



## Rogue River Multi Day Supported Hiking Trip Information

The following are important details for your trip on the Rogue River. The information will help to make your trip a safe, comfortable, and enjoyable one. If you have any questions please don't hesitate to call us at (800)336-1647 or e-mail us at [webmaster@wildrogue.com](mailto:webmaster@wildrogue.com)

**Meeting Place:** Rogue Wilderness office (325 Galice Rd. Merlin OR)

**Meeting Time:** 8:30AM on your trip start date

**After the Trip:** Arrival back to Rogue Wilderness Office around 4:00pm (unless car shuttle has been requested or other arrangements have been made)

### Checklist

- Complete your registration form and sign the Liability Release. Please return by mail, email or fax at least 30 days before trip departure.  
Mail: Rogue Wilderness Adventures  
PO Box 1110 Merlin, OR 97532  
Fax (541)476-8051  
Email [webmaster@wildrogue.com](mailto:webmaster@wildrogue.com)
- Plan for the unexpected with Travel Insurance at [www.travelinsure.com](http://www.travelinsure.com) or [www.travelex.com](http://www.travelex.com)
- Final payment due 30 days before your trip

### RWA provides the following

- » Transportation from RWA office to river starting trail point
- » Transportation from river back to RWA office
- » 4 days of hiking along the beautiful Rogue River
- » All on trail/river meals
- » Lodging (double occupancy)
- » Waterproof bags for your personal gear
- » Complimentary RWA water bottles
- » RWA Trail Map

### You are responsible for

- » Meals and lodging before and after your trip
- » Personal clothing and other miscellaneous items
- » Guide gratuities (see last page)

### Where to Stay Before and After

Make reservations well in advance. Rogue Wilderness does not make reservations for or cover the cost of your room. If you are flying to Medford, we recommend that you stay in Grants Pass to simplify your shuttle arrangements. If you drive, we

recommend staying in Grants Pass. Wherever you choose to stay, please mention that you are on an RWA trip. Ask about AAA & Senior or youth rates.

### In Grants Pass

» **The Lodge at Riverside** (541)955-0600 (about \$175)

[www.thelodgeatriverside.com](http://www.thelodgeatriverside.com)

» **Riverside Inn** (541)476-6873 (about \$125)

[www.riverside-inn.com](http://www.riverside-inn.com)

» **Holiday Inn Express** (541)471-6144 (about \$105)

[www.hiexpress.com](http://www.hiexpress.com)

» **Redwood Motel** (888)535-8824 (about \$100)

[www.redwoodmotel.com](http://www.redwoodmotel.com)

» **Shilo Inn** (541) 479-8391 (about \$90)

[www.shiloinns.com](http://www.shiloinns.com)

» **La Quinta** (541) 472-1808 (about \$75)

[www.LQ.com](http://www.LQ.com)

All of these properties are within 10 minutes of the RWA office.

### Campgrounds

Indian Mary, Griffin Park, and Almeda Park all take reservations. For reservations call 1-800-452-5687 or visit [www.reserveamerica.com](http://www.reserveamerica.com).

### Bed & Breakfasts/Lodges

» **Morrison's Lodge** (800)826-1963 (about \$140/person)

[www.morrisonlodge.com](http://www.morrisonlodge.com)

» **Rogue Forest B&B** (541)472-1052 (about \$245)

[www.rogueforestbnb.com](http://www.rogueforestbnb.com)

» **Weasku Inn** (541)471-8000 (about \$195)

[www.weasku.com](http://www.weasku.com)

### Good Eats

Our favorite restaurant is **Backroad Grill** (541) 476-4019 [www.backroadgrill.com](http://www.backroadgrill.com) Closed Mondays & Tuesdays

## How to Get There

**If You Fly**, the closest commercial airport is Medford, Oregon. It is serviced by United Airlines, American West, Delta and Horizon Air. Flights inbound to Medford start from San Francisco, Seattle, Portland, Salt Lake City, Las Vegas and Phoenix. Please plan your flight to arrive the day before your river trip.

