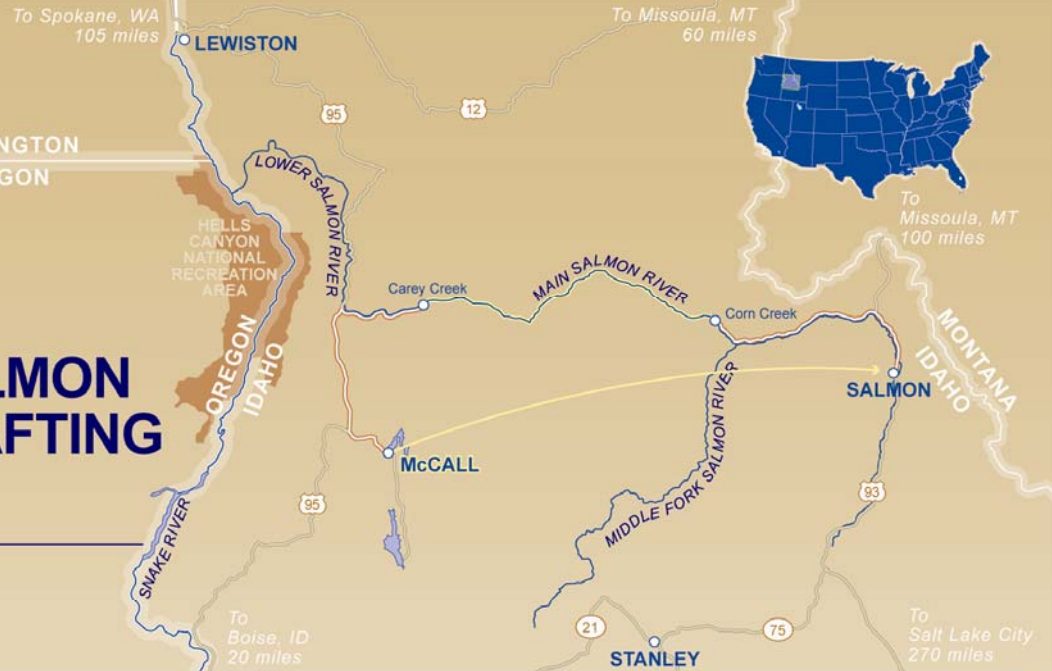




WASHINGTON  
OREGON

## MAIN SALMON RIVER RAFTING

*Itinerary*



<b>MEETING PLACE:</b>	Holiday Inn Express – the Hunt Lodge, McCall, Idaho
<b>MEETING TIME:</b>	8:00 PM, the evening before your trip
<b>RETURN TIME:</b>	Approximately 5:00 PM
<b>RIVER RATING:</b>	Class III
<b>RIVER MILES:</b>	81-92
<b>PUT-IN:</b>	Corn Creek
<b>TAKE-OUT:</b>	Carey Creek
<b>AGE LIMIT:</b>	Minimum age is 7 (12 at high water)
<b>TRIP LENGTH:</b>	6 Days / 5 Nights
<b>BOAT OPTIONS:</b>	Oar raft, paddle raft, dory, inflatable kayak

Idaho's rivers access some of the most pristine terrain in all the state. They are home to abundant flora and fauna, an impressive network of hiking trails, and some of the country's best whitewater. No river displays all these characteristics quite like the Main Salmon. Perhaps the most popular rafting trip in Idaho and the main section of the longest undammed river in the mainland U.S., the Main Salmon offers a rich river experience. Free-flowing Class III whitewater that's great for any age and experience level, big sandy beaches perfect for camping and playing, beautiful mountain scenery, abundant wildlife, and a natural hot spring are among the hallmarks of the Main. Perhaps inappropriately dubbed the "River of No Return" by early river runners, the Salmon is in fact a river you'll want to return to repeatedly.

