

Trip Logistics and Itinerary

5 days, 4 nights Wine & Food on the Lower Salmon River

Trip Starts: Walla Walla, WA

Trip Ends: Walla Walla, WA

Put-in: Hammer Creek (near Whitebird, ID)

Take-out: Heller Bar, WA (23 miles south of Asotin, WA)

Trip length: 72 miles

Class II-IV rapids

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

Evening before Launch:

At 6:00 pm attend the pre-trip meeting at Andrae’s Kitchen. Pick up your dry bag and go over the morning itinerary.

Day 1:

At 6:00 am meet at the Marriot Hotel, kitty corner to Andrae’s Kitchen. We have permission to park vehicles in the gravel parking lot for the duration of your trip. The gravel parking lot is on the left side of the building as you face it. Load up drybags into our shuttle vans and start the 3 ½ hour drive to the put in at Hammer Creek near Whitebird, Idaho arriving a little before 10:00 am. Meet your guides, go over a short safety talk and begin the journey through the gorges of the Lower Salmon River. Lunch will be served riverside. Today’s fun rapids will include Rollercoaster, Wright Way, and Demons Drop as we travel through Green Canyon. 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 by 10 am. Enjoy another great day on the river with fun class II rapids as we float Cougar Canyon. 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 enter Snowhole Canyon and have an action packed day running rapids such as Half & Half, upper and lower Bunghole, Bodacious Bounce, the Gobbler, and the main event . . . Snowhole Rapid. Arrive at camp between 3 and 4 pm for another great evening.

Day 4:

Morning routine followed by another day of fun whitewater. Today we run Eagle Creek, China Bar, and Wapshilla Rapids before we enter Blue Canyon. Arrive at camp between 3 & 4 pm for another evening of merriment and insanely good food from chef Andrae Bopp.

Day 5:

Morning routine followed by a short float. Embark on rafts until we reach the mouth of the Salmon River where we will strap the rafts together and motor out to Heller Bar. Lunch will be served on the raft or riverside today. Arrive at Heller Bar between 1 and 2 pm. We will shuttle everyone back to Minam (2.5 hour drive) or if you had your vehicle shuttled to Heller Bar, you can begin your travels.

Shuttle Logistics:

Transportation from Minam to the put-in and from the take-out to Minam are included in your trip cost. If you would like your car shuttled to the take out near Heller Bar (23 miles south of Asotin, WA) you will need to arrange that before the trip begins and cost is \$150 per vehicle (we recommend leaving the shuttle driver a \$15-\$20 tip in a clearly marked envelope). If shuttling your own vehicle you will follow our shuttle van to Hammer Creek leaving your vehicle at the put-in for the shuttle company to move. Please bring a spare key if you shuttle your vehicle. Otherwise we will shuttle you back to Walla Walla where your vehicle awaits arriving between 3-5 pm.