

ETC - Rogue River Trip 2023!

Trip Start: September 14, 2023

Trip End: September 17, 2023

Trip Start/End Location: Grave Creek Bridge, Merlin, OR 97532 - Foster Bar Boat Launch, Agness, OR 97406

Trip Cost: \$1300/person*

Sliding scale scholarships are available for people with special needs and their helper. Please [click here](#) to complete a scholarship application

Trip Includes: All rafting equipment, professional guides, and delicious meals. (camping gear can be loaned from ETC and hired from ARTA)

Trip Does Not Include: Travel arrangements to/from Morrison's Lodge overnight accommodations the night before or after the trip, or gratuity

Accessibility: The nature of this trip allows us to accommodate a wide variety of special needs. Please contact the River Program Manager at riverprogram@etctrips.org or 415-474-7662 ext. 15 for questions about accessibility.

River Description

With its lush and picturesque canyon, abundant wildlife, warm water, numerous side creeks, and exciting but not overwhelming rapids, the Rogue is a wonderful place to enjoy life on the river. It was one of the original rivers to be protected as a National Wild and Scenic River in 1968 and continues to provide one of the most beloved river trips in the world.

The river is born on the slopes of the Cascade Mountains surrounding Crater Lake and flows west past the towns of Medford and Grants Pass before carving a wild and remote canyon through the coastal range of the Siskiyous. Because of its proximity to the ocean and temperate climate, the Rogue canyon has an abundance of wildlife. We commonly see deer, otter, osprey, bald eagles, and black bears on our trips and, depending on the season, we often see salmon migrating upstream to spawn. The canyon walls are blanketed with stands of Douglas fir, ponderosa pine, madrone, and numerous varieties of oak while ferns, wildflowers, and blackberries grow up the numerous side streams.

The river itself follows a diverse course, alternately crashing over abrupt ledges, flattening into shallow expanses, and squeezing between house-sized boulders or through narrow gorges.

There are rapids every day with highlights at Mule Creek Canyon and Blossom Bar on day 3 or 4.

Environmental Traveling Companions

Environmental Traveling Companions (ETC) has been providing outdoor adventure opportunities to people of all abilities and backgrounds since 1972. Beginning on the banks of the Stanislaus River, ETC began using volunteers to take people with disabilities and youth from under-resourced backgrounds on whitewater rafting trips. Decades later the organization has grown to include four main programs: whitewater rafting, sea kayaking, cross country skiing, and youth leadership development courses and is recognized as a pioneer in the industry of accessible outdoor adventure. With this growth, ETC has still maintained a strong community, where most trips are staffed by volunteer guides and participants are fully engaged in all aspect of the adventure. An ETC adventure is a unique opportunity to experience nature, achieve growth through challenge, and develop stronger bonds with fellow adventurers

American River Touring Association

We pleased to announce ETC will be partnering with [ARTA](#), a Oregon based non-profit corporation, founded in 1963, ARTA will be providing the guides gear and on water logistics with the assistance of ETC guides. **ARTA's non-profit status** and philosophy ensure that any surplus revenues generated by our trips are reinvested in the company or donated to conservation organizations and are not distributed to individuals or investors. Your participation helps protect our nation's wild rivers for future generations to enjoy. Their goal is to introduce you to the wilderness and to involve you in our trips in a manner that is safe, meaningful, and beneficial to both you and the environment.

Trip Location

The Rogue River is located in Oregon. The trip will begin and end at Morrison's Lodge, Merlin. Transportation to the put-in at the beginning of the trip and from the take out back to the lodge on the last day of the trip is included in the cost of the trip. There is also options to store your vehicle at Morrison's lodge during the trip and then be delivered the day of to the takeout location.

How to get there

Driving: Morrison's is located on the Rogue River just west of Galice, Oregon, about 60 miles north of the Oregon-California border; 6-7 hours from San Francisco, and 4 - 5 hours from Portland. To get to Morrison's, take Exit 61 off of I-5, turn west on Galice Road and continue straight 12 1/2 miles (through the small town of Merlin) to Morrison's Lodge (on the right).

Flying: Alaska, Delta and United serve Medford, Oregon, about 30 miles southeast of Grants Pass. For transportation from the Medford airport to Morrison's, contact Galice Resort, 541/476-3818 or Affordable Shuttles, 866/484-4467. Due to potential delays, we do not recommend flying out of Medford the evening that the trip ends.

