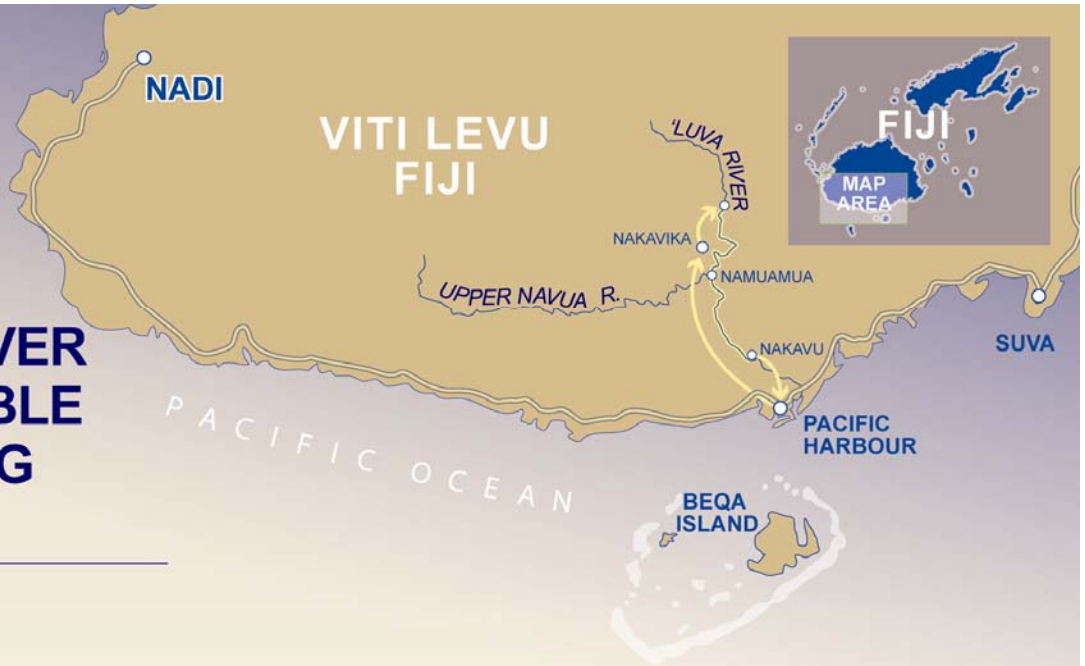




'LUVA RIVER INFLATABLE KAYAKING

Itinerary



MEETING PLACE:	Rivers Fiji Office at the Pearl South Pacific Resort, Pacific Harbour
MEETING TIME:	8:00 AM—please call the Rivers Fiji office (345-0147) a day or two before your trip for updates on water level and pickup times.
RETURN TIME:	Approximately 4:30 PM to Pacific Harbour
RIVER RATING:	Class II
RIVER MILES:	4 miles by inflatable kayak, 12 miles by motorized punt
PUT-IN:	Near the village of Nakavika in Namosi Province
TAKE-OUT:	Near the village of Nakavu
AGE LIMIT:	Minimum age is 8
TRIP LENGTH:	1 Day

The 'Luva River is becoming known as a “must do” activity for any visitor to Fiji. The fantastic scenery and whitewater excitement is the perfect pursuit after a few days lounging on the beach. This trip also happens to be more fun and more beautiful when it’s raining, so wet weather blues are washed away by the rain-fed waters of the 'Luva. Our 'Luva River trip combines 4 unique Fijian experiences into the perfect one-day adventure. Drive through the rainforested highlands to the village of Nakavika in the Namosi Valley. After a wonderful cultural ceremony continue on to the beautiful Class II waters of the waters of the Wainikoroiluva ('Luva) for a great afternoon of inflatable kayaking.

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.

Rivers Fiji

- In 1997 O.A.R.S. President, George Wendt and longtime O.A.R.S. friends, Nate and Kelly Bricker founded Rivers Fiji as the first whitewater rafting company in Fiji. Since then, Rivers Fiji has employed local residents to manage day-to-day rafting & sea kayaking operations and help guide adventurous travelers from around the globe down the Upper Navua and the 'Luva River – two of the most beautiful tropical rivers on the planet. Historically Fiji's tourism development has been focused primarily on the coastal communities, with Fiji's interior populations receiving little benefit. Rivers Fiji, however, provides economic alternatives to people whose previous development options were limited to logging and resource extraction. Friendly, knowledgeable and hospitable Fijian guides also make the Highlands to Islands Ultimate Fiji Explorer unlike any other experience O.A.R.S. offers.

