

MARIAH WILDERNESS EXPEDITIONS

SOUTH FORK AMERICAN RIVER TWO-DAY TRIP

Class III: Low-Medium Intensity Whitewater—21 Miles Welcome to Mariah Wilderness Expeditions

TRIP HIGHLIGHTS

- The South Fork of the American River is the BEST California river for the first-time rafter as well as experienced paddlers, families, groups of friends, company team building outings, and youth.
- * Get your feet wet on 21 miles of the the South Fork, both upper & lower sections & about 3-3.5 hrs of rafting daily.
- * Our riverside campground has a camp store which provides last minute items you may have forgotten. You may find t-shirts, shorts, waterproof cameras, caps, and sunscreen.
- * Mariah has top quality guides who are skilled and provide a safe and fun outdoor adventure.

MEETING TIME AND PLACE

We will meet you at **9:00 AM the first day** at 6500 Hwy 49 (Coloma Rd), Lotus, CA 95651. We will meet you in the Mariah Campground kitchen where you will check in with your guide. Please be on time; if you are late and your shuttle has already gone then you will have missed your trip and there will be no refund nor credit.

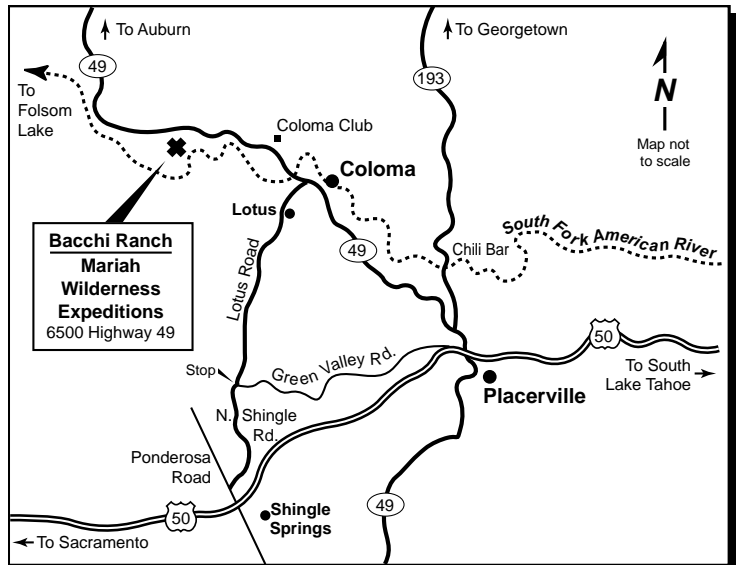
Remember to wear shoes that are secure on your feet such as a pair of old tennis shoes, water shoes, or sandals that will stay on your feet if you decide to go for a swim. Bring a water bottle which the guides can refill throughout the day.

DIRECTIONS

FROM SACRAMENTO: proceed east on Hwy 50 toward South Lake Tahoe. At Approximately 35 miles look for the Shingle Springs-Ponderosa Road off-ramp (exit 37). At the stop light turn left over the freeway. After crossing the freeway make an immediate right hand turn at the stop light onto North Shingle Rd. Proceed on North Shingle Rd for about 11.5 miles until it dead ends at Hwy 49. Turn left on Highway 49 (Coloma Rd) and proceed about 2 miles to 6500 Hwy 49 (Coloma Rd). There will be a big Mariah Wilderness Expeditions sign. Make a left turn and follow the hard-packed dirt road around a right-hand curved road. You will see the big "Welcome Mariah Wilderness Expeditions' sign. Park your car and walk down the main path to the kitchen where you will check in with your guides. Driving time Approx. 1 hour.

FROM AUBURN: proceed west on Hwy 80 to Auburn. Take Highway 49 south toward Coloma/Placerville. You will have a beautiful drive down into a deep canyon and then up the canyon, through the town of Cool and the hamlet of Pilot Hill. Drive about 16 miles and look for the 6500 Hwy 49 (Coloma Rd) sign which will be on the right hand side of the highway. If you enter the town of Coloma then you have driven about 2 miles too far so turn around. Once you make the right hand turn, follow the directions to the camp above. Driving time approximately 45 minutes.