### **AWARD-WINNING NATURE-BASED ADVENTURES SINCE 1969**

O.A.R.S. has been in business for over 40 years and that is no accident. Great trips on some of the world's best rivers and coastlines are the recipe for this success. Always focused on our clients and their vacations, it is our genuine belief that river trips and nature-based adventures are extremely valuable life experiences. With that as our foundation, we have committed ourselves over the years to providing the best trips available, always with an eye on improvement.

## BOAT SELECTION

- Because of the river's volume, we can bring the full gamut of O.A.R.S.' river vessels on the Main Salmon and you may experience them all! Riding in an oar boat one day and a whitewater dory the next, then challenging the whitewater hands-on in a paddle raft or inflatable kayak, ensures a diverse and exciting river adventure for each member of your party.

## WHITewater

- Few rivers offer whitewater excitement suitable for such a wide range of ages and experience levels as the Main Salmon. Its Class III rapids are a great whitewater introduction for the beginning rafter, yet challenging enough to inspire adrenaline in experienced river runners. The Main's water flows freely, without the obstruction of man-made dams, surging through a scenic river canyon in rolling wave trains and exciting drops, separated by lazy stretches during which you can sit back and relax, enjoying the company of your fellow river rats.

## SPECIALTY TRIPS

- **Craft Beer Tasting on the River:** Our Craft Beer Tasting trips combine mouthwatering menus prepared by an executive chef and hand-selected micro brews. After each day of vigorous river rafting, enjoy gourmet meals and premium beer introduced by regional experts (wine is also available). The beer and wine are carefully chosen to complement the bill of fare each night.
- **Solo Travelers trips:** What brings unique individuals together on an O.A.R.S. Solo Travelers trip is a shared appreciation for outstanding quality, a spirit of adventure and exploration, and a passion for good times.
- **Whitewater Kayak School:** We offer an instructional course on whitewater kayaking. The unique "moving classroom" atmosphere of this trip, combined with expert guides and spectacular surroundings, makes for a fun and informative adventure. Intermediate kayakers will take their skills to a higher level.
- **Family trips:** The Main Salmon is an excellent family river trip, offering something for every generation. Inflatable kayaking, spotting wildlife, swimming, fishing, hiking and beach games are activities the whole family will love—even your teenagers won't mind spending quality time with Mom and Dad in this setting! Floating down a river, cares and worries are swept away as fathers and sons, mothers and daughters, come closer together with each passing mile. TV, computers and telephones are replaced with campfires, tents and time on the water—memorable moments that you'll share with your kids. Since we take care of trip details including meal planning and preparation, your time is free to enjoy yourself and one another. Ask about our Family Friendly departures: trips specifically designed with your children in mind. And if your group or family is 12 or more, we can arrange an exclusive trip for a multi-generational adventure!

## Sample Itinerary

We pride ourselves in running a relaxed and flexible schedule. Every trip is different depending upon the group, other trips on the water and sometimes the weather. The following is a sample of what your trip might be like.

## The Day before Your Trip

- We'll meet at the Holiday Inn Express – the Hunt Lodge in McCall, Idaho at 8:00 PM for a pre-trip orientation. This is an opportunity to meet your fellow travelers and ask any last-minute questions. We will give you a thorough trip orientation, and pass out your waterproof river bags so that you can pack your belongings that evening. We will also reconfirm the meeting time for the following morning.