We recommend you plan to stay in the Grants Pass area to simplify the shuttle logistics before and after your trip. Rogue Wilderness Adventures offers airport pickup and drop off for \$75 each way. Please call in advance to request airport shuttle services. (800)336-1647

**If You Drive: From I-5 North:** Get off at exit 61. Follow the off ramp until you get to the stoplight. Turn left and follow the road (Merlin-Galice Rd) out for about 3 ½ miles. You will come to a little town called Merlin. You will follow the road through the town until you get almost to the end of it. We are on the left hand side (325 Merlin-Galice Rd.). Rogue Wilderness is a two story, green building, and we are directly across the street from the Backroad Grill.

**From I-5 South:** Get off at exit 61. At the end of the off ramp go to the stoplight and go left and follow the road (Merlin-Galice Rd) out for about 3½ miles. You will come to a little town called Merlin. You will follow the road through the town until you get almost to the end of it. We are on the left hand side (325 Merlin-Galice Rd.). Rogue Wilderness is a two story, green building, and we are directly across the street from the Backroad Grill.

## The Trip Outline

**The Morning of your Trip:** At 8:30AM you will meet at the Rogue Wilderness office to meet your guide, get your gear ( we will provide a dry bag for duffle bags and other personal items), and do any last minute paper work. Come to the office dressed in your hiking clothes. A shuttle van will take you on a 30 minute ride to Grave Creek trailhead. Final preparations (loading your dry bag onto boats and a safety talk) will take about an hour. Be sure to eat a hearty breakfast before your trip.

**On the Trail:** You will usually spend six to seven hours a day on the trail. The first day of the hike is approximately 10 ½ miles, the second day is 15 miles, the third is 11 miles, and the fourth is about 7 miles long. Breakfast is served around 8 AM and you are back on the trail by about 10 AM. There will be a stop mid-day for lunch where a buffet style lunch will be served. Before dinner there will be plenty of time for relaxing in the beautiful scenery of the wild rogue with friends and family.

**After the Trip:** The trip ends at Foster Bar in the early afternoon. At this time you will board a van, which will return you and your gear to RWA office, unless you have arranged a

car shuttle. Car shuttles are available from RWA offices to Foster Bar for an additional \$100 per car (subject to change due to early season road conditions). The van trip takes about two to three hours, arriving back in Merlin around 4 to 5 PM. It's a beautiful but windy drive: those prone to carsickness may want to be prepared with Dramamine.

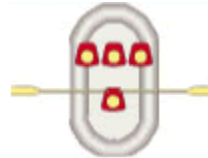
**Lodges on the Trip:** The lodges are privately owned and operated. They are clean and comfortable, but are quirky. Walls are thin and beds tend to be lumpy. Food is plentiful and hearty. There is not room service and it's not the Four Seasons. All equipment and food has been flown or rafted in. You will be warm, dry and never hungry. Each room has a bathroom and 2 beds. (Usually singles) All meals are served in the main lodge.

**Hair Dryers:** All the lodges you'll stay at are on generator and will provide light and heat during your stay. At 10pm the generators are turned off. So bring a flashlight to find the bathroom. Do not bring hair dryers, they will cause the generator to stop.

## Guides and Rafts

We use rafts that carry you and your gear. Your guides will always be on the water rowing a boat. No guides will be on the trail with you. Our guide to hiker ratio is 1:6 and you will be able to ride the rafts when you are tired or want a different perspective. On the morning of day 2, many will take advantage of the option of a boat ride to lessen the 15 mile hike.

**Oar boats:** Oar boats are sixteen to eighteen foot boats that carry gear and supplies as well as one to 6 passengers.. A ride on an oar boat is an opportunity to relax, enjoy the scenery, or chat with friends and family. The oar boat is the least active option and typically provides the lowest probability of a "swim".



**Fishing:** Fishing on the Rogue is not great in the spring or summer. If you would like to fish, Oregon fishing licenses may be purchased at Oregon sporting good stores and at a small market ½ mile up the road from the RWA office. We recommend collapsible poles for ease in packing.

**Guides:** Our guides have a deep appreciation for the river and its surroundings. RWA guides are accomplished in outdoor skills and extensively trained in first aid and CPR. They will be more than happy to help you if you have any questions about the river or are an inexperienced hiker. In addition, the guides are mature, interesting people we think you'll enjoy. Guides will be rowing their boats on the trip. No guide will be on the trail.

