



The Best in California River Rafting

South Fork Highlights

Section: Chili Bar to Coloma
Difficulty: Class III (Min. Age 8)
Skill Level: Beginner to Intermediate
Thrill Level: Thrills and Excitement
Length: 10 Miles

South Fork American River – AM Half Day Trip Information



Directions

From Sacramento, Take Hwy 50 towards So. Lake Tahoe. **Take Exit #37** (Ponderosa Rd/Shingle Springs). This is 1 mile past the Town of Cameron Park. Turn left and cross the highway. At the second stop light, turn right towards Coloma. This is North Shingle Road. Drive 4.5 miles and you'll come to a Y in the road, turn left at the Y, this is Lotus Rd. Drive 7 miles on Lotus Rd. Lotus Rd will dead end into Hwy 49. Turn left on Hwy 49 and drive 1.7 miles. Start slowing down at the 1.5 mile mark. Look for the **6580 Whitewater Excitement sign** on the left. Turn left and follow the signs to the WWE Parking Area.

GPS Coordinates:

Digital: Lat:38.81829 / Long:120.92752

GPS: Lat: N38 49.097 / Long: W120 55.651

From So. Lake Tahoe, take Hwy 50 West to Placerville. Right on Hwy 49 (Spring Street, Sign to Coloma). Follow Hwy 49 to Coloma. Pass Marshall Gold State Park and you'll cross a bridge over the river. Drive 1.5 miles past the bridge to the **6580 Whitewater Excitement sign**, on left. Turn left follow the signs to the **WWE Parking area**.

From Truckee/North Shore, take I-80 West to Auburn. Exit at Hwy 49 towards Placerville. Follow Hwy 49 and drive down the canyon. Follow Hwy 49, right across the bridge and up to the town of Cool. Four Miles past Cool is Pilot Hill. Drive 5.5 miles and look for the **6580 Whitewater Excitement sign** on the right. Turn right and follow the signs to the **WWE Parking area**.

Thank you for choosing Whitewater Excitement for your river adventure on the Chili Bar section of the South Fork of the American River. This 10 mile, Hydroelectric dam controlled stretch has 12 major rapids that will test your paddling skills. Our launching point is the historical site of Chili Bar. The weather during the spring and summer can range from cool and rainy to hot and sunny. The following information will give you all the details about the trip including: directions to the meeting area with an area map, meeting time, what to bring, and information about camping.

Meeting Time: 7:45 A.M. at the Camp Store

Driving time from the SF Bay Area is 2.5-3 hours, from Southern California 7 to 8 hours. Please be on time, as we only wait 30 minutes for latecomers.

Check-In

Upon arrival at the Whitewater Excitement parking area, please walk toward our store and check in area. If you are camping the night before please check in with our Camp Hosts. They will answer any questions you might have.

What to Bring

River clothing is very casual and you should expect to get wet, please dress accordingly. Cotton gets wet and does not keep you warm.

River Portion - Swim suit or shorts, tennis shoes or Teva Type Sandals (**NO FLIP FLOPS OR BARE FEET ALLOWED**), light wind breaker and pile or polypro sweater in case of cool weather, hat with tie, sunglasses with retaining device such as chums, lip balm, sunscreen, garbage bag for your wet clothes, some dry clothes for the trip home (to be left in your car), and a small amount of money for souvenirs, photos, and meals on the way home.

Camping Equipment – Tent and ground cloth, sleeping bag and pad, lawn/camp chairs, camp clothes (dry shoes, long pants or shorts, shirt, sweater or light jacket), flashlight, lantern, insect repellent, personal items (towel, toothbrush and paste, soap, shampoo, etc.), and Firewood for camp fires. We have a limited supply at the store for sale.

Camping is an additional \$10.00 or \$14.00 (riverside) per person per night.

Wet Suits are required during the Spring (prior to Memorial Day) and during times of High Water. These are provided to you as a service of WWE. Our wet suits fit those under 6'4" and/or 260 pounds.

Gratuities - We are often asked if guests should tip their guides. While not mandatory, if you feel your guide did a great job in giving your group a safe and exciting time, then they would greatly appreciate a tip. Usual tip amounts are: _ Day Trips - \$3-\$5 per person, 1 Day Trips - \$5-\$10 per person, 2 Day Trips - \$10-\$20 per person.

South Fork American River – AM Half Day Trip Information

Camping

If you are interested in camping the night before your trip, you will need to make reservations prior to coming up. Please call the WWE Office to make all camping reservations. Camping is \$10/person/night in Shady Grove and \$14/person/night riverside.

