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Rogue River Frequently Asked Questions

The Wild and Scenic section of the Rogue River is located in Southwest Oregon 20 miles northwest of the city of Grants Pass. The nearest airline service is located in the city of Medford about 50 miles from our Rogue River launch point in Merlin, Oregon. Interstate 5 is the main highway into the area.

We recommend that guests arrive in the area the night before launch day. There is an orientation meeting the evening prior to your launch day at 5:45pm at Morrison’s Lodge. We also recommend you lodge locally the evening the trip ends. Motels are available in the area. A list of motels is included below.

Here are some of our frequently asked questions:

1. How do I get to the Rogue River?

The Wild & Scenic section of the Rogue River is located in Southwest Oregon near the city of Merlin, just 10 miles north of Grants Pass.

Approximate Driving Distance to Merlin:

Seattle (413 miles) 7.25 hours	Sacramento (345 miles) 5.75 hours	Boise (517 miles) 10.5 hours
Portland (240 miles) 4.5 hours	San Francisco (399 miles) 6.75 hours	Reno (341 miles) 6 hours
Medford (37 miles) 45 minutes	Los Angeles (727 miles) 12.5 hours	Las Vegas (780 miles) 14 hours
Redding (186 miles) 3.25 hours		



If You Are Arriving by Car:

From I-5 (north or south) take **Exit 61 to Merlin**. Merlin is 3 miles west of I-5. Turn left (west) onto Merlin-Galice Road and go 12 ½ miles. You will cross a large, yellow bridge over the Rogue River about two miles before you reach **Morrison's Lodge**, which will be on your right.

If You Are Arriving by Air:

The nearest airport is located in Medford, Oregon – the Rogue Valley International Medford Airport – which is approximately 28 miles south of Grants Pass. United, United Express, Horizon/Alaska and Delta Connection service this airport. Shuttle service can be arranged from the airport to your accommodations in Grants Pass or Merlin. This shuttle can also pick you up at Morrison's the afternoon you return from the river and return you to the airport or, to your accommodations if your flight is not until the following day. For assistance with shuttle service, call Morrison's Lodge (800) 826-1963 or Galice Resort (541) 476-3818. Please note: The fees that these shuttle companies charge *are in addition to* your trip fees.

Private aircraft can fly into Grants Pass, Oregon Airport-FAA identifier, 3S8. The airport is 5 miles from Grants Pass and about 20 minutes from our meeting point at Morrison's Lodge.

2. What area lodging do you recommend before or after the trip?

Whether driving or flying, we encourage you to arrive in the area the night before your trip. There are a number of motels and campgrounds in the area and reservations are strongly recommended. The following lodge and motels are easy to find.

Merlin Area

Morrison's Lodge (800) 826-1963
Galice Resort (541) 476-3818
The Riverhouse Camp Lodge
(541) 472-1052

Grants Pass

Best Western (800) 553-7666
Holiday Inn Express (800) 838-7666
The Riverside Inn (800) 334-4567

Medford

Rogue Regency Inn (800) 535-5805

Camping is available near Galice at Indian Mary Campground and at Alameda Bar. Reservations are needed during the summer and can be made through the Park Service: (541) 474-5285.

3. Where do we meet for the trip?

We will meet you at **Morrison's Lodge** near Merlin, Oregon at **5:45pm the evening prior to your departure date** for a one-hour orientation meeting to answer last minute questions and give you your waterproof bags to pack. This is an important meeting, so please be on time. The next morning, we will meet you at 7:45am at Morrison's and transport you to the launch point for your trip. Please have breakfast on your own before we meet.

Lodge trips: Return to Morrison's around 5:00pm on the final day.

Camp trips: Return to Morrison's around 4:00pm on the final day.

The return trip to Morrison's includes a scenic 2 hour van shuttle (this shuttle is included in your trip fees) back over the mountains.

4. What kind of weather can I expect?

Weather in any river canyon can vary widely day to day. However, the Rogue's typical daytime temperatures can climb into the 80's & 90's, with the water temperature generally 60-70 degrees. Early and late season trips can also have temperatures ranging from 60-80. ***While blue skies & sunshine are predominant, rain can happen any time so please bring rain gear!***

5. Tell me about your meals.

You won't have to worry about going hungry on our trips. We feed you from lunch the first day through lunch the last day. The food is fantastic (even if we do say so ourselves), and there is plenty of it. While we provide a *modest amount* of beer and wine, you are welcome to bring additional beer, wine, soda or other refreshments. We ask that beer and soda not be in glass containers.

If you have special dietary needs (ex. vegetarian, allergies, etc.) - don't worry! Just complete the section regarding dietary needs on your trip application form and we will be prepared for your arrival. If you would like to discuss your specific needs with an Adventure Consultant please feel free to give us a call at 1-800-451-6034.