Where to stay

Morrison's is a wonderful place to stay before and after your trip. Right on the river, they offer a variety of lodging options from cozy rooms in the main lodge to private cabins overlooking the river to secluded cottages with kitchens on a quiet creek. The property is very relaxing and comfortable and the room rates are reasonable. Alternative accommodations are available 5 miles further down river at the Galice Resort (541/476- 3818, www.galice.com). Both locations serve meals on a deck overlooking the river. If you prefer gourmet meals and linen, you'll enjoy Morrison's; if you prefer hamburgers and picnic tables, you'll prefer Galice. Reservations should be made well in advance. There are also numerous chain motels 30 minutes from Morrison's in Grants Pass.

Before you get to Morrison's

Morrison's Lodge and Galice Resort are isolated, self-contained establishments and once you are there, you won't want to leave. Both places carry a limited assortment of everything you might need for your trip, but you may prefer to purchase last minute items (snacks, drinks, batteries, etc.) or even eat in Grants Pass before you arrive, (The Laughing Clam in Grants Pass and Baldini's in Merlin are staff favorites). If your pre-trip accommodations have kitchen facilities, you can get groceries at Ray's Market near the freeway on Galice Road.

Other things to do in the area

The Oregon Shakespeare Festival (www.osfashland.org) in nearby Ashland is renowned for its Elizabethan Stage house and outdoor plays. Also in the area are the dramatic Crater Lake National Park, the scenic Oregon Caves National Monument and the historic town of Jacksonville, which is home to the Britt Music Festival. For those trip members who are driving, we will be getting off the river about 35 miles inland from the Pacific Ocean at Gold Beach. The southern Oregon coastline is spectacular and worth a visit after your trip. If you want to continue your vacation with a visit to the Oregon coast, you can have your vehicle shuttled to the take-out and be at the ocean the evening your trip concludes; the cost is about \$110 per vehicle and arrangements can be made at the pre-trip meeting.

A day on the river Every day is full. Every day is different. We encourage you to leave your watch behind and find the natural rhythm of life on the river. Mornings will begin with our revered “COFFEE” call, your invitation to join us for a hot breakfast and warm conversation. After breakfast, we’ll gather, plan the day, then head downriver for an adventure. Generally we’ll spend about 5 hours “on the water” each day with stops for a hike, a swim, or a visit to an historical site, as well as a break for a healthy picnic lunch. Throughout, we’ll make sure to tell you what’s coming up so that you can find yourself in the appropriate boat. We usually arrive at camp in the late afternoon and have some unstructured time for relaxing, hiking, or fishing before we serve scrumptious early evening appetizers and a wonderful riverside dinner. Evenings are magical, with campfires, stories and anticipation of another day on the river. You’ll drift off to sleep to the enchanting sound of the river

Meals and drinks are well balanced and consist of quality foods with fresh meats, fruits, and vegetables. The guides double as camp chefs and the menu includes a wide variety of dishes. If you have a special dietary request or allergy, please let us know in advance so we can accommodate you. We will provide water and juice during the day and hot coffee, tea, and cocoa in the morning. If you would like soda, beer, wine, or liquor with your dinner, please bring your own, (beer and soda in cans; wine in boxes or bags. Hard liquor in glass bottles is fine, but might require sharing!)

Alcoholic Beverages

Alcoholic beverages are permitted on this trip. Alcoholic beverages may only be consumed off river at the end of the day and not in excess. Participants acting, as caregivers/chaperones are asked to not drink or only drink very moderately. ARTA or ETC does not provide alcoholic beverages; you must bring your own. Glass bottles are not permitted on the river; please keep this in mind when purchasing alcoholic beverages.

Guides

ARTA uses paid Guides who are highly experienced and trained in guiding whitewater rafting, Wilderness First Aid/CPR, and working with people of all abilities and backgrounds. All guides are enthusiastic, caring, and responsible individuals who give generously because they enjoy sharing outdoor adventure and beautiful places with diverse groups.

