

Trip Logistics and Itinerary

4 days, 3 nights Wine & Food on the Snake River in Hells Canyon

Trip Starts: Minam, OR

Trip Ends: Minam, OR

Put-in: Hell's Canyon Dam, OR

Take-out: Dug Bar, OR (30 miles NE of Imnaha, OR)

Trip length: 51 miles

Class III-IV rapids

Each Trip varies slightly with size of group, interests of guests, etc. This is a "typical" trip itinerary that will vary.

Day before Launch:

Stop at Minam on your way to your motel in Wallowa or Enterprise to pick up your dry bag and go over the morning itinerary.

Day 1:

If staying in Wallowa at the Mingo Motel we will pick you up at 6:15 am. If staying in Enterprise we will pick you up at the Ponderosa Motel in our shuttle van at 6:45 am. Travel to Hells Canyon Dam launch site (3hr drive from Minam) with a bathroom break at the Hells Canyon Overlook. Meet your guides, go over basic safety talk, and load into rafts between 10 and 11 am. Lunch will be served riverside. Enjoy awe inspiring geology (it is the deepest gorge in North America), spot wildlife. Run some of the biggest whitewater of the trip, first up Wild Sheep Rapid. Stop to scout Granite Rapid and view Nez Perce pictographs. Arrive in camp between 3-4pm. Evening camp time: swim, hike, play games, relax! Approximately 6pm: Wine and Hor D'oevres presented by Chef Andrae and the featured Winery. Approximately 7 pm dinner presented by chef Andrae Bopp.

Day 2:

Coffee is ready by 6 am. Leisurely breakfast between 7 and 8 am. Pack up camp and send the gear boat downstream. Launch on the river between 9 & 10 am. Visit the historic McGaffee Cabin. Today's fun rapids will include Bernard, Waterspout, and Rush Creek. Hike Big Bar to a scenic overlook where we hear a story of Hells Canyon homesteader's grit and perseverance at Myer's Creek. Arrive at camp between 3 and 4 pm to enjoy another evening riverside. Each evening will be a similar routine to the first.

Day 3:

Repeat morning routine of coffee, breakfast, camp breakdown. Today we get to hike to Suicide Point and view Bonneville Flood deposits from a view point, stop at the historic Kirkwood Ranch, see ancient Mt Mazama Ash, run more rapids and enjoy another great day in Hells Canyon. Today we pass Somer's Creek where Grant's great, great grandparents lived during the late 1800's until the early 1940's. Arrive at camp between 3 & 4 pm for another evening of merriment and insanely good food from chef Andrae Bopp.

Day 4:

Morning routine followed by another day of fun whitewater. Take a historic side hike to Deep Creek to see ancient Nez Perce pictographs, remnants of Chinese miner's building and of course a story. We will arrive at our take-out at Dug Bar, the historic crossing point for the Wallowa band of Nez Perce, around lunchtime. Load into our shuttle van for a 4 hour ride back to Minam with a stop half way at the historic Innaha Store & Tavern. Expect to arrive in Enterprise by 5 pm, Wallowa 5:30, or Minam by 6 pm.

Shuttle Logistics:

Transportation from Minam to the put-in and from the take-out to Minam are included in your trip cost. If you are staying in Wallowa or Enterprise we will shuttle you from your motel to the put-in and from the take-out back to your motel.