The Namosi Valley

- Likened to a tropical Yosemite, the Namosi Valley is a photographer's paradise. From idyllic riverside villages to sheer-walled cliffs and lofty volcanic peaks, the drive into Namosi would be worth the trip even without the river to look forward to!

The Village of Nakavika

- Fijian culture in the Namosi Valley is very much a living tradition and our visit to Nakavika provides a glimpse into a way of life that has been largely unchanged in the last 100 years. For many, the village visit is the highlight of the trip and contributions from past guests have provided money for the construction of a school, the purchase of books and the employment of a full time teacher.

The Whitewater is Fresh

- As a destination for a beach vacation, Fiji has few rivals. The ocean water is clear and wonderfully warm and there are many fine resorts spanning the spectrum from luxury to budget. The snorkeling, diving, surfing and beach lounging possibilities are nothing short of world-class. But if all these activities share one blight, it is their reliance on salty ocean water. The water in the Wainikoroiluva River is gloriously fresh, flowing from highland springs and collected rainwater and a day in the highlands is the perfect reprieve from the salt and crowds on the coast. As you splash through the waves of the fun class II whitewater, we bet you won't even miss the stinging of salt in your eyes.

Sample Itinerary

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

- Our day will begin with an 8:00 AM meeting time at the Rivers Fiji office in Pacific Harbour. We'll climb aboard our highland carrier and head east along the coast toward Suva. After about 30 minutes on the smooth sealed highway, we'll take a left turn and begin our bumpy, but scenic ascent into the highlands.
- This breathtaking overland journey takes us along a winding logging road leading to a ridge with incredible views of the ocean and nearby islands. After stopping to stretch and enjoy a homemade snack, we'll begin our descent into the stunning Namosi Valley. Here, we're surrounded by sheer, neck-cranning cliffs that soar towards the sky, forming a valley that some call a tropical Yosemite. As we continue, we'll pass by a number of picturesque villages before reaching Nakavika.
- We will thank the village for allowing us to visit by presenting a sevusevu to the chief during a traditional kava ceremony. We will also seek permission to make our kayaking descent of the Wainikoroiluva River—or 'Luva River, for short. We will then bid farewell to our new friends and follow a steep trail to the bank of the river. The rapids start right away with more discoveries awaiting us downstream: cascading waterfalls, a hot water spring and perhaps a glimpse of a resident parrot.

- We'll have lunch on a beach beside the river and your guides will present a delicious spread of meats, cheeses, bread, fresh fruits and vegetables, along with cookies and juice. A bit further downstream, we'll come to a verdant grotto where twisting vines and lush ferns soften the black volcanic cliffs. Once we leave this magical canyon behind, it's not long before we'll discover another enchanting site – an 80-foot waterfall plummeting down the face of a sheer cliff. A short walk from the river brings us to the base of the falls, where a crystalline pool forms a delightful swimming hole.
- In the early afternoon we'll reach the village of Namuamua and the confluence of the 'Luva and Upper Navua rivers. We'll roll up the kayaks and board a motorized longboat for the remainder of the journey, winding through another breathtaking canyon with many waterfalls, exotic birds and giant fruit bats. We'll meet our truck near the village of Nakavu and make the 30-minute drive back to Pacific Harbour.

Getting There:

- The Rivers Fiji office is located on the property of the Pearl South Pacific Resort in Pacific Harbour. Follow the Queens Highway to Pacific Harbour: the Pearl is on the ocean side of the road, across from a Shell gas station and the Pacific Harbour Police Post. The Rivers Fiji office is on the right just after you've passed the Pearl's security gate. If you are driving, park your vehicle in the parking lot in front of the Rivers Fiji office. Allow 2.5 hours from the Nadi/Denarau area and 45 minutes from Suva.
- Roundtrip transfers are available for an additional charge from hotels in Nadi, Suva and along the Coral Coast. Cost and pickup times vary, depending on location.

Physical Requirements

Our primary goal is for you to have an enjoyable experience. The nature of the trip is such that it involves some physical exertion and potential exposure to the elements, including heat, sun, wind and rain. We have experience accommodating people with a wide range of physical disabilities and/or health conditions. However, individuals who are overweight or lack conditioning can endanger themselves, other guests and the guides. Please consult your doctor if you have medical or health conditions that could impact your ability to participate in this outdoor adventure. In general, trip participants must be able to:

- Wear a Type III Coast Guard approved personal floatation devices (maximum chest size of 56 inches)
- Climb in and out of the kayaks
- Self-rescue by swimming to a boat or to shore in the event of an involuntary swim

What's Included?

