



ROGUE RIVER

Itinerary



MEETING PLACE:	Morrison's Rogue River Lodge, Merlin, Oregon
MEETING TIME:	6:00 PM, the evening before your trip
RETURN TIME:	Approximately 6:00 PM
RIVER RATING:	Class III
RIVER MILES:	40
PUT-IN:	Almeda Bar or nearby launch site
TAKE-OUT:	Foster Bar
AGE LIMIT:	Minimum age is 7 (12 at high water)
TRIP LENGTH:	3 Days/2 Nights, 4 Days/3 Nights or 5 Days/4 Nights
BOAT OPTIONS:	Oar raft, paddle raft, inflatable kayak

The Rogue River might just be the perfect rafting trip. The generally moderate whitewater is ideal for all levels of experience from beginner to intermediate. Rapids such as Blossom Bar and Rainie Falls are sure to inspire a generous dose of adrenaline. For the more adventurous, our inflatable kayaks provide an up-close and personal encounter with the rapids of the Rogue. Your trip will surely be witnessed, whether you know it or not, by the abundant wildlife living onshore. The most common sightings include deer and river otter, along with an occasional black bear. And let's not forget the many bird species we will see along the way including Great Blue Heron, Bald Eagle and Osprey. Indeed, this river canyon is the birdwatcher's as well as fisherman's delight. As for the accommodations, we will make camp on one of the many sandy beaches that line the river. Inside a tent or under the starry night sky, you'll sleep soundly, serenaded by boisterous crickets and the rush of the passing river.

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

- On our Rogue River trips, we bring oar rafts and inflatable kayaks, and with sufficient interest, a paddle raft. Oar rafts carry our camp gear along with 2–4 passengers and are rowed by our guides using a long pair of oars. Inflatable kayaks are 1- and 2-person boats that get you up close and personal with the rapids of the Rogue. Paddle rafts carry 4–6 passengers, each of whom wield a single-bladed paddle, working together to propel the raft downstream under the direction of your guide who steers the boat with oars from the stern.

SPECIALTY TRIPS

- **Wilderness Gourmet:** For those with a passion for great food, exquisite wine and a palate for adventure, O.A.R.S. Wilderness Gourmet series brings a traditional culinary classroom setting to the river. O.A.R.S. guest chefs all have years of experience preparing delectable cuisine both on and off the river and invite you to share the adventure, while learning a thing or two from the experts.
- **Wine on the River:** Our wine trips offer an elegant alternative to our regular departures, and combine mouth-watering menus and award-winning wines with the appeal of the wilds. After each day of vigorous river rafting, enjoy gourmet meals and premium wines introduced by regional experts. The wines are carefully chosen to complement the bill of fare each night and each winery brings its own personality to the river, where tastings can turn into blending seminars or informative discussions of Old World versus New World wine making. Rest assured that whatever direction we take, these trips inevitably result in an outrageously good time.
- **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.

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 6:00 PM in the lobby of the Morrison's Rogue River Lodge in Merlin, OR for a pre-trip meeting. This is an opportunity to meet your fellow travelers and trip leader and ask any last-minute questions. Your trip leader will give you a thorough trip orientation and pass out waterproof river bags so that you can pack your belongings that evening. They will also reconfirm the time to meet at Morrison's the following morning to catch the transfer to the launch point.

Day 1

- You will be transferred from Morrison's Lodge to the put-in just a short drive down the road. Here you'll meet the rest of your guides at the boat ramp and listen to a thorough safety talk on trip procedures. The anticipation builds as you board the rafts and push off from the shore and head downstream. The canyon walls rise up around you, heightening the sense of isolation from the outside world. After a few small rapids, you'll probably notice that appetites on river trips are larger than those at home; lunch barely comes soon enough. The afternoon brings us to exciting Rainie Falls – the first real test of our whitewater skills. Below Rainie, it won't be long till we set up camp on a sandy beach. While the guides prepare dinner, you'll have time to have a short hike, explore the wooded terrain, read a good book or just relax.

Days 2–5 (Depending on trip length)

- For the early risers in the group, hot coffee, tea and cocoa will be ready around 7:00 AM. A wake-up call comes about 7:30 AM, and breakfast is served around 8:00 AM. After you pack up your belongings, you'll have some time to relax while camp is broken down and the boats are loaded. The inflatable kayaks are put to use as the most adventurous take control of their own crafts. These boats are a kick, even in the smallest rapids. Your guides will give you pointers on navigation and soon river lingo like "eddy," "ferry angle" and "river right" will be part of your vocabulary. This day has the greatest quantity of rapids with lots of action through many class II and III rapids. We'll try for a short hike up a lush side canyon. All in all, it's a great day and we'll get to camp sometime before 4:00 PM.
- Wake-up call, breakfast and departure follow roughly the same schedule as the day before. This is the day we will generally stop at the Historic Rogue River Ranch. This BLM maintained museum of human history is a few minutes walk from the river, offering insights into the canyon's past in a pastoral setting. Next, we raft Mule Creek Canyon with its sheer rock walls and deep rolling currents. Next on the agenda is the scouting and running of Blossom Bar, the Rogue's most challenging rapid. The afternoon then mellows out with a float through tranquil Huggin's Canyon.
- This is a possible layover day for a 5-day trip. This morning your guides might let you sleep in, but everybody knows the dawning hours are the best in which to catch a fish, take a brisk hike or paint the sunrise. Your guides will offer activities for the day, which may include voluntary swimming, hiking up a side creek, experiencing the natural water slide at Tate Creek, or visiting the enchanted Brushy Bar Forest. Those who choose to stay at camp may like to take out books, diaries or sketchbooks and spend some peaceful "alone-time." Others may try their luck with their fly rod.
- Breakfast is just as hearty today as it was on the first morning. Leaving camp is bittersweet—we're not quite ready for civilization again, but a hot shower sounds pretty nice. A few of the guests may be practicing their newfound rowing skills, while the guides keep their eyes peeled for the elusive bald eagles that inhabit this section of the river canyon. After lunch we have a short float to our take-out point at Foster Bar arriving at around 2:00 PM. We'll pack up the vans and then relax for the scenic, 2-3 hour, mountain drive back to Morrison's Rogue River Lodge. You should arrive before 6:00 PM.

What's Included?

- Skilled, professional guide service
- 2/3/4 nights catered camping
- All meals from lunch on day 1 through lunch the final day, with limited beer & wine at dinner
- Expedition equipment, including 2-person shared tent, splash jacket (spring and cold weather trips only) and waterproof bags
- High-quality inflatable rafts and kayaks and related river equipment including paddle and helmet and personal flotation device
- Transfers from Morrison's Rogue River Lodge to the river and back

What's Not Included?

- Transportation to and from Morrison's Rogue River Lodge
- Pre- and post-trip accommodations and meals
- Sleeping bag & sleeping pad (these items may be rented from O.A.R.S.)
- Single supplement tent (\$30)
- Insurance of any kind, including travel insurance
- Items of personal nature (an equipment list will be provided)
- Gratuities

SOMETHING VOLUNTARY

- In reviewing your statement, you'll notice a \$1/person/day donation to American Rivers, a non-profit conservation organization dedicated to Wild and Scenic Rivers. One-hundred percent of these funds go directly to protecting Wild and Scenic Rivers 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 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 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 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. West, 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.

© 2012 O.A.R.S. West, Inc. 2/1/12 AJ