



North Umpqua River One-Day Trip Inflatable Kayaking Special (Eagle Creek Campground to Gravel Bin- 10 miles) Trip Planner

Participation Requirements

Our inflatable-kayak-only trip is not for everyone. Previous experience, physical fitness and an adventurous attitude is required. With many rocks, logs and other hazards to avoid, it is essential that you are able to control and propel your inflatable kayak as well as follow the instructions of the guides. You must be a good swimmer and comfortable in moving water. Once the trip starts, it is very difficult for an individual to leave the trip if they are struggling to control their kayak. Even though guides are with you in their own kayaks the entire day, unlike a paddle raft, you are "on your own" to a large degree and there is no one else who can "pick up the slack" for you. In order to participate, one of the following statements should apply to you

1. I have paddled an inflatable kayak through Class III rapids in the past and am up to the challenge of paddling Class IV.
2. I have paddled an inflatable kayak through Class II rapids and am in good physical shape and a strong swimmer. I am adventurous and feel strong and coordinated enough to control my kayak through Class III & IV rapids.
3. I have never paddled an inflatable kayak but have done several river trips in rafts. I am active and in good physical shape. I am coordinated and capable of strong paddling. I am a strong swimmer, am comfortable in moving water and up for the adventure.

Assumption of Risk

Whitewater rafting and kayaking is an outdoor activity that requires moderate physical exertion and exposure to the elements. There are risks associated with whitewater rafting and trip-related activities that are impossible to eliminate. While we take all reasonable steps to minimize the risks associated with the activity, it is vitally important for our guests to understand what is required of them and to appreciate and assume the risks of participation. Each participant is required to sign an "Assumption of Risk" prior to departure. **Only parents or legal guardians can sign for minor children.** Please let us know ahead of time if there will be minors on your trip who will **NOT** be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian. A copy of our "Assumption of Risk" form is included for your review. To read our general participation requirements in detail – [CLICK HERE](#) or you may call our office for a copy. Please don't hesitate to call or [email](#) if you have any questions or concerns.

Insufficient Bookings

Trips with insufficient bookings may be cancelled and full refunds offered. For half & one-day trips we will inform you of the possibility of cancellation at least 3 days in advance. Since half & one-day trips tend to fill up at the last minute, cancellation due to insufficient bookings is not common.

Order T-Shirts!

Take home the perfect souvenir of your Ouzel rafting experience. Call to order t-shirts at least 24 hours prior to your trip and we'll deliver them to you at the river. T-shirts are \$15 if ordered in advance or \$20 if ordered after your trip. [Click here to see this year's t-shirt.](#) Call 800-788-7238 or email us your order at info@oregonrafting.com (please reference your reservation number listed above).

Meeting Instructions

Please refer to the information below for directions to the Gravel Bin Boat Launch. PLEASE DO NOT BE LATE. If you need additional directions or will be late, please let us know. All trips meet at 10:00 a.m.; after 20 minutes the trip will depart Gravel Bin if we have not heard from you. **Late Arrivals please call 800-788-7238. After Hours: 541-815-4273 or 541-815-2136.**

Gravel Bin Boat Launch – 10:00 AM

Just east of the Steamboat Inn on HWY 138 (right about milepost 40). From I-5, take exit 124 at Roseburg (towards City Center/Diamond Lake). Pay close attention to signs and stay on 138 East/North Umpqua HWY for 41 miles.

Click [HERE](#) for GoogleMaps

Services

Dry Creek Store, just 8 miles east of our meeting place, has fuel, groceries, firewood and most last minute purchases. Services are also available at Glide, OR, which is 22 miles west of our meeting location. Full services are also available in Roseburg. **Cell service is unavailable on Hwy 138 in the area where we operate.** There is a payphone in Glide and at the Dry Creek Store.

Drive Times to Gravel Bin

Bend – 2 hours, 45 minutes; Portland – 4 hours, 15 minutes; Crater Lake Lodge – 1 hour, 30 minutes; Diamond Lake – 1 hour; Glide – 30 minutes; Roseburg – 1 hour; Eugene – 2 hours, 15 minutes; Grants Pass – 2 hours.

Vehicles and Valuables

Your vehicle will be parked at Gravel Bin Boat Ramp. While the entire parking lot is visible from the HWY, unfortunately, theft from vehicles is not unknown along this stretch of the HWY 138. We highly recommend leaving valuables at home or at the very least, locking them in your trunk, glove box or keeping them out of sight. Wallets can be stored in the dry bags available on each raft along with keys. Keys can also be stored in a securely zippered pocket if you have one.

What to Bring on Your Trip

- ☐ Visor, Cap, or other Brimmed Hat (must fit under a helmet – ball caps work fine)
- ☐ Sunglasses (w/strap)
- ☐ Shorts or bathing suit. Most women prefer to wear shorts over bikini bottoms.
- ☐ Rafting Shoes: Sandals w/heel strap or sneakers – no bare feet, Crocs or flip flops.
- ☐ Lip Balm (with spf protection) & Sunscreen
- ☐ Water Bottle (**Important!**)- You will be able to refill your bottle from our water cooler.
- ☐ Change of clothes (stays in your car)
- ☐ If you are sensitive to the sun, we recommend a long sleeve shirt and pants made from lightweight quick-drying materials.
- ☐ Short or long-sleeve synthetic fabric top. (Hydro-silk, Rash Guard or Polypro/fleece). These fabrics are designed for water sports activities and will protect you from the sun as well as helping to keep you warm when wet. You will be getting very wet during the trip and taking an unplanned swim is “par for the course”.