## Day 1

- We'll depart McCall for a scenic flight to Salmon (approximately 55 minutes). Upon arrival, we will drive approximately 2-hours to our put-in at Corn Creek. Along the way, we'll stop at the North Fork Store for fishing permits, lures, and any personal odds and ends that you may have forgotten. Reaching the river late morning, we feel our excitement grow as we see the colorful boats waiting for us and meet the O.A.R.S. crew. After an informative safety talk and some brief paddle raft/inflatable kayak instruction, we're off on our river adventure! The first day's whitewater action includes rapids like Killum and Gunbarrel.
- The surrounding scenery immediately transfixes us, and for the duration of our trip, we're mesmerized by the beauty of the Salmon River canyon—the second deepest gorge in North America—and the 2.3 million-acre Frank Church River of No Return Wilderness. This broad canyon is heavily forested with towering pines and conifers and, early in the season, blanketed with vibrant wildflowers. We may be welcomed to the river by a family of otters swimming near our boats, a herd of bighorn sheep scaling a steep canyon wall, a giant elk or moose wading in the shallows, or if we're lucky, a black bear standing sentinel on shore.
- Typically a day on the river includes a few hours on the water in the morning, sometimes stopping for a great hike, a visit to a Native American pictograph, historical site or a soak in a natural hot spring. Come lunchtime, we pull over to a sandy beach and enjoy a delicious picnic. After feasting and relaxing on the beach (or perhaps swimming, a game of Frisbee, a nature walk...), we get back in our boats for more floating and exciting whitewater. Be sure to try your hand at the paddleboat and inflatable kayak! Mid-to late-afternoon, we stop and make camp. You grab your bags and set up your tent while we take care of the kitchen and "living room"—camp chairs and the site for tonight's campfire (if permitted). Read, nap, or just sit back and laugh with friends and family as we prepare dinner. After a satisfying feast, the evening is yours to spend however you wish. Maybe music, stories, or jokes will bring us together tonight; maybe the popping of the fire, the whisper of the river and the clarity of the big, star-filled sky will encourage silent reflection on the amazing wilderness that is, for now, our home.

## Days 2-5

- As we journey into the pristine heart of the Frank Church Wilderness, each day brings new discoveries: exciting rapids like Salmon Falls, Big Mallard and Growler, historical sites such as Buckskin Bill's homestead and Jim Moore's place (maybe you'll find the fortune he buried in the hillside!), and the much anticipated Barth Hot Springs. Avid hikers may enjoy a challenging climb to Rabbit Point, where the beautiful views are well worth the effort of getting there. The fishing is excellent during these days, and on trips in July and August, warm air and water temperatures encourage frequent refreshing dips in the river.

## Day 6

- Today, as the Salmon River begins to parallel the forest service road, we say farewell to the river and our guides and travel by van from the take-out back to McCall, about 1 ½ hrs, arriving at approximately 5:00 PM. It may be possible to catch a flight to Boise this evening, however, we recommend staying overnight in McCall and flying out the next morning. McCall Aviation offers return flights from McCall to Boise.

## What's Included?

- Skilled professional guide service
- 5 nights catered camping
- Meals from lunch on day 1 through lunch on the last day, with limited beer, wine and soda at dinner
- Expedition equipment, including 2-person shared tent, sleeping bag with liner, sleeping pad, pillow with pillow case, ground tarp and waterproof bags to hold your gear

- High quality inflatable rafts and kayaks, colorful handcrafted dories, and related river equipment including paddle, helmet and personal flotation device (PFD)
- Wetsuits and splash jackets for paddlers – weather dependent
- Round trip transfers between McCall airport or local hotel accommodations when flying with McCall Aviation
- Scenic flight from McCall to Salmon
- Transfer from Salmon to the river, and from the river to McCall at the end of the trip

### **What's Not Included?**

- Transportation to and from McCall, Idaho
- Pre- and post-trip accommodations and meals
- Single supplement tent (\$30 plus tax)
- Insurance of any kind, including travel insurance
- Items of a personal nature (an equipment list will be provided)
- Gratuities

### **SOMETHING VOLUNTARY**

- In reviewing your statement, you'll notice a \$1/person/day donation to Idaho Rivers United, a non-profit conservation organization dedicated to protecting Idaho's clean water, wild rivers and fish, and the communities that depend on them. One-hundred percent of these funds go directly to Idaho Rivers United and your contribution is tax-deductible. This donation is voluntary and may be removed from your invoice if you choose not to participate. *Please notify our office to delete the donation from your balance.*
- The O.A.R.S. Foundation is a not-for-profit 501 (c) 3 organization with the express goal of providing opportunities for young people to experience the magic of a river trip. Visit [www.oarsfoundation.org](http://www.oarsfoundation.org) to learn more about how your tax deductible donation can change young lives for the better.

