



TRIP DETAILS | OWYHEE RIVER

OREGON'S GRAND CANYON!

—Planning ahead ensures an incredible vacation—

BEFORE YOU HEAD OUT . . .

- Complete your Trip Registration online, or fill out the paper form and mail or fax it to the NWRC office.
- Plan for the unexpected with [Travel Insurance](#).
- Make lodging arrangements for the night before and night after your trip.
- Final payment is due 60 days before your trip.

THE RENDEZVOUS

MEETING PLACE

Rome BLM Station
Rome, Oregon

MEETING TIME

9:00 AM Pacific Time on
your trip start date

AFTER THE TRIP

You'll return to Rome on the last day
of your trip between 4 and 5 pm

HOW TO GET THERE

— **General Info** | There is very little cell phone reception around Jordan Valley and Rome. Fuel stations can also be sparse. There is fuel in Jordan Valley (32 miles east of Rome) and Burns Junction (20 miles west of Rome) so plan accordingly.

— **If You Fly** | The nearest airport is in Boise, ID (115 miles from Rome). Shuttles from Jack or Cory - 541-586-2548. You may also rent a car at the airport.

— **If You Drive** | We meet at the Rome BLM Station in Rome, Oregon. Rome is a tiny outpost located on Hwy 95 in the remote southeast corner of the state between Burns Junction and Jordan Valley. We will bring you back to Rome at the end of the trip. If you prefer, you may arrange to have your vehicle shuttled to the take-out.



TRIP DETAILS | OWYHEE RIVER

WHERE TO STAY BEFORE AND AFTER

Make reservations well in advance. Northwest Rafting Company does not make reservations or cover the cost of your room.

ROME LODGING

- Rome Station Cafe & RV Park | (541) 586-2294

JORDAN VALLEY LODGING

- Basque Station Motel | (541) 586-2244

AREA CAMPGROUNDS

- Camping available at river access near Highway 95 bridge.

Burns, Oregon is 105 miles west of Rome and has a number of Hotels to choose from (don't confuse this with Burns Junction, they are two different towns). Boise is 115 miles north of Rome and is the closest large city. Boise has a number of hotels, restaurants, and an airport.

NWRC PROVIDES THE FOLLOWING

You get to leave most of the trip logistics to us. We'll take care of the following:

- Transportation from the river back to Rome
- All on-river meals
- Camp chair
- Tent (by request)
- Freshly laundered sleeping bag and pad (by request)
- Waterproof bags for your personal gear

YOU ARRANGE THESE DETAILS

Some things are out of our hands. You'll need to make arrangements for the following:

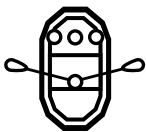
- Meals and lodging before and after your trip
- Personal clothing and other miscellaneous items
- Guide Gratuities

ON THE RIVER: TYPES OF BOATS



PADDLE BOAT

Paddle boats are powered by the paddle strokes of the crew. They are fourteen to fifteen foot boats that are powered by strokes of the paddle crew. The guide typically sits in the back and gives paddle commands to the four to seven paddlers.



OAR BOAT

Oar Boats carry gear and supplies as well as one to four passengers. A ride on an oar boat is an opportunity to relax, enjoy the scenery, watch for wildlife, or chat with friends and family. The oar boat is the least active option and typically provides the greatest stability.



INFLATABLE KAYAK ("DUCKY")

The duckies are the ultimate vessel for the active river runner. This is an opportunity to run the rapids of the Owyhee River under your own power and direction. The guides will give instruction for the duckies before the trip and direction for the rapids while on the water. Helmets are always required while paddling the duckies and at times a wetsuit may be required.

TOILETS AND SANITATION

We will be using portable river toilets. When setting up toilet facilities we are conscious of sanitation and privacy needs. We follow Leave No Trace principals, carry out all trash, and use no soap in the river. The guides will instruct you in simple procedures that minimize the impact of our group on the canyon and we ask for your cooperation.