Special Needs Accommodations & Eligibility Criteria

ETC and ARTA are committed to making outdoor adventure accessible to people with special needs and our Guides are experienced in making adaptations for a wide range of physical and cognitive abilities. In order for us to be prepared, we ask each participant discuss any special needs with the ETC River Program Manager when booking your trip. The following are specific eligibility requirements:

- Be 18 years or older, or be accompanied by an adult;
- Be able to manage all personal care and mobility independently or with the assistance of a companion (friend or family member);
- Be able to breathe independently, not require medical devices to sustain breathing;

- Be able to effectively signal or notify guides or other trip participants of personal distress, injury or need for assistance;
- If taking prescription medications, be able to maintain proper dosage by medicating independently or with the assistance of a companion;
- Be able to travel in a physically demanding, remote backcountry environment for the uninterrupted period of the trip length, which can range from one to six days. Trip conditions may vary from cold (below 32 degrees F) to hot (above 90 degrees F) depending on trip location and season and may include, but are not limited to, rain, snow, hail, uninterrupted sun, wind. The remoteness is such that it may require at minimum an hour, but perhaps in excess of 2 days travel, to reach the nearest road and advanced medical care;
- Be able to move about the campsite independently or with the assistance of a companion, on trips that include overnight camping;
- Be able to remain adequately hydrated, fed, and properly dressed so as to remain generally healthy and be able to avoid environmental injuries such as hypothermia, heat-related illness, sunburn and frostbite; and
- Be able to wear all safety equipment correctly such as, but not limited to, helmet, harness, or personal flotation device.
- Get in and out of a boat independently or with the assistance of a companion or guide;
- Independently turn from face down to face up and remain floating face up while wearing a properly fitted personal flotation device (life jacket);
- Perceive, understand and respond to commands given by a guide independently or with the assistance of an interpreter;
- Exit a capsized boat, grab on to another boat or rope for rescue purposes and/or perform self rescue or cooperate with assisted rescue.; and
- Remain seated and balanced in a floating raft or canoe with the use of adaptive equipment, if necessary. Adaptive equipment cannot impede or lessen the effectiveness of the safety procedures or equipment. No one may be strapped or belted into a watercraft.

Equipment

ARTA provides all rafting specific equipment and group camping equipment. ARTA does not provide personal equipment, and thus, there is an enclosed “Equipment List” outlining what each person should bring with them on the trip. If you would like to borrow a sleeping bag, sleeping pad, tent (4-person), or cot please contact the ETC River Program Manager no less than 14 days prior to the start of the trip.

Trip Forms

Each person participating in the trip is required to complete four forms:

- ETC Health Form (1 page)
- ETC Liability Release (1 page)
- **ARTA Participant Information Form (2 pages)**
- **ARTA Liability Release (1 page)**

Please complete all forms and return them to the ETC River Program Manager no less than 14 days prior to your trip. All forms are enclosed in this packet.

Terms and Conditions

We look forward to sharing an ETC adventure with you. Below is a list of Terms and Conditions for your trip booking:

Reservations and Cancellations

- A deposit of 50% of the total trip cost is required 2 weeks after the booking date to secure the reservation. The trip balance is due no later than 60 days prior to the trip date.
- Cancellations made 90 days or more prior to the trip date will receive a full refund.
- Cancellations made 61-89 days prior to the trip will receive a credit for the deposit amount, which can be applied to any ETC trip within one year of the original trip date.
- Cancellations made 60 days or less prior to the trip date are not refundable unless special accommodations are made in advance with the ETC Office.
- ETC reserves the right to cancel the trip due to weather conditions, tide/current conditions, water level, or for other unforeseen reasons. If ETC cancels the trip, the trip payment will be refunded in full.

Medical

All participants must complete a Health Form, which must be signed by the participant or the participant's parent or guardian if he or she is under the age of 18. ETC works to accommodate people with special needs, though we reserve the right to exclude or remove someone from a trip at any time if doing so is related to the safety of the trip.

Emergency Evacuation

The cost of emergency evacuation or medical treatment is the responsibility of the ill or injured party.

Liability

Due to the nature of the activity, a condition of participation is the completion of a Liability Release acknowledging the inherent risks of the trip activities. This form must be signed by the participant or the participant's parent or guardian if he or she is under the age of 18. Participants who refuse to sign the liability release will not be allowed to participate.

Payment of your trip deposit indicates that you agree to the above Terms and Conditions.