### **Terms & Conditions**

#### **Reservations and Deposits**

- A \$250/person deposit is required at the time of reservation. The balance is due 60 days prior to departure.

#### **Cancellations and Refunds**

- If you find it necessary to cancel your trip, please notify us as soon as possible. The cancellation fee after you've made your deposit can range up to the entire trip cost, based upon the number of days prior to your trip that we receive your cancellation notice. We regret we cannot make exceptions for personal emergencies. For this reason, **we strongly urge you to investigate trip insurance** (see Insurance).
- Cancellations 60 days or more prior to your trip earn a full refund less a \$100/person fee. Cancellations 59 days or less prior to your trip are not refundable.
- If you transfer from one trip to another, there is a \$50/person charge up until 60 days before the trip. Transfers made after this time will be treated as cancellations.

#### **Medical**

- Under most circumstances, if you are of an adventurous spirit and in reasonably good health, you should have no problem enjoying an O.A.R.S. trip. People with medical conditions, including pregnancy, should have a physician's approval before taking an adventure travel trip.

#### **Insurance**

- Although every effort is made to insure a safe trip for all, we strongly recommend that you protect yourself, your belongings, and your vacation through the purchase of a short-term traveler's policy. A trip cancellation policy covers your non-refundable payments in most cases, should you have to cancel your trip at the last minute due to illness or injury. Trip participants should

For more information, call 1-800-346-6277 in the USA and Canada or 1-209-736-4677 outside the USA and Canada, or e-mail [info@oars.com](mailto:info@oars.com)

realize that in the event of illness or injury on an adventure travel trip, evacuation can be prolonged, difficult and expensive. Personal belongings and cameras are carried entirely at the owner's risk, and O.A.R.S. accepts no responsibility for lost, damaged, delayed or stolen property.

#### **Liability Waiver**

- Everyone is required to sign a standard release form before the trip, acknowledging awareness that some risks are associated with the trip. Safety is of the utmost concern on our trips. However, due to the nature of the activities, a condition of your participation is that you will sign this form and return it to our office before the trip begins. Anyone who refuses to sign the form will not be allowed to participate, and consistent with O.A.R.S. cancellation policy, there will be no refund of the trip fees at that time.

#### **Responsibility – An Important Notice**

- O.A.R.S. Dories, Inc. and cooperating agencies act only in the capacity of agent for the participants in all matters relating to transportation and/or all other related travel services, and assume no responsibility however caused for injury, loss or damage to person or property in connection with any service, including but not limited to that resulting directly or indirectly from acts of God, detention, annoyance, delays and expenses arising from quarantine, strikes, theft, pilferage, force majeure, failure of any means of conveyance to arrive or depart as scheduled, civil disturbances, government restrictions or regulations, and discrepancies or change in transit over which it has no control. Reasonable changes in itinerary may be made where deemed advisable for the comfort and well being of the participants, including cancellation due to water fluctuation, insufficient bookings, (this trip requires a minimum of 4 guests), and other factors. There is risk in whitewater rafting, particularly during high-water conditions. Rafts, dories and kayaks do capsize. You could be swept overboard. Your guide will make every attempt to assist, but you must be strong and agile enough to "self-help" and "float-it-out" without further endangering yourself or others. We reserve the right not to accept passengers weighing more than 260 pounds or with a waist/chest size exceeding 56 inches. We may decide, at any time, to exclude any person or group for any reason we feel is related to the safety of our trips. We are experienced at accommodating people with various disabilities. Please give us an opportunity to make you feel welcome. We need to discuss any special requirements ahead of time. On advancement of deposit the depositor agrees to be bound by the above recited terms and conditions. Prices subject to change without notice.

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