FISHING

If you're interested in fishing you'll need a fishing license which can be purchased online at the [Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife web site](#). Please bring collapsible rods in unbreakable cases.



TRIP DETAILS | OWYHEE RIVER

THE COLD WEATHER CAMPER



RIVER CLOTHING/GEAR

- Wetsuit and Paddle Jacket
- 2+ Wool or Polypro Shirts
- Wool or Polypro Pants
- Wool or Neoprene Gloves
- Wool or Neoprene Socks
- River Shoes

CAMP CLOTHING/GEAR

- 2 Shirts
- 2 Pairs of Pants, Shorts, Skirts, or Dresses
- Underwear
- Warm Jacket
- Rain Jacket and Rain Pants
- Camp Shoes
- 2 Pairs of Socks
- Headlamp or Flashlight

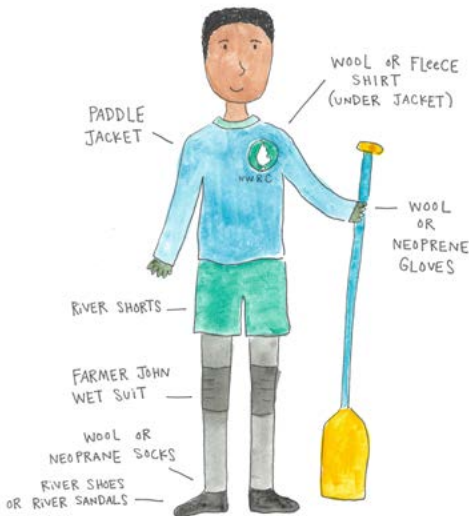
CAMPING GEAR (AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST)

- Sleeping Bag
- Tent
- Sleeping Pad

PERSONAL ITEMS

- Small Camp Pillow
- Moisturizing Lotion
- Wet Wipes
- Toiletries and Medications
- Insect Repellent
- Cash or Check for Gratuities

THE NOT-SO-FAIR WEATHER BOATER



OPTIONAL

- Bike Gloves for Paddling
- Small Ziploc Bags for Organization
- Garbage Bag to Organize Clothing
- Mission Patch
- Biodegradable Soap and Shampoo
- Sun Shower
- Small Towel
- Book or Notebook
- Small Day Pack
- Dramamine for Transportation to and from the River
- Beer, Wine, and Soda in cans or plastic bottles

*TENTS AND SLEEPING BAGS

Double occupancy tents and sleeping bags with a pad are available from NWRC at no additional cost, but you must request them! Please let us know if you need them by completing the appropriate spot on the registration form or by calling our office at (541) 450-9855.

OPTIONAL DELUXE CAMPING PACKAGE

This package includes a stand-up tent, two cots, two sleeping bags, and two sleeping pads. It is available for \$250 per package and has limited availability, but you must reserve it! See registration form.



TRIP DETAILS | OWYHEE RIVER

DRESSING SAFELY AND COMFORTABLY (NOT TO MENTION FASHIONABLY) FOR RIVER TRIPS IS A CHALLENGING TASK. YOU WILL NEED TWO SETS OF WARM CLOTHING: ONE FOR ON THE RIVER AND ONE FOR IN CAMP.

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 rafting. We recommend the following materials because they are compact and made to keep you warm and comfortable through a range of temperatures.

POLYPROPYLENE (POLYPRO) OR CAPILENE

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

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 wind and spray from the rapids as well as from storms. Coated nylon or breathable fabrics such as Gore-Tex are best. Ponchos are bulky and dangerous so they are not recommended.

WETSUITS

These are required for our Owyhee River trips. The 1/8 inch farmer john style is the most comfortable and can be worn with a rain jacket or paddling jacket. A long sleeved top of polypro or fleece adds needed warmth. A wool cap and gloves also help. Wetsuits are available for free upon request.