Our camp opens at 5:30 P.M. the night before your trip and you are welcome to come in, set up and relax! Upon arriving at the WWE Camp Area, please check in either with our Camp Hosts or check on the WWE Camp Assignment Board for your group camp assigned area. Please set up in the ASSIGNED AREA ONLY.

**If you arrive earlier than 5:30 P.M. you must wait until 5:30 P.M. and see our Camp Hosts BEFORE going to your Camp Area – Thank You!

Camping at the WWE Camp Area is GROUP camping. We have 5 main camp areas. We also sometimes arrange groups by size to share the camp areas. Please feel free to make new friends. Late Night Arrivals: Our Camp Hosts are on duty until 10:00P.M. If you come in after that, please look on the Camp Assignment Board for your Groups Name. If you can find them easily and quietly, please do so. If not, please find a flat area and camp for the night. Please be as quiet as possible during the late night hours as others are sleeping.

After 10:00 P.M. we have established a Quiet Time: please turn your radios down very low ,or off and keep your noise down to a minimum for the enjoyment of everyone else camping with us. Pets are not allowed at the WWE Camp Area.

Facilities

We have at the meeting area, modern bathroom facilities with hot showers.

Please do not bring any pets, fireworks, or firearms. Because of the great risk of injury, we do not allow any high-pressure water guns on our trips. We urge you to leave your valuables at home. If you wish to bring a camera, please make sure it is a water-proof disposable type (we do sell these at the WWE Camp Store). Professional photographers will be taking pictures at various rapids and are available for sale after the trip. These photographers are in no way associated with Whitewater Excitement.



WWE Camp Store

At the meeting area, we have a small store that has T-Shirts, sweat shirts, river shorts, hats, waterproof cameras, retaining devices for your sunglasses, river sandals, sunscreen, chap stick, along with drinks, snacks and some light camping equipment.

Meals

No meals are served on this Half Day trip, however, we will have drinks and snacks at rivers end for the bus ride back to the meet area.

Responsibility

All river trips involve some risk and we recognize that accidents and injuries can occur. We assume no responsibility for injury, damage, or loss of your belongings. All participants will be required to sign an Assumption of Risk/Liability Release form before the trip. Any minor not being accompanied by their parent must have this form signed by their parents before coming up to the river trip. The river is not a place for drugs or alcohol. We reserve the right to refuse service to anyone under the influence of such substances and to anyone we feel will jeopardize his or her personal safety or the safety of others on the trip. There are no refunds for cancellations made for this reason.

Cancellation Policy

Please read our policy and advise other trip members. If you must cancel, all but a \$50 per person cancellation fee will be refunded to you provided we received written notice from you at least 60 days before the trip. For reservations made within 60 days of the trip, all trip fees are non-refundable, in which case we encourage you to find someone to take your place. Often our trips fill up and we have a limited number of guests we can take down on any one trip, while holding your space we are turning others away. Whitewater Excitement also incurs substantial expenses prior to the trip departure.

We reserve the right to cancel or modify a trip due to weather, water conditions, insufficient reservations or other circumstances beyond our control. In such cases we are only responsible for the trip fees paid to us. Guides and other on-river staff employed by Whitewater Excitement are not authorized to make or promise trip refunds or credits. Such determinations can only be made by the WWE Office Staff. Trip Travel Insurance is strongly suggested and will cover such cancellations. Trips depart Rain or Shine.

Motels

Motel 6 – Cameron Park (530) 677-7177
Quality Inn - Cameron Park (530) 677-2203
Best Western - Auburn (800) 201-0121 (Foresthill-Exit)
Holiday Inn – Auburn (877) 863-4780

Bed and Breakfasts

American River Inn–Georgetown (530) 333-4499 www.americanriverinn.com
Powers Mansion Inn – Auburn (530) 885-1166 www.powersmansioninn.com

Camping

WWE Camp Area – Coloma (800) 750-2386 (Reservations)
Prior reservations are required for additional camping. Please call for availability.

Places to Eat

Main Street Grill (530) 888-6209 7 miles Left out of WWE Camp on Hwy 49
Coloma Club (530) 626-6390 1 mile Right out of WWE Camp on Hwy 49
Coloma Deli (530) 642-8482 1 mile Right out of WWE Camp on Hwy 49
Sierra Rizing Bakery (530) 642-1308 1.6 miles Right out of WWE Camp on Hwy 49
American River Pizza & Grill (530) 887-1969 7 miles Left out of WWE Camp on Hwy 49

Running Late? Can't find us? Please call us at our meeting place at: 530-642-2546