- Skilled professional guide service
- Transfer from the meeting place to the river and back
- A delicious picnic lunch and snacks
- High quality inflatable kayaks and related river equipment including paddle and helmet and personal flotation device, splash jacket and small waterproof dry bag
- Sulu to be worn in the village of Nakavika

What's Not Included?

- Roundtrip transportation from your hotel (available at an additional charge)
- Insurance of any kind, including travel insurance
- Items of a personal nature
- Gratuities

Something Voluntary

In reviewing your statement, you'll note a \$1/person/day donation to Waterkeeper Alliance, a non-profit conservation organization dedicated to fishable, swimmable and drinkable waterways worldwide. One-hundred

percent of these funds go directly to worldwide watershed protection 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 if you would prefer 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.

Equipment & Clothing

Footwear

The best choice is an amphibious shoe that drains water, protects your toes and won't come off in swirling current. A retired pair of athletic shoes can work well, too. Sport sandals with a heel strap are a good option, especially on rivers with sandy beaches. The hike to the put-in is steep in places and often slippery. You will want footwear in which you feel confident for these conditions.

Boatwear

Start with sunscreen, a swimsuit, shorts, and long-sleeved shirt, and then add additional layers if needed. As the day warms up layers can be taken off and stored in your daypack. You may want a jacket or windbreaker for the motorized longboat ride.

Sun Protection

Protecting yourself from the sun when on the water should be taken seriously. A hat, sunscreen, lip balm and sunglasses are a must.

We Provide

- 1 small waterproof bag for camera and other small items you'll want during the day (17" tall x 9" diameter – approximate sealed size).
- Helmets and Personal flotation device (PFD) which must be worn at all times on the river and kayak excursions, in compliance with safety regulations

What To Bring:

- Sunscreen & lip protection: waterproof & SPF 30 or higher
- Sun hat & sunglasses (preferably polarized) with securing strap
- Swimsuit, shorts, synthetic T-shirt
- Amphibious sport shoe, sandals with heel strap or tennis shoes you don't mind getting wet
- Water bottle - minimum 1 liter capacity
- Dry clothes for return trip

During Your Trip:

Boat Type

- We use high quality 1- and 2-person inflatable kayaks. These boats are surprisingly stable and the paddle strokes necessary to control them are easily learned. Be prepared to get wet!

Cameras and Video Equipment:

- The 'Luva is a scenically spectacular river trip and so beautiful that it brings out the nascent photographer in all of us. However, due to the nature of river trips, any camera gear you bring on this journey could get wet, damp, damaged or lost. While our bags are waterproof to further protect your

camera you may wish to place it in a zip-lock plastic bag, or special waterproof camera case. We also recommend padding it with a towel or clothing.

- We recommend the worry-free option of purchasing a disposable waterproof camera for use while on the river. They are inexpensive and can be clipped right to your life jacket for easy access when you need it.

Special Considerations:

- Don't forget to bring any special medications (allergy, etc.) with you. It is also important to let your trip leader know if you have any special medical considerations before beginning this journey. Please also be sure to let us know of any dietary restrictions you have.

Explorer Etiquette:

- In order to ensure that each passenger experiences the pristine condition of the river canyon, all of our trips practice a "leave no trace" environmental and social ethic. All garbage and waste packed in are also packed out. We also ask that you refrain from smoking while in the raft with other passengers and pack out all cigarette butts.
- Modest dress is expected when entering villages. Shoulders and knees should be covered and hats and sunglasses removed.

Gratuities

- Guests often ask whether gratuities are appropriate, and in what amount. If you feel your guides have provided a very special trip for you, a gratuity may be left with the trip leader and will be shared among the crew. Entirely discretionary, anything between 5% and 10% of the trip cost is a general tipping guideline. If you plan to tip, remember to bring a personal check or cash—ATM's are hard to find in the backcountry!

Terms & Conditions

Reservations and Deposits

- Full payment is due at the time of reservation.

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 \$30/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 \$15/person charge up until 30 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 a Travel Outdoors trip. People with heart trouble and pregnant women should have their 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 Travel accepts no responsibility for lost, damaged, delayed or stolen property.

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

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 Travel Outdoors cancellation policy, there will be no refund of the trip fees at that time.

Responsibility – An Important Notice

- Travel Outdoors 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.

Rivers Fiji

- Rivers (Fiji), Ltd., a travel partner of Travel Outdoors, Inc. is the operator of this trip. Upon arrival, a Rivers Fiji representative will meet you and escort you throughout the program. These American and Fijian staff members are the very best. They will do their best to ensure your complete satisfaction.

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