Rogue River Shared Expedition Equipment List

Rafting Attire:

- One pair of quick-dry shorts and/or bathing suit
- One T-shirt or long sleeve shirt (synthetic or cotton)
- Sunhat with a brim (hats with a chin strap are best)
- Sunglasses with a retention strap
- Shoes that can get wet and will stay on feet (old tennis shoes, sport sandals, wetsuit booties)

On Land Attire:

- Two pairs of clothing for evenings (including both shorts and pants)
- Dry shoes (good for hiking/walking)
- Warm jacket

Other Personal

Items:

- Sunscreen
- Lip balm with sun protection (SPF)
- Water bottle with secure lid
- Flashlight/headlamp
- Toiletry items
- Prescription medications (if you take any)
- Prescription eyeglasses (if you have them)
- Sleeping bag (mummy style is preferable)*
- Sleeping pad*
- Tent*

Optional

Accessories:

- Camera
- Binoculars
- Small Games
- Games or cards
- Book

Agency/Group Name: _____ **Trip Date:** _____

Type of Trip: Sea Kayaking Cross-Country Skiing Whitewater Rafting

Environmental Traveling Companions Health Form

Name (please print) _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Contact/Phone _____ E-Mail Address _____

Occupation _____ Employer _____ Race/Ethnicity _____

Birth Date _____ Age _____ Sex _____ Height _____ Weight _____

Parent/Guardian _____ Phone _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Your Medical Insurance Co. _____ Policy # _____

Emergency Contact Person _____ Relationship _____

Emergency Contact Day Phone _____ Emergency Contact Alternate Phone Number _____

Specific Disability (if any) _____

Medication:

Name of Medication	Dosage	Schedule	Reason for Medication

Dietary Restrictions _____

Please indicate if you currently have or previously had any of the following conditions. For any "YES" responses, please provide specific details on the right side of this section:

1. NO YES Any problems with vision or hearing? Do you require glasses, hearing aid?
2. NO YES Problems with teeth - use of dentures, bridge or braces?
3. NO YES Dizzy spells, fainting, convulsions, persistent headaches?
4. NO YES Asthma or respiratory problems?
5. NO YES Palpitation of the heart, irregular heartbeat, heart murmurs?
6. NO YES Jaundice or hepatitis?
7. NO YES Broken bones, joint dislocations, serious sprains?
8. NO YES Any severe injury to head, chest, or internal organs?
9. NO YES Allergies to any specific drugs, foods, insect bites, bees? Please list: _____
10. NO YES History of diabetes, thyroid trouble, heart disease?
11. NO YES Other significant medical or neurologic disorders?
12. NO YES Do you smoke?
13. NO YES Any specific accommodations for toileting?

By checking this box, I agree that I have reviewed ETC's Essential Eligibility Criteria for Participation and feel that I meet these criteria.

I hereby acknowledge ETC to administer First Aid and/or emergency medical treatment and/or secure such medical services that may be necessary for myself or any minor on whose behalf I am signing. I realize that any emergency or medication that may become necessary are the sole responsibility of the participant.

By signing this release I agree that I have read it carefully, agree with its terms, and I sign it of my own free will.

Your Signature _____ Date _____

(Signature of participant or parent or guardian if participant is under 18)

Name (please print) _____

Please check here if you do not want your photo used in ETC or California State Parks publications or outreach.

PARTICIPANT AGREEMENT, RELEASE, AND ASSUMPTION OF RISK

In consideration of the services of Environmental Traveling Companions, California State Parks, their agents, owners, officers, volunteers, employees, and all other persons or entities acting in any capacity on their behalf (hereinafter collectively referred to as "ETC"), I hereby agree to release, indemnify, and discharge ETC, on behalf of myself, my children, my parents, my heirs, assigns, personal representative and estate as follows:

1. I acknowledge that my participation in the following guided activities: hiking, camping, backpacking, river rafting, skiing, and kayaking activities entails known and unanticipated risks that could result in physical or emotional injury, paralysis, death, or damage to myself, to property, or to third parties. I understand that such risks simply cannot be eliminated without jeopardizing the essential qualities of the activity.

The risks include, among other things: slips and falls; being struck by rock fall or other objects dislodged or thrown from above; pinches, scrapes, twists and jolts that could result in cuts, scratches, bruises, sprains, lacerations, fractures, or concussions; hazards of walking on uneven terrain; water hazards; canoe or kayak entrapment; accidental drowning; capsize or entrapment; whitewater rapids will be encountered; collision with fixed or moveable objects or other watercraft; being jolted, jarred, bounce, and shaken during rides; contact with food boxes, other storage containers, or other fixed equipment necessary to the operation of the expedition and the outfitting of the raft; "washed" overboard resulting in having to swim rapids risking collision with rocks and entanglement in trees; musculoskeletal injuries including head, neck, and back injuries; exposure to temperature and weather extremes which could cause cold water shock, hyperthermia (heat related illnesses), heat exhaustion, sunburn, dehydration; strong wind, cold, storms, large waves, eddies, whirlpools, and lightning; exposure to potentially dangerous wild animals, insect bites, and hazardous plant life; loss or damage to equipment being used; equipment failure and/or operator error; improper lifting or carrying; being lost or separated from their guides or companions; the negligence of participants, or other persons who may be present; accidents or illness can occur in remote places without medical facilities and emergency treatment or other services rendered; transmissible pathogen or disease; consumption of food or drink; my own physical condition, and the physical exertion associated with this activity. Furthermore, ETC personnel have difficult jobs to perform. They seek safety, but they are not infallible. They might be unaware of a participant's fitness or abilities. They might misjudge the weather, other environmental conditions. They may give incomplete warnings or instructions, and the equipment being used might malfunction.

