Via Ferrata and single pitch climbing instructor can expect to work nearly every Saturday and Sunday and 2 days per week from March 1st - December 1st.

How to Apply

Complete the application found on our website:

<https://www.southeastmountainguides.com/employment/> and email to Nicole Meyer

nicole@southeastmountainguides.com If you have any questions or wish to contact us, you may call 606-668-6613.

Interview Process

The interview process for the SPI & VFI role consists of approximately 4 total interviews. Not all interviews need to be completed in-person, meaning virtual meetings are acceptable. The interviews typically follow this format: initial interview, skills test interview, culture fit interview, co-leading a Southeast guided trip.

Training

The training for this position will consist of approximately 4 weeks of training followed by 1-2 month(s) of intermittent mentorship. Training pay starts at \$14 per hour with advancement as training progresses. Most candidates do not remain with a training rate for long.

Position starts March 1st with the training starting mid-February. Exceptions may be applicable to certain candidates, or hiring timeframes.

We look forward to reviewing your application!