Ouzel will provide paddle jackets and paddle pants, (wetsuits if conditions warrant) as well as a small dry bag for each inflatable kayak in which you can place items you want accessible during the day. It is your responsibility to dress appropriately (see the notes above and/or call or office for more information).

What if it's Cold and Rainy?

We do not cancel trips because of poor weather. It is important for you to be prepared for your trip. **CHECK THE WEATHER** before your trip - click [HERE](#) to see the weather forecast for Glide, OR. On cold days it is important to **AVOID COTTON CLOTHING**. Dressing in layers of synthetic fabrics will increase the enjoyment of your trip. Don't hesitate to call our office if you have questions.

The Kayaks

We use [10' Hyside-brand single-person inflatable kayaks](#) on our trips (double kayaks are not available).

Lunch

A delicious deli lunch is served buffet style. The lunch includes a variety of whole grain breads, fresh deli meats and cheeses and a wide variety of fruits & vegetables sliced fresh just before serving. Lemonade, iced tea and iced water are available. Our lunch accommodates vegetarians with peppers, avocados, cucumbers or other additional vegetables. Peanut butter & jam is always available. Please let us know if you have specific food allergies or dietary restrictions. If this is a special occasion for someone in your group (i.e. anniversary, birthday, etc...) please let us know and we might have a little extra something special for the occasion.

Gratuities for Guides

If you have enjoyed your trip and feel that your guides have done an outstanding job, please feel free to offer a gratuity. The amount is up to you but guests will typically offer between 10% and 20% of their trip fare. The guide staff shares gratuities. Click [HERE](#) to meet our guide staff.

Environmental Concerns

Whether you are on the river for a day or two days, you will be exposed to the elements. Exposure to the sun is our most common concern, but cold days are also possible at any time of year. The water temperature is cool to cold during the rafting season, so even on the warmest days having a lightweight synthetic shirt can make a lot of difference. Pay special attention to the clothing suggestions in your trip planner and [CHECK THE WEATHER](#) before you trip.

The North Umpqua River is fairly benign when it comes to troublesome insects and plants. Poison oak is common, so keep on the lookout. Our guides will help you identify it if you're not sure what to look for. Yellow jackets (bees) will create an occasional annoyance at lunch. They like to hang out around the lunch table, so if you're sensitive to bee stings, have a friend or one of the guides prepare your lunch for you. Mosquitoes can sometimes be an annoyance on two-day trips in camp – we recommend bringing insect repellent.

Trip Itinerary

The day begins as you meet your guides and fellow kayakers at the Gravel Bin boat ramp at 10:00 a.m. Here you will be asked to sign an "Assumption of Risk" form and to pay your balance if needed. From here we'll travel by van upriver to our launch location at Eagle Creek Campground (Boulder Flat if the group is suitably experienced). At Eagle Creek we'll fit everyone for lifejackets and paddle gear and discuss safety issues for the day. We'll cover the basics of inflatable kayaking. The day starts with Class I & II rapids before building to Class III before lunch. After lunch the action intensifies with lots of Class III rapids and the infamous Class IV rapid Pinball. The day finishes with numerous Class II & III rapids before arriving at Gravel Bin where we met this morning and where your vehicle is parked. You can expect to be off the river by 5:00 p.m.

The Beautiful and Action-Packed North Umpqua

Set amidst the wilderness areas and national forests of the Southern Oregon Cascades, the North Umpqua River is one of the most beautiful rivers in the Northwest. Towering Douglas fir forests line this steep and rugged canyon, shading the crystal clear water as it leaps and cascades through steep gorges and boulder-strewn rapids. With 25 significant rapids and numerous smaller ones in a little over 20 miles the Umpqua delivers one of the most fun and enjoyable paddle rafting experiences in the Northwest. In between rapids marvel at the majestic moss and lichen hung forests – and keep an eye out for the American Dipper—also known as the water Ouzel!

With no major airports or large tourist cities nearby, the Umpqua River is off the beaten track. For those seeking relaxation and inspiration in the outdoors (with a splash of adventure thrown in) this area is a rewarding playground. Numerous hiking and mountain biking trails and more than 25 scenic waterfalls in the Umpqua National forest provide fantastic experiences. For a grander view, close by [Crater Lake National Park](#), formed by the collapse of Mt. Mazama, holds the deepest, clearest, and coldest lake in America. And for the fisherman, the combination of a large (and mostly native) summer steelhead run, fly-angling only restrictions and an idyllic setting has made the North Umpqua a popular fishing destination for fisherman from around the world. Visit our [North Umpqua River Photo Gallery](#).

Our [one day trips](#) include the most exciting section of the North Umpqua River. If you are looking for a longer trip we offer fully outfitted [weekend getaways](#) which include a full two days of rafting. For more information about area attractions, accommodations and camping visit [North Umpqua Area Links](#) on our website.

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Thanks again for choosing Ouzel Outfitters. We look forward to hosting you for a memorable rafting adventure. Please don't hesitate to contact us if you have any questions.