FROM SOUTH LAKE TAHOE: proceed west on Hwy 50 to Placerville. Turn right at Spring Street/Hwy 49 toward Coloma. Spring Street turns into Hwy 49. Drive about 8 miles into Coloma. Continue on Hwy 49 driving over the bridge, past the Shell gas station on the right, and keep going to 6500 Hwy 49 (Coloma Rd). Follow the directions above. Drive time: 3 hrs.



CAMPING AT OUR SOUTH FORK AMERICAN CAMPSITE THE NIGHT BEFORE YOUR TRIP

Camping at the Mariah's South Fork of the American River Campground the night prior to your trip is not included in the price of your trip. However, we invite you to join us for a small additional fee. If you camp with us the night prior to your trip, we request that you come anytime after 5 PM. Our Camp Host/ess will greet you, give you any rentals you have reserved, and show you where you may camp. There are several nice restaurants nearby where you may enjoy a lovely dinner. Our Camp Host/ess will be on duty from 5 PM - 9 PM; however, you may come after 9 PM, just have your flashlight handy. If you have not arrived by the time the host/ess goes off duty, they will write you a welcome note which will be posted on the big white board across from the kitchen. The next morning your trip begins with an 9:00AM check-in.

WHAT TO BRING

WHAT TO BRING— FOR ON-RIVER

- **SHORTS/SWIMSUIT**
- **T-SHIRT* FOR SUN PROTECTION**
- **SHOES THAT FIT SECURELY ON YOUR FEET, SUCH AS: TENNIS SHOES. (SANDALS MUST FIT SECURELY; TEVAS WITH VELCRO STRAPS CAN OFTEN COME LOOSE).**
- **HAT* OR VISOR***
- **SUNSCREEN* • SUNGLASSES* AND CHUMS***
- **CAMERA: DISPOSABLE* WATER-PROOF (OPTIONAL)**

FOR CAMP

- **CHANGE OF DRY CLOTHES**
- **DRY SHOES AND SOCKS**
- **WOOL SWEATER OR FLEECE JACKET**
- **SWEAT PANTS OR FLEECE PANTS (APRIL—MID-JUNE)**
- **TOILETRIES & TOWEL & LANTERN**
- **FLASHLIGHT • INSECT REPELLENT**
- **SLEEPING BAG & PAD**
- **TENT • GROUND CLOTH**

AVAILABLE TO RENT

TENTS:

ASK FOR OUR SPECIAL TENT RENTAL FLIER

SLEEPING PAD (4" THICK)

SLEEPING BAG

* Sold in our camp store.

PHOTOS & GRATUITIES & MORE

At the end of the trip, you will have the chance to view and purchase photos of your paddle boat running the rapids. We are frequently asked if it is customary to tip the guides. Our guides' goal is to provide you with a fun and safe river trip. The guides do not expect a tip. However, they enjoy a token of your appreciation for a job especially well-done. A popular gesture seems to be for each crew to present their guide with around \$10 per rafter at the end of your trip.

PLEASE, NO PETS, NO FIREARMS NOR FIRECRACKERS. We do not have electricity in camp. **FOR OVERNIGHT:** Bring a flashlight, lantern, bug spray.

FOR YOUR SAFETY

Mariah Wilderness Expeditions has an excellent record of providing safe and fun river adventures. While most of our trips are not strenuous, they can be a dramatic change in routine and do involve some risk. We take many safety precautions and ask you to respond to our safety requirements:

SOUTH FORK NOTICE

The South Fork of the American River in its natural state would not normally have sufficient flows during the summer season to support rafting as it is known today. Adequate flows for rafting result from releases from hydroelectric facilities located at Chili Bar and above. These releases are made for power generation and are not subject to the control of the County of El Dorado or commercial rafting companies.

CANCELLATION & REFUND

Due to our limited trip sizes, we turn away others once your reservation has been submitted. If you must cancel your trip, please notify us as soon as possible. Upon receipt of written notice 31 days or more prior to your launch date, you will receive a full refund less your per person deposit. Any cancellation made within 30 days of the trip will not be eligible for a refund. You may, however, substitute another person without penalty.

We reserve the right to cancel a trip due to weather, water conditions, or other good cause beyond our control. Should this occur, your trip fees will be fully credited towards another trip. All refunds and credits shall be limited to amounts actually paid to Mariah Wilderness Expeditions.


MARIAH
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