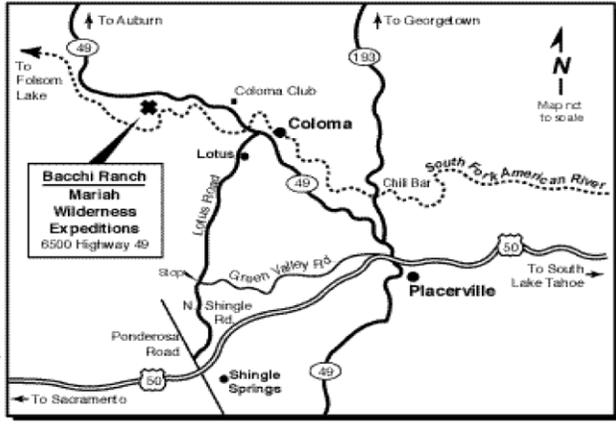


Mariah Wilderness Expeditions

**South Fork American River – ALL SOUTH FORK TRIPS
2-Day, 1 Day, ½ Day, Class II-III**



MEETING PLACE: MARIAH BASE CAMP

6500 California 49, Lotus 95651

All South Fork American River trips meet at the Mariah Wilderness Expeditions' BASE CAMP, 6500 CA-49, Lotus, CA 95651.



This is the sign that you will see on the West side of CA-49 (the left side) if you are coming from Sacramento or South Lake Tahoe. A similar sign is facing the opposite direction on the West side of CA-49 (the right side) that you will see if you are coming from Auburn.

Please be on time. If you are late and your trip has already departed then you have missed your trip; there is no refund nor credit.

MEETING TIMES

SOUTH FORK 2-DAYS:

Saturday-Sunday 10am-approximately 2:30-3pm

Thursday-Friday: 10:45am-approximately 4pm

SOUTH FORK 1-DAY GORGE:

Saturday & Sunday: 10am-approximately 3:30pm

Monday-Friday: 10:45am-approximately 4pm

SOUTH FORK CHILI BAR:

Daily: 8:30am-approximately 2:30pm

SOUTH FORK 1-DAY ENTIRE RIVER

Daily: 8:30am – approximately 4:30pm

SOUTH FORK ½-Day EXPRESS GORGE:

Daily 1:00pm - approximately 3:30-4pm

SOUTH FORK ½-Day EXPRESS CHILE BAR:

Daily: 8:30am – approximately 2:30pm

DIRECTIONS from SACRAMENTO

FROM SACRAMENTO (driving time approximately 1 hour): Get on Hwy 50 going toward South Lake Tahoe.

At approximately 35 miles exit at the Shingle Springs-Ponderosa Road off-ramp (exit 37). At the stop light turn left and drive over the freeway.

After crossing over the freeway make an immediate right hand turn at the second stop light onto North Shingle Rd. Proceed on North Shingle Rd (it turns into Lotus Road at about mile 5) for about 11.5 miles until it dead ends at CA-49. You need to turn left onto CA-49 and proceed about 2 miles to 6500 CA-49.

IF YOUR GPS TELLS YOU TO MAKE A RIGHT TURN FROM LOTUS RD ONTO CA-49 IGNORE IT, OR YOU MAY END UP IN YOSEMITE. TURN LEFT onto CA-49 off of Lotus Road.

If you find yourself driving through Marshall Gold Discovery State Park then you probably turned right onto CA49 from Lotus Road instead of left onto CA-49. Turn around and keep going north about 2 miles to 6500 CA-49, (1.5 miles past the Mariah office), toward Auburn. Do not stop at the office.

Look for the big Mariah Wilderness Expeditions sign on the left side of the highway. (See image on this page). Turn left at the sign and follow the dirt road as it curves gently to the right. You will see the big "Welcome Mariah Wilderness Expeditions" sign. Park your car and walk down the path to the kitchen to check in.

DIRECTIONS from AUBURN & TRUCKEE

(driving time approximately 45 minutes): proceed west on Hwy 80 to Auburn. Take California 49 south toward Coloma/Placerville.

3 miles from Auburn, CA-49 descends to the North Fork of the American River. You will see a bridge that crosses over the North Fork of the American River. Turn right onto the bridge.

Stay on CA-49 as it turns right and goes over the river. The

drive is on a narrow and windy road so drive slowly and carefully. You will drive through the very small town of Cool and the hamlet of Pilot Hill. At about mile 14 from the bridge look for the Mariah sign on the right hand side of the highway. If you enter the town of Coloma then you have gone too far.