FOOTWEAR

You will find guides and fellow guests in tennis shoes, wetsuit booties with soles, and river sandals. Closed shoes do offer the most foot protection while on the river and, if worn with wool or neoprene wetsuit socks, they can help insulate your feet when the water is cold.

PACKING AND BAGS

Each individual will be provided a dry bag for the duration of the trip. The bag, when fully packed, measures about 17 inches in diameter by 32 inches in height and is almost the size of a garbage bag. Your sleeping bag, pad, and personal items must fit into this bag. Separate bags will be available for tents. You will also be provided with a dry day bag for items you may want during the day, such as a camera, chapstick, sunscreen, extra layer, or rain gear.

	APRIL	MAY
AVG. DAY TEMP.	50°-65°	60°-70°
AVG. EVE. TEMP.	30°-40°	35°-40°
AVG. PRECIP.	1.07"	1.39"

OWYHEE WEATHER

Spring weather in Eastern Oregon can often be dramatic and unpredictable. You can expect to experience a range from cold and wet to hot and dry conditions. Your comfort and enjoyment on your trip is dependent on your complete preparation for Eastern Oregon's diverse conditions. This can be easy if you pay attention to the information provided and to your own tolerance to the sun and to cold.

PRO-TIPS

- Pack clothing that can get wet and dirty. To cut down on bulk, plan to re-wear your dry clothes.
- Please note that you're traveling through designated wilderness. There is no internet, no cell service, and no electricity. If you need to be reached while on the river, you can consider renting a [satellite phone](#) to bring with you.



TRIP DETAILS | OWYHEE RIVER

THE MORNING OF YOUR TRIP

— At 9 AM your head guide will meet you at the Rome BLM Station. Be sure to eat a hearty breakfast before your trip! Keep in mind that food service at the nearby Rome Station can be slow.

ON THE RIVER

— The pace of your river trip is very dependent on the water level! You will usually spend four to five hours a day on the river. Breakfast is served about 8 AM and you are on the water by about 10 AM. There will be a stop mid-day for lunch and maybe some short hikes. We set up camp in the late afternoon, allowing time to hike and relax before we serve dinner. If you are new to camping the guides will be happy to help you pick a camp and set up a tent so don't hesitate to ask.



AFTER THE TRIP

— The trip ends in the early afternoon of the last day. At this time you say good-bye to your guides (except your head guide) and board a van, which will return you and your gear back to Rome. The van trip takes about two to three hours, arriving back in Rome by late afternoon (around 4 to 5 PM). It's a beautiful but windy drive: those prone to carsickness may want to be prepared with Dramamine and sit near the front of the van.



GRATUITIES

— We are often asked if tipping is appropriate. Tips are certainly appreciated by our guides. Tips are usually around 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.

MEALS AND ALCOHOL

— NWRC provides all meals from lunch on the first day to lunch on the last day. Dietary restrictions and allergies can be accommodated with advance notice. Alcoholic beverages may be brought, preferably in unbreakable containers. For your safety, drinking alcoholic beverages on the river is not allowed.

CANCELLATION AND TRAVEL INSURANCE

— We strictly adhere to our cancellation policies as explained on your (or your group organizer's) invoice. 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 can 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. Please contact us if you would like more information on [Travel Insurance](#) or a copy of NWRC's cancellation policy.

PARTICIPANT RESPONSIBILITIES

— All participants will be required to follow the safety policies and procedures of Northwest Rafting Company and its guides and all participants will be required to sign a Participant Assumption of Risk, Acknowledgement of Inherent Risks and Indemnity Agreement in favor of Northwest Rafting Company.

GUIDES

— Our guides have a deep appreciation for the rivers we run, and want you to enjoy your trip with them. They are happy to help you if you are an inexperienced camper or have questions about the river. NWRC guides are accomplished in outdoor skills and extensively trained in first aid and CPR. In addition, the guides are mature, interesting people we think you'll enjoy.