6. I have a medical condition. Will this be a problem on the trip?

If you have a medical condition, severe allergic reaction or special dietary needs, please inform our staff prior to the beginning of the trip. Please complete the section regarding "Medical Information" on your trip application form completely and we will note your reservation accordingly. If you use medications it is recommended to bring two supplies packed in separate, watertight containers. If you carry an insect sting kit, be certain to bring it in your day pack.

If you use a CPAP machine, please note that the first lodge DOES NOT run their generator all night. If it is critical that you use a CPAP, please plan ahead and purchase an independent battery pack. You can find these at www.cpap.com.

7. What should I pack for my trip?

All your clothing and personal items should fit into a soft-sided duffel bag (maximum duffel size: 24" long by 13" wide by 12" high). If you are on a camp trip, your sleeping bag/pad does not need to fit into your soft-sided duffel bag. When you meet us for your trip, we will provide you with a dry bag that you can put your duffel bag into. We will also have small day bags available for items you want access to during the day such as sunscreen, sunglasses, waterproof cameras, etc.

If you are on our camp trip: we will provide each guest with a sleeping bag, pad and liner. We also supply tents (double occupancy), tables, chairs, etc.

If you are on our lodge trip: Your cabins have beds and showers...you don't need to bring bedding or towels.

River attire is very casual – comfort and convenience take precedence over style!

Clothing should be fast drying. Cotton materials, such as jeans and sweatshirts, are poor choices for wearing on the river. When they get wet, they may take days to dry. Synthetic materials such as nylon and capilene dry quickly and are also cool on hot days.

If you are sensitive to the sun, be sure to bring long sleeved shirts, long pants, socks and a hat to protect your skin. Sunburn on the river happens fast and can be severe.

Since the lodges run their power by generators, please no hair dryers or curling irons.

8. How can someone reach me in the case of an emergency?

For all intents and purposes, you will be unreachable while on the river. However, give our office phone number - (800) 451-6034 - to the individual(s) who would be responsible for notifying you in an emergency. While we cannot guarantee we will be able to contact you, we will use all our resources to reach you. Our office hours are Monday through Saturday, 8:30am – 5:00pm and Sundays, 10am – 4:00pm.

9. Should we tip the guides and lodge staff?

Here are some helpful guidelines on tipping. Your guide is a paid professional. Tips are appropriate and accepted only if we exceeded your expectations. Whether you tip and how much you tip should depend on your satisfaction with the trip,

your feelings about tipping, and your financial means. If you believe your guide deserves a tip, a suggested range is from 7-12% of your trip cost. If you had the time of your life, then the sky is the limit! We also appreciate your comments. We use your feedback to recognize extraordinary guest service and to discover areas where we can make improvements. Our goal is to exceed your expectations! Tips can be given to the "ROW Team Leader", who will distribute equally among the crew.

The same applies for the lodge staff at the lodges where you will be staying. If you feel that you have been well served, we recommend a \$5.00 per guest gratuity be given to the staff after breakfast each morning.

10. Deposits and Final Payments

Your reservation is confirmed upon receipt of a \$300 per person deposit which is on a first come, first served basis. The balance is due 60 days prior to the launch date of your trip by check. If final payment is not received when due, we reserve the right to regard the reservation cancelled.

11. Cancellations

Should you have to cancel your trip plans, deposits are **non-refundable**. After the final balance due date all payments become **non-refundable**. Alternate guests are welcome.

Please understand that we cannot insure your investment in river trip reservations. We strongly recommend the purchase of trip cancellation and interruption insurance. Once you sign up, we lose the right to sell your reserved space to other individuals or groups. Our number of trips and spaces per trip are limited by river management plans. Therefore, we regret that we cannot make exceptions for personal emergencies. Should you decide to cancel your trip with us, your trip cost is not transferable to another year.

12. Travel Protection

Cancellation and interruption insurance can include full refund should you cancel due to health, medical, or several other reasons. If you cannot afford to forfeit your reservation investment, you should purchase trip cancellation insurance. You can purchase this coverage by completing the credit card authorization form and / or by calling our office and we can assist you in the purchase of this insurance...1-800-451-6034.

13. What do I need to do to plan my trip with you?

- A) First, call or email our office to check current availability and choose a date. Our Adventure Consultants are happy to help you through the entire process. It really is quite simple.
- B) Once a date has been chosen we will email or mail you a complete reservation packet. A deposit is due within 7-10 days and will confirm your space(s) on the trip.
- C) Next, you will want to make reservations for your lodging the night before your trip with us.
- D) Lastly, if you are flying, make your airline reservation with your travel agent (we can help you pick the best times to fly in and out). You will also need to coordinate a separate shuttle to take you to and from the airport. The fees for this shuttle are in addition to our trip fee but our Adventure Consultants are happy to assist you in coordinating with a shuttle service.

And, that's it!

14. What forms of payment do you accept?

Of course, we accept personal checks and money orders but we also accept all major credit cards (Visa, MasterCard, Discover and American Express) for the deposit. We require the final balance to be paid by check. Our prices listed are cash rates. If you wish to use your credit card the final payment amount is subject to a 3% administration fee.