

McKenzie River Half-Day Rafting Trip - Trip Planner

Meeting & Transportation Information:

Please refer to your confirmation email for your meeting time and location. **If late, please call 541-385-5947.**

Round Trip Transportation:

[Bend – Shilo Inn 7:45 AM or 12:15 PM](#) • 3105 NE O.B. Riley Rd. • **Drive time to river – 1.5 hrs**

[Black Butte Ranch 8:30 AM or 1:00 PM](#) • Community Center (541) 595-5879 • **Drive time to river – 50 min**

Meeting us at the River:

[Paradise Campground 9:30 AM or 2:00 PM](#) - Located on HWY 126, 50 miles west of Sisters, OR and 56 miles east of Eugene, OR. When entering the campground, turn to the right towards the boat ramp/day use area. A parking permit is not required. Paradise Campground is where the trip begins. From here your vehicle(s) will be shuttled to the take-out during the trip. The drive-time from Bend is about 1 hour and 30 minutes.

What to Bring on Your Trip

- Hat & sunglasses (get a strap for your sunglasses)
- Shorts or bathing suit. (Most women prefer to wear shorts over bikini bottoms)
- Rafting Shoes: Sandals w/heel strap, Keens or sneakers – no bare feet, Crocs or flip flops. If you don't have proper footwear, you can select neoprene booties on your registration form.
- The McKenzie is a chilly river. We recommend non-cotton clothing for this trip.
- Lip Balm (with SPF protection) & Sunscreen
- Water Bottle (**Important!**) It's important to stay hydrated during the trip.
- Change of clothes for after the trip
- If you want to bring your phone for photos, we recommend a waterproof phone pouch

What Ouzel Will Provide

- Personal flotation device
- Helmet (upon request)
- Splash jacket and pants (on cold or rainy days)
- Neoprene booties upon request
- Dry bag for items you would like to keep accessible during the day
- Granola snack and sparkling water.

Cold Weather Trips

Add synthetic (non-cotton) tops and bottoms. Ouzel will supply splash jackets, pants and booties upon request and wetsuits if conditions warrant but this does not replace the need for appropriate non-cotton clothing. We do not cancel trips due to poor weather. It's up to you to be prepared. Call us if you have questions! [Check weather](#)

Gratuities for Guides

If you have enjoyed your trip and feel your guide has done an outstanding job, feel free to offer a gratuity. The amount is up to you. Guests typically offer 10% to 20% of their trip fare. Click [HERE](#) to meet our guide staff.

Assumption of Risk & Guest Responsibility

Whitewater rafting is an outdoor activity that requires moderate physical exertion and exposure to the elements. There are risks associated with whitewater rafting that are impossible to eliminate. While we take all reasonable steps to minimize these risks, it is important for our guests to understand what is required of them and to assume the risks of participation. Each participant is required to sign an [Assumption of Risk Form](#) prior to departure. **Only parents or legal guardians can sign for minor children.** Feel free to view our [participation requirements](#) and please don't hesitate to call or [email](#) if you have any questions or concerns.