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From: [Harris, Temple](#)

To: [Alternatifoutdoor](#)

Sent: Monday, July 06, 2009 4:13 PM

Subject: coruh rafting - letter of recommendation

Greetings to Vedat and Julie.

Vivian and I have just returned from our 3 1/2 week trip which included the 5 day whitewater rafting expedition of the Coruh.

As you know, Vivian and I have rafted all over the world – some 15 major whitewater rivers – from the Zambezi in Africa to the Futaleufu in Chile to the Cotahuasi in Peru to the Colorado river in the Grand Canyon – to name just a few. Without question the Coruh ranks in the top ten in the world – an incredible non-stop roller coaster of class IV-V rapids, weaving for more than 100 miles while passing rugged rural landscape dotted with ancient villages and ruins of castles and other fortifications. This is land of mystic, magic and serenity – a privilege to visit and spend time on a river that may not have the notoriety of the others – but indeed it ranks right at the top. It is so unfortunate that the Coruh will be dammed – bringing to an end to such special journeys – that said – this fact, has made our expedition on the Coruh even more special.

When you have rafted as many rivers as we have you gain solid insights of guides and the quality of rafting companies. Without question, Vedat is a very special person – a wonderful host, an inspiring and exceptional river guide who applies his technical expertise always in a calm and assuring manner. Even in the toughest waters – with chaos swirling all around us – Vedat skillfully maneuvered through, coaching us as a finely tuned team. He is the one guide (of all the guides we have used over the years) we would raft any river in the world with – all in the knowledge that we would be in the best of hands. Vedat's skills extend well beyond rafting. He leads by example – always there to assist you, making meals that are fresh, local in flavor and with a special Turkish touch. Vedat is a delightful individual – smiling, confident, knowledgeable about his country, traditions and its rich history. Vedat is a proud man – you can see that in his eyes. He takes pride in whatever he does and demands the best of everyone. This shows in so many ways – from the quality of the food, to the quality of the tents, rafts, kayakers, driver, truck and even the toilets. To some these things may be small – taken for granted, but when you measure his company up against every other company we have used – his ranks among the very best. And that says a lot.

Vivian and I cannot say enough good things about our stay in Turkey, rafting the Coruh and spending time with Vedat and his team. We had a truly wonderful time and the memories will be with us forever. To say the least, we extend our highest recommendation of Vedat, the Coruh and Alternatif Rafting. Please feel free to contact me should you require further comments.

Yours truly,

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