DIRECTIONS from SO LAKE TAHOE

(Drive time: 2-3 hours, depending on where at Lake Tahoe you are. Traffic can be slow. Proceed west on Hwy 50 toward Placerville and Sacramento. Turn right at Spring Street/CA-49 toward Coloma. Spring Street turns into CA-49. Drive about 8 miles into Coloma, passing through the Marshall Gold Discovery State Historical Park.. Continue on CA-49 driving over the bridge, go past the Chevron gas station which is on the right, and drive 2 more miles to the Mariah Base Camp at 6500 CA-49. DO NOT STOP AT THE MARIAH OFFICE.

WHAT TO BRING:

–During warm summer months Mid-June through September

FOR ON-RIVER

- Shorts/swim suit
 - Tennis shoes (old) or river sandals (no flip flops or bare feet allowed!) Mariah rents booties for \$3/pair.
 - Sunglasses with tie-on
 - T-shirt or long-sleeve shirt (sun protect)
 - Hat/Visor with tie-on.
- Note: If you will be wearing a helmet you will want to wear a baseball style hat or visor to wear under the helmet to screen you from the sun.
- Sunscreen - carry in shorts' pocket
 - **WATER BOTTLE.** Guides will be able to replenish it during the trip.

–Add for cool weather months May to Mid-June

- Wet suit, booties - Available to rent for small fee. Call office to reserve. Underneath your wetsuit you can wear shorts, bathing suit, or polypro or silk underwear.
- Wool/polypro socks to wear under the booties, hat, gloves
- Wool or fleece shirt/sweater
- Windbreaker or light rain jacket
- On cool days we'll have a dry bag in each boat for an extra wool or fleece top

IN CAMP WHEN OVERNIGHTING

- Dry shoes & socks, flashlight
- Sleeping bag and tent. Tent is available to rent from Mariah. Call office to reserve.
- Sweater or jacket
- Ground cloth, pad or air mattress
- Comfortable clothes for camp
- Toiletries, soap, shampoo, toothbrush & paste plus medications, towel and washcloth

OPTIONAL

- Clean set of clothes to leave in your car for the drive home
- Fishing gear with license, books, games
- Bring your favorite beverages for dinner, i.e. wine, beer, soft drinks. On overnight trips we serve a small amount of wine during hors d'oeuvres plus fruit juice and fresh water. Coffee, tea, hot chocolate are served with dessert.

GRATUITIES & More

We are frequently asked if it is customary to tip the guides. Our guides' goal is to provide you with a fun and safe river trip. They enjoy a token of your appreciation for a job especially well done. A popular gesture is for each crew to present their guide with around \$10 per rafter, per day, at the end of the trip.

NO PETS, NO FIREARMS, NO FIRECRACKERS, NO ELECTRONIC (MUSIC) DEVICES. We do not have electricity in camp. REGARDING CAMPFIRES: Depending on temperatures and weather conditions, for safety reasons, we retain the right to discontinue the use of campfires.

If you are scheduled to camp in one of our three areas where we allow cooking, you can bring propane grills and propane BBQs, or propane stoves (such as a Coleman stove). We have many long-term guests who raft with us every year during our no-campfire-season. They bring battery or propane lanterns for a nice evening ambience.

PLACES TO STAY THE NIGHT BEFORE OR AFTER YOUR TRIP:

Enjoy strolling main street historic Placerville

Placerville, places to stay include:

- Best Western at 530-622-9100
- Historic Cary House Hotel, 530-622-4271
- Historic Shafsky House Bed & Breakfast 530-642-2776

–Coloma, places to stay include:

- The Coloma Country Inn (530-622-6919)

—**Call the El Dorado County Visitors Authority** at 887-588-4386 to obtain a listing of all the local hotels and bed & breakfasts.

–CAMPING

- Camp Lotus (530-622-8672)
- Ask us about camping at Mariah Campground

FOR YOUR SAFETY

Mariah Wilderness has an excellent record of providing safe and fun river adventures. While most of our trips are not strenuous, they can be a dramatic change in routine and do involve some risk. We take many safety precautions:

- It is your responsibility to select a river trip appropriate to your abilities and physical condition. Please consult your doctor and discuss with us in advance any medical conditions that would restrict your full participation. • Our life jackets fit Torso size 58" and weight of 300 lbs.
- You will be required to sign an Assumption of Risk and Liability Release before your trip.


MARIAH
WILDERNESS
EXPEDITIONS

AN UNFORGETTABLE
OUTDOOR EXPERIENCE
800-4-MARIAH • 800-462-7424

email: rafting@mariahrafting.com
www.mariahrafting.com