**Gratuities:** We are often asked if tipping is appropriate. Tips are certainly appreciated by our guides. Tips normally range from 5% to 10% of the trip cost. Whether and how much you tip should depend on your satisfaction with the trip, your feelings about tipping, and your financial means.

**Equipment:** RWA provides complimentary water bottles, and waterproof bags, for cameras and binoculars. We recommend you bring a ziplock plastic bag as a liner for your camera and purchase camera insurance, or better yet, a disposable waterproof camera.

**Meals and Alcohol:** RWA provides all meals from lunch on the first day to lunch on the last day. We specialize in creative and delicious meals. Guides will prepare your meals using a variety of fresh foods.

Vegetarian and medically restricted diets will gladly be accommodated with **advance notice**. Fruit juice and water are available with every meal. Coffee, tea, and cocoa are available at breakfast and dinner. Wine, Beer, or any other alcoholic beverages are not provided by RWA, but are welcome on the trip. There will be ice chests available for you at check in for you to bring extra beverages. There is no place to buy beverages once the trip leaves.

**Environmental Concerns:** During the day on the hike you will encounter BLM serviced outhouses. We are required to carry a portable toilet on all our trips. We encourage hikers to use mother-nature for fluids and outhouses for solids.

**Cancellations and Travel Insurance:** We strictly adhere to our cancellation policies as explained on your (or your group organizer's) reservation form.

Trip capacity is strictly regulated by law and your reservation may mean we cannot sell space to others. Because of this, travel insurance is strongly recommended. It will reimburse you if you make a late cancellation because of illness or an illness in the family. Otherwise you are welcome to find a friend to replace you. To find information on buying travelers insurance please visit, [www.travelinsure.com](http://www.travelinsure.com) or [www.travelex.com](http://www.travelex.com)

**Registration Form & Health Information:** Hiking trips are somewhat strenuous. You should be in good health, and be able to hike many miles every day. If you do end up not being able to carry on with the normal hike, the rafts are always available for you to ride along in and enjoy the beautiful Rogue from a different view. If there are any medical considerations (such as allergies, heart conditions, etc.) or dietary restrictions we should know about, please put them on the registration form or call us. We ask that you return the form to our office well in advance (**at least 30 days**) of your trip either by mail, fax, or e-mail.

**Area Attractions:** Oregon is a very beautiful state with many things to do and see. Crater Lake National Park is very beautiful and also very popular, as well as the Oregon Caves National Monument. The Oregon Shakespeare Festival is nearby in Ashland. Performances often sell out; call (541) 482-4331 or <http://www.osfashland.org> for more information. Also popular is the Britt Festival featuring music and dance (541) 779-0847 or [www.brittfest.org](http://www.brittfest.org). You can contact the Grants Pass Chamber

of Commerce at (541)476-7717 <http://www.visitgrantspass.org> for specific Oregon area brochures.

**Questions?** Please contact our office if you have any other questions about your trip. Once you are on the hike, our guides will be happy to answer questions or assist you. We welcome any suggestions you have and want you to enjoy your hiking trip.

**Communications:** There are **no phones and cell phones** do not work in the canyon. You are on vacation and the world will go on without you. Phones work in the RWA parking lot, after that leave them in your car.

## Clothing and Comfort

Dressing safely and comfortably (not to mention fashionable) for hiking trips is a challenging task. It is very important and should not be taken lightly. For much of the season, you will need two sets of warm clothing: one for on the hike and one for the lodge.

**Use the "layering system"** Bring clothes that can be worn under or on top of others. Layering allows you to adjust quickly to changeable weather, by adding or subtracting layers.

Loose, fast drying, durable clothing is best for Hiking. We recommend the following materials because they are compact and are made to keep you warm and comfortable through a range of temperatures.

**Polypropylene (Polypro) or capilene** are synthetic materials that wick the moisture away from the skin. Long underwear (shirt and pants) are essential as the first layer in cool or wet weather.

**Fleece** is a synthetic material that is heavier than polypro. It makes an excellent middle layer in cool or wet weather. Wool is also a good insulator. Bring a jacket or sweater as well as pants of these fabrics.

**Cotton** should **NOT** be worn during cool or wet weather since wet cotton lowers body temperature. Cotton is recommended for hot weather only!