2. I expressly agree and promise to accept and assume all of the risks existing in this activity. My participation in this activity is purely voluntary, and I elect to participate in spite of the risks. Additionally, I agree to wear a U.S. Coast Guard approved personal flotation device (life jacket) while participating in water activities.
3. I hereby voluntarily release, forever discharge, and agree to indemnify and hold harmless ETC from any and all claims, demands, or causes of action, which are in any way connected with my participation in this activity or my use of ETC's equipment or facilities, **including any such claims which allege negligent acts or omissions of ETC**.
4. Should ETC or anyone acting on their behalf, be required to incur attorney's fees and costs to enforce this agreement, I agree to indemnify and hold them harmless for all such fees and costs.
5. I certify that I have adequate insurance to cover any injury or damage I may cause or suffer while participating, or else I agree to bear the costs of such injury or damage myself. I further certify that I am willing to assume the risk of any medical or physical condition I may have. In the event of my death or incapacity, this agreement shall be effective and binding upon my heirs, next of kin, executors, administrators, assignees and representatives.
6. In the event that I file a lawsuit against ETC, I agree to do so solely in the state of California, and I further agree that the substantive law of that state shall apply in that action without regard to the conflict of law rules of that state. I agree that if any portion of this agreement is found to be void or unenforceable, the remaining portions shall remain in full force and effect.
7. The undersigned waives the protection afforded by any statute or law in jurisdiction whose purpose, substance, cause and/or effect is to provide that a general release shall not extend to claims, material or otherwise, which the person giving the release does not know or suspect to exist at the time of executing this release. This means, in part, that the undersigned is releasing unknown future claims and specifically waives the provisions of California Civil Code Section 1542 which provides: A general release does not extend to claims that the creditor or releasing party does not know or suspect exist in his or her favor at the time of the executing the release and that, if known by him or her, would have materially affected his or her settlement with the debtor or released party.

I hereby release, waive, and relinquish all claims and legal actions for personal injury, wrongful death or property damage against the U.S. Department of the Interior – Bureau of Reclamation ("U.S. Government"), State of California, its department of Parks and Recreation ("State") or its permittees arising as a result of my participation in the whitewater river trips and related activities described herein, my use of permittee's equipment, or any activities incidental thereto to include rescue activities; This release applies even if permittee and/or state and/or U.S. Government are negligent or otherwise at fault. I also agree to protect, hold harmless, defend and indemnify permittee, state and U.S. Government and hold them harmless from all claims and legal actions for personal injury, death, or property damage arising from my conduct; these indemnities apply even if permittee, state and U.S. Government are negligent or otherwise at fault.

By signing this document, I acknowledge that if anyone is hurt or property is damaged during my participation in this activity, I may be found by a court of law to have waived my right to maintain a lawsuit against ETC on the basis of any claim from which I have released them herein. I also agree that this document is valid for subsequent visits and participation at ETC.

I have had sufficient opportunity to read this entire document. I have read and understood it, and I agree to be bound by its terms.

Print Name _____ Phone Number _____
Address _____ City _____
State _____ Zip _____ Email _____

Signature of Participant _____ Date _____

PARENT'S OR GUARDIAN'S ADDITIONAL INDEMNIFICATION(Must be completed for participants under the age of 18)

In consideration of the following minor(s) _____ (clearly print Minor's or Minors' name(s)) being permitted by ETC to participate in its activities and to use its equipment and facilities, I further agree to indemnify and hold harmless ETC from any and all claims which are brought by, or on behalf of Minor(s), and which are in any way connected with such use or participation by Minor(s).

Parent or Guardian: _____ Print Name: _____ Date: _____