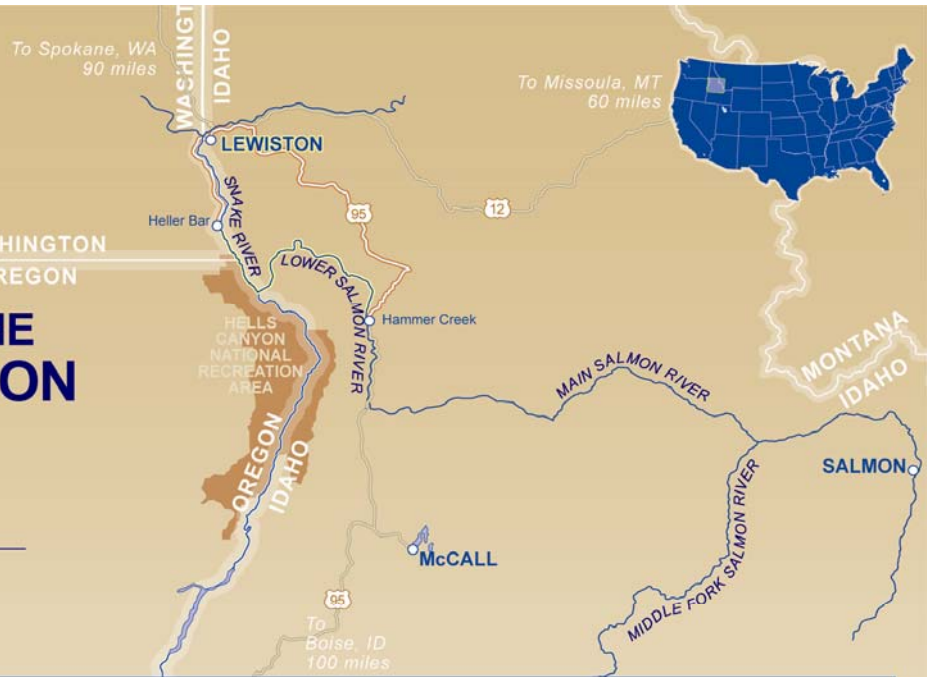




GORGES OF THE LOWER SALMON RIVER

Itinerary



MEETING PLACE:	Red Lion Hotel, Lewiston, Idaho
MEETING TIME:	7:00 PM, the evening before your trip
RETURN TIME:	Approximately 4:00-6:00 PM
RIVER RATING:	Class III
RIVER MILES:	73
PUT-IN:	Hammer Creek
TAKE-OUT:	Heller Bar
AGE LIMIT:	Minimum age is 7 (12 at high water)
TRIP LENGTH:	4 Days / 3 Nights or 5 Days / 4 Nights
BOAT OPTIONS:	Oar raft, paddle raft, dory, inflatable kayak, stand up paddleboard

The Lower Salmon River exhibits a side of Idaho seldom seen by most visitors. Distinctive from the forests and mountains that make up much of Idaho's wilderness, this river runs through the warmer, drier canyon country of the Seven Devils. Not confined to just one river canyon, the Lower Salmon actually flows through four separate gorges—Green, Cougar, Snow Hole, and Blue canyons—interspersed with sprawling, wide-open vistas. Bejeweled with some of the biggest and most beautiful white sand beaches of any western river, the Lower Salmon is the perfect destination for water-based fun in the sun. Warm weather, easy-going whitewater, and lots of wildlife make this a great trip for kids.

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 offer the full gamut of O.A.R.S.' river vessels on the Lower 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, or maybe try out a new stand up paddleboard. These many options ensure a diverse and exciting river adventure for each member of your party.

WHITewater

- If you're seeking a low-intensity whitewater adventure, this trip will really float your boat! Plenty of fun Class III rapids alternate with long stretches of calm, glassy water that provide the perfect opportunity to lean back, have a quiet conversation, and marvel at the gorgeous scenery. Swimmers in the group will love the ample opportunities to cool off in the river's calm pools; they might also experience a swimmable rapid or two! For the more adventurous, the Lower Salmon offers great conditions for inflatable kayaking and stand up paddle boarding.

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.
- **Whitewater Kayak School:** 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 Lower 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 always 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 7:00 PM in the lobby of the Red Lion Hotel 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 then pass out your waterproof river bags so that you can pack your belongings that evening. If you are not able to attend the meeting, please let us know in advance and then be certain to check for a message at the desk of your hotel upon your arrival in Lewiston.

Day 1

- We'll depart Lewiston by 8:00 AM for a scenic 2-hour drive to our put-in at Hammer Creek. (Pine Bar is our optional low-water put-in.) Along the way, we may stop to visit the Nez Perce museum in Spalding. A fascinating exhibit of Native American artifacts, including beautifully woven baskets and colorful hand-made headdresses, teaches us about this tribe that factors so significantly into western history in the past two centuries.
- Reaching the river, we feel our excitement grow as we see the colorful boats waiting for us and meet the rest of our crew. After an informative safety talk and some brief paddle raft/inflatable kayak instruction, we're off on our river adventure! Those of us ready to get wet might swim through Rollercoaster rapid, which marks our entrance to Green Canyon. We'll stop to visit some ancient pictographs, and then continue our whitewater action with rapids like Wright-way, Demons Drop and Pine Bar.
- As we float along the river, we'll keep an eye out for the wildlife that inhabits the canyon. Golden eagles, ospreys and river otters make frequent appearances; if we're lucky, we might also see beavers, cougars and Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep.
- The first day generally sets the pace for our trip. Typically, we spend a few hours on the water in the morning, sometimes stopping for a short hike, a swim, or a visit to pictographs, or another historical site. 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 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 2-3 or 4

- Our journey down the Lower Salmon takes us through Green Canyon, then into Cougar and Snow Hole canyons, each offering a different perspective on the striking scenery around us. All the while, the river slowly unfolds its long and varied history, providing glimpses of old mining and ranching sites, geological displays of basalt formations, remnants of ancient Indian cultures, and remains of old Chinese stone houses. Entering Snow Hole Canyon, we face some of the biggest, most exciting whitewater of our trip: Half and Half, Snow Hole and China rapids.

Days 4 or 5

- Slide Rapid marks the entrance to Blue Canyon; perhaps the most spectacular of the four gorges through which we've traveled. Hikers in the group might enjoy climbing to a vista point for an impressive bird's-eye view of the river winding through the steep and slender canyon. Further downstream we join the Snake River. After passing the confluence with the Grande Ronde, we arrive at our take-out, Heller Bar. A 45-minute ride is all it takes to get to Lewiston, though we might feel like we have been worlds away during our memorable time in the wilderness.

What's Included?

- Skilled professional guide service
- 3 or 4 nights catered camping
- Meals from lunch on day 1 through lunch on day the last day, with limited beer, wine and soda at dinner

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

- 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, stand up paddleboards, and related river equipment including paddle, helmet and personal flotation device (PFD)
- Wetsuits and splash jackets for paddlers – weather dependent
- Transfers from Lewiston to the river and back

What's Not Included?

- Transportation to and from Lewiston, 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 Hells Canyon Preservation Council (HCPC), a non-profit conservation organization dedicated to protecting and restoring the inspiring wildlands and pure waters of the Hells Canyon-Wallowa ecosystem. One-hundred percent of these funds go directly to HCPC 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 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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