

MARIAH WILDERNESS EXPEDITIONS

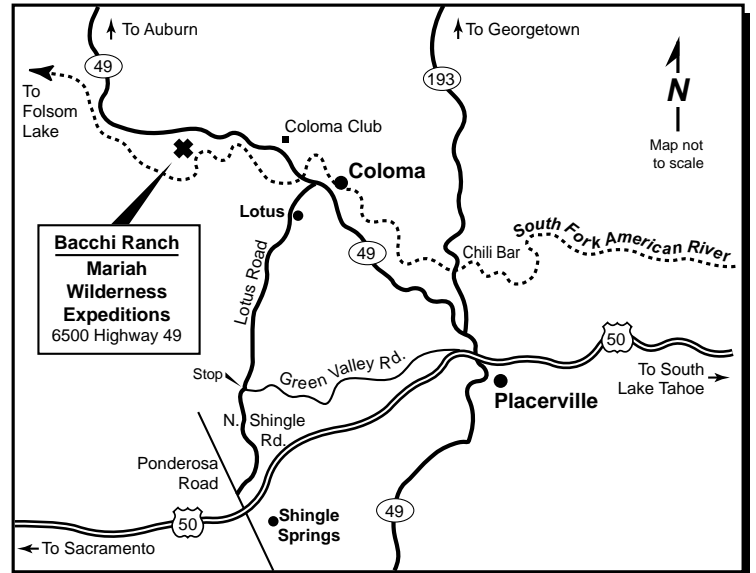
SOUTH FORK AMERICAN RIVER HALF-DAY TRIP

Class III: Low-Medium Intensity Whitewater—11 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.
- 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

- **12 P.M.** the day of your trip
- **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

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**.

TRIP ITINERARY

Get ready for a great day on the river! Arrive at 12 P.M. for check-in and trip orientation. We will then head for the river where you will receive your paddle, lifejacket, and any rented wetsuits. We will launch our boats and practice paddling skills. We will then enter the current and enjoy about four miles of Class I and II rapids, building our confidence, enjoying the beauty of the river, and possibly getting a sight of beaver and deer.

The pace picks up when we paddle our boats into the Gorge section of the river. We will enjoy many Class III rapids such as Satan's Cesspool, Hospital Bar, Bouncing Rock, and more. We will return to camp around 4:30-5 P.M. with time to enjoy a hot shower and a relaxing moment in our camp store before heading for home.

WHAT TO BRING

FOR ON-RIVER

- Shorts (quick drying), swimsuit
- T-shirt for sun protection
- Tennis shoes--no thongs or sandals
- Hat or visor
- Sunscreen, sunglasses, chums

ADD FOR COOL WEATHER

MAY TO MID-JUNE

- **Wet suit, booties - Available to rent**
Call office to reserve: \$20 per trip
- Wool/polypro socks, hat, gloves
- Wool or fleece shirt/sweater
- Windbreaker or light rain jacket

COME DRESSED READY FOR THE RIVER

- You may bring a jacket or sweatshirt to wear on the way to put-in
- On cool days we'll have a dry bag in each boat for an extra wool or fleece top
- We'll have your reserved wetsuit with us; wear it over your shorts, bathing suit, or polypro underwear

PLACES TO STAY THE NIGHT BEFORE YOUR TRIP

Combine your raft trip with an overnight stay in one of several wonderful hotels and bed & breakfast accommodations.

Enjoy strolling main street Placerville (historic gold discovery settlement), antiquing and visiting specialty gift shops.

Placerville, places to stay include:

- Best Western at 530-622-9100, and the
- Historic Cary House Hotel, 530-622-4271
- Historic Shafsky House Bed & Breakfast, 530-642-2776

Coloma, places to stay include:

- The Sierra Nevada House (530-626-8096)
- The Coloma Country Inn (530-622-6919)

Call the El Dorado County Visitors Authority at 887-588-4386 to obtain a listing of all the local hotels and bed & breakfasts.

Georgetown, places to stay include:

- American River Inn (800-245-6566)

CAMPING

- American River Resort (530-622-6700)
- Camp Lotus (530-622-8672)
- Ask us about camping at Mariah Campground

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:

- It is your responsibility to select a river trip appropriate to your abilities and physical condition. Please call to discuss any concerns that you may have.
- Please consult your doctor and discuss with us in advance any medical conditions that would restrict your full participation. Our meals are planned to naturally respond to vegetarian requests.
- Our life jackets will fit a maximum chest size of 52 inches and weight of 280 lbs.
- You will be required to sign an Assumption of Risk and Liability Release before your trip begins.

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.

