

MARIAH WILDERNESS EXPEDITIONS

SOUTH FORK AMERICAN RIVER TWO-DAY TRIP

Class III: Low-Medium Intensity Whitewater—21 Miles

Welcome to Mariah Wilderness Expeditions!
We're excited about providing for you an outstanding rafting adventure

TRIP HIGHLIGHTS

- The South Fork of the American River is the **best California River** and perfect for the first-time rafter as well as experienced paddlers, families with kids, groups of friends, and company team building outings.
- Two days rafting, two nights camping, great meals
- Our luxury riverside camp has a well-equipped camp store which provides last-minute items you may have forgotten. You may find t-shirts, shorts, waterproof cameras, and sunscreen.
- Mariah has top quality guides who are skilled and provide a safe and fun outdoor adventure
- You will have a great afternoon of fun, relaxation and excitement on a beautiful Gold Rush river.

MEETING TIME AND PLACE

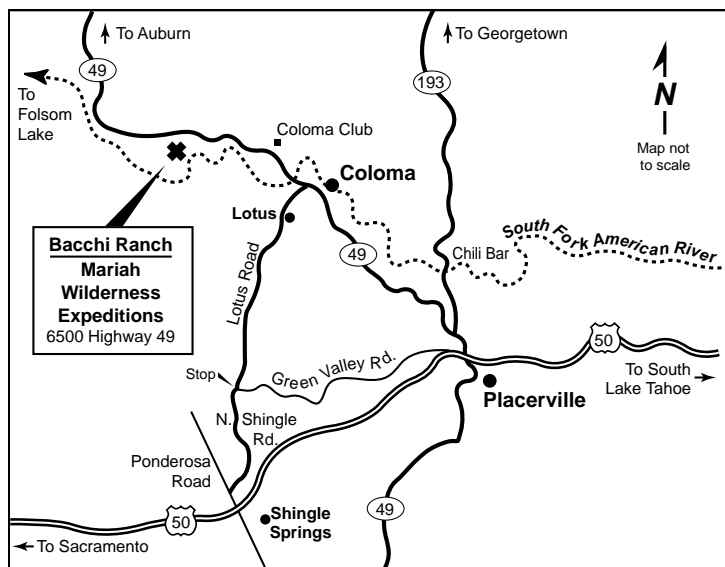
- **8 A.M.** the day of your trip. Camping is included the night prior.
- **6500 Highway 49, Coloma**, about 50 minutes east of Sacramento heading toward South Lake Tahoe; about 3 hours from the Bay Area, about 45 minutes west of Auburn, 2.5 hours west of Reno and North Lake Tahoe, two hours from South Lake Tahoe heading toward Placerville and Sacramento

TRIP ITINERARY

Get ready for great days on the river! Join us after 5 P.M. the evening before your trip at our South Fork camp. The first morning we enjoy breakfast at 8 A.M., then gather for orientation and safety information. About 10:30 A.M. we head for the river where you will receive your paddle, life jacket and any rented wetsuits. We launch our boats, practice paddling skills with our guides, and head for some easy rapids which help us increase our confidence.

We stop for a delicious lunch along the river, have time to enjoy the peacefulness of the canyon and then paddle our boats through the gorge section of the river, where we get to enjoy several Class III rapids such as Satan's Cesspool, Hospital Bar, Bouncing Rock, and more. We return to camp around 3-4 P.M. with time to enjoy a hot shower while the guides prepare dinner. After dark, you will be able to enjoy a slide show of your boats running the rapids and a campfire.

The next day after breakfast, we shuttle to the top of the river (Chili Bar) and raft the upper ten miles. We enjoy rapids such as Race Horse Bend, Triple Threat, and Troublemaker. We boat all the way down to our camp (10 miles) where we enjoy a hearty barbeque lunch. You will be ready to head for home about 3 P.M., relaxed and full of great memories!



DIRECTIONS

Take **Highway I-80** or **Highway I-5** to Sacramento. Continue east about 36 miles on **Highway 50** toward Placerville to the Ponderosa Road exit at Shingle Springs. Turn left over the freeway and right at the stop onto North Shingle Road. Drive about 11 miles to **Highway 49**, where Lotus Road deadends. North Shingle Road becomes Lotus Road at about 4.5 miles. Turn left onto Highway 49 and drive 2 miles to the Mariah Wilderness Expeditions sign at **6500 Highway 49** on left side of the road. Drive in, park next to the Welcome Mariah sign, walk down to the kitchen where your Head Guide will be waiting to check you in. **NOTE:** Our Coloma field office is located in the Coloma Village Shopping Center at 7170 Highway 49. Don't stop there. Drive past it to our camp located at **6500 Highway 49**.

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

Your trip includes camping at our South Fork camp the night prior to your trip. You may come into camp anytime **after 5 P.M.**, set up your campsite, and enjoy the evening. Dinner the night prior is not included. You may wish to eat before reaching camp.

The next morning your trip begins with an **8 A.M.** breakfast and check-in. You will not need to pack your camping gear as we return to this camp at the end of the day.

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; TEXAS WITH VELCRO STRAPS CAN OFTEN COME LOOSE AND SLIP OFF.)**
- **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**
- **FLASHLIGHT**
- **INSECT REPELLENT**
- **SLEEPING BAG & PAD (RENTALS AVAILABLE)**
- **TENT (RENTALS AVAILABLE)**
- **GROUND CLOTH**

AVAILABLE TO RENT

TENTS:

ASK FOR OUR SPECIAL TENT DESCRIPTION AND RENTAL FLIER

DELUXE COT

SLEEPING PAD (4" THICK)

SLEEPING BAG

* Sold in our camp store.

PHOTOS & GRATUITIES

At the end of the trip, you will have the chance to view and purchase photos of your paddle boat running the rapids on the South Fork—a wonderful reminder of your exciting day with Mariah Wilderness Expeditions on the river.

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.

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



P.O. BOX 1160, LOTUS, CA 95651
1-800-4-MARIAH

530-626-6049 • 800-462-7424 • fax: 530-626-4305

email: rafting@mariahwe.com
www.mariahwe.com