**Rainwear** Rain jacket and pants are to protect you from the storms as well as mist from rapids if you were to ride in the raft. Coated nylon or breathable fabrics such as Gore-Tex are best. Ponchos are bulky and dangerous so they are not recommended.

**Footwear** You will find a light weight hiking boot or sturdy running shoe appropriate for our hike. Closed shoes do offer the most foot protection while on the hike. If your plan on riding in the raft it is suggested you bring a water sandal to wear. A bag will be provided to keep your boots from getting wet while you ride.

## Packing

**Your Dry Bag or Waterproof Bag:** The bag, when fully packed measures about 15 inches in diameter by 36 inches in height and is almost the size of a large garbage bag.

**Day Bags:** Since your waterproof bag will not be accessible during the day, day bags will be available on the hike during your trip for sunscreen, clothing, hats, water bottles and cameras. Small personal dry bags are available for purchase in the RWA gift shop. It is recommended to bring a backpack of your own to keep daily needed items with you at all times.

## Rogue Weather

Elevation in Merlin, OR: 915 ft.

The summertime weather in southwest Oregon is usually very pleasant: warm and dry. However, you need to be prepared for wet, cool weather as well as hot and dry. This can be easy if you pay attention to the information provided and to your own tolerance to the sun and to the cold.

	Jun	July	Aug	Sept
Avg. Temp Day	82	90	88	84
Avg. Temp Night	48	54	52	46
Rainfall	0.5"	0.3"	0.5"	0.9"

**May & June** trips can be cool (days 55°-85°, nights 50°-60°), with a chance of rainstorms. The water will be moderately cold and you can plan on being splashed a lot.

**Late June to August** trips are warmer (days 75°-95° nights 65°)

**September** trips generally have mild days (60°-80°) and cool nights (50°-60°). Storms are always possible.

## Your Personal Responsibility

We handle trip logistics, provide the food and make sure that you have knowledgeable and well-trained guides. We see to it that you are comfortable, safe, and that you see the Rogue's special places.

We expect that you will bring adequate clothing, your **personal gear will weigh no more than 20lbs. and will fit in the size requirements of our waterproof bags (15" diameter by 36" tall). This weight limit does not apply to beverages.**

**We ask that you approach your trip with an open mind for adventure and discovery.**

## What to Bring

Your comfort and safety depend on you being well equipped for the wilderness. If the weather is perfect you will not need the cold weather clothing or rain gear, but should plan for sun protection. Please call if you don't understand or cannot find an item on the list.

**Pack clothing you won't mind getting wet or dirty.** Cut down on bulk by not bringing too many changes of clothing for the same temperature conditions. You do not need a change of clothing every day.

### Clothing List RECOMMENDED for ALL trips:

- Swimsuit: May be worn as a first layer (if you plan on a swim)
- Shorts: quick drying shorts can double as a swimsuit for men.
- Hiking boots, water sport sandals (i.e. Chaco)\*
- Socks: Polypropylene or wool\*
- Shoes for Lodges
- Pants for Lodges
- Shirts: long sleeved is best for sun protection\*
- Long underwear: Polypropylene, Smart wool, or Capilene
- Sweater or jacket: Fleece or Wool
- Pants: Fleece or Wool
- Hat and Gloves: Fleece or Wool
- Rain jacket and pants
- Baseball cap or visor (with strap) for sun protection\*

### Gear List:

- Flashlight or headlamp
- Sunglasses with strap\*
- Bandanas
- Insect repellent\*
- Sunscreen\*/lip balm\*
- Moisturizer/Skin lotion\*
- Wet wipes
- Soap and Shampoo
- Small towels and toiletries
- Medications
- Large zip lock bags for wet gear
- Tecnu for poison oak
- Bear Spray or whistle

### Sometimes REQUIRED for early season trips:

- Long underwear: Polypropylene, Smart wool, or Capilene
- Sweater or jacket: Fleece or Wool

### Optional Gear

- Small zip lock bags for organizing gear
- Fishing equipment and license
- Disposable/waterproof camera\*
- Book/Journal/Notebook
- Small day pack or fanny pack
- Dramamine (if prone to car sickness)