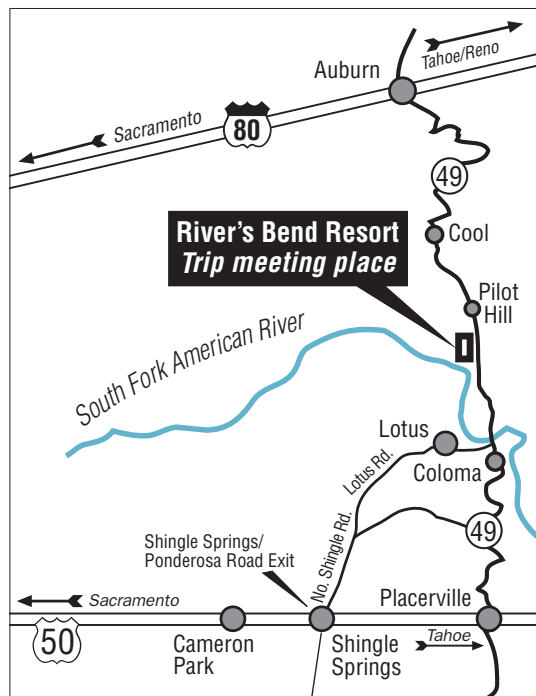


# South Fork American River Chili Bar Express Run – Trip Information

**AMERICAN RIVER RECREATION**  
P.O. BOX 465, LOTUS, CA, 95651  
530-622-6802 • 800-333-7238  
WWW.ARRAFTING.COM

**South Fork American–Chili Bar Express Run**  
**Difficulty: Class III • Minimum Age: 8**  
**Season: April-October • Length: 7.5 miles**  
**Average Gradient: 23 feet per mile**



## Directions to Meeting Place

**From Sacramento:** Take Highway 50 east towards South Lake Tahoe and Placerville. Exit Ponderosa Road (Exit 37) in Shingle Springs. Turn left on Ponderosa and cross over Highway 50. At the 2nd stop light turn right on North Shingle Rd and follow this road about 4.5 miles when North Shingle Road turns into Lotus Road. Continue on Lotus Road about 7 miles to Highway 49. Turn left on 49 (northbound). Follow Hwy 49 exactly 2.2 miles and turn left into **River's Bend Resort (American River Recreation)**. Immediately turn right down the first driveway and park in the large parking lot near the river. Parking is limited, so please take care in parking your vehicle. Our meeting place is approximately 1 hour driving time from downtown Sacramento and 3 hours from San Francisco. 1.5 hours from South Lake Tahoe.

**From Auburn:** Follow Highway 49 south towards Placerville. Exactly 8.2 miles from the four-way stoplight in the town of Cool, turn right into River's Bend Resort. Immediately turn right again down the first driveway and park in the large parking area near the river. Parking is limited, so please take care in parking your vehicle. Our meeting point is approximately 1 hour from Sacramento and 3 hours from San Francisco.

## Meeting Time and Place

Our trip begins promptly at 10:00 a.m. at River's Bend Resort. It is important that everyone arrive on time so as not to hold up the group. Check in with our staff when you arrive, they'll be happy to answer any of your last minute questions. Note: Other rafting companies also meet at River's Bend, so be sure to check in with **American River Recreation**.

## Trip Logistics

After a scenic bus ride to our launching point, we begin with a safety talk and paddling instructions. Here, you meet your guides and receive your lifejackets and paddles. Once on the water, you have a few minutes to practice your paddling skills so that everyone feels comfortable before beginning the adventure.

Within the first half-mile, the excitement begins. Tension builds as you hear the raging waters of Meatgrinder, Triple Threat, Racehorse Bend and Trouble Maker which are just a few of the rapids you encounter along the way. Approximately two hours after launching, a delicious deli-style lunch buffet is served at historic Coloma State Park. Once you have eaten your fill, the fun continues at a more leisurely pace. Although you bounce down several more good rapids, you have more of a chance to relax and enjoy the scenery as the river winds its way to Coloma, where the journey ends at about 3:00 p.m. (Please be aware that a variety of factors can cause a trip to end earlier or later than planned. Take this into consideration when making your travel plans.)

## We Supply

On 1-day trips we provide trained guides, personal flotation devices, paddles, whitewater rafts, shuttle service, lunch, beverages and snacks at the end of the trip.

**Note:** 1-Day trips **do not** include camping, rental tents, dinner or breakfast, these items may be added for an additional fee, and must be booked and paid in advance.

## What to Bring

River attire is very casual and you should expect to get wet, so dress accordingly. Quick-dry clothing is recommended. Cotton gets wet, stays wet, and does not keep you warm. Following the list below will assure you a comfortable and well-prepared trip:

- Swimsuit
- Personal water (optional)
- Old tennis shoes or river sandals (no flip-flops)
- Shorts
- Sunscreen (waterproof)
- Eyeglass retainers
- Dry clothes (leave in car)
- Sun hat or visor
- Sunglasses

## For Cool Weather

We recommend the following cool-weather clothing (as a precaution) for April and May, or anytime during the season when rain or cool weather is a possibility:

- Wetsuit
- Wool socks
- Wool sweater
- Booties
- Wool hat
- Wool gloves
- Rain jacket
- Polypro clothing
- Nylon windbreaker

Wetsuit with splash jacket can be rented through our office for cool weather conditions. Please call to reserve in advance. Rental fees: 1-day: \$10, 2-days: \$15.

**Please do not bring** any pets, fireworks, or firearms. Because of the great risk of injury, we do not allow the use of 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 provide a case (preferably waterproof). However, it will not be possible to photograph during the rapids. Professional photographers are positioned along the banks taking photos of us running the rapids. These photos are available for sale at the end of the trip; the companies are in no way associated with American River Recreation.

# South Fork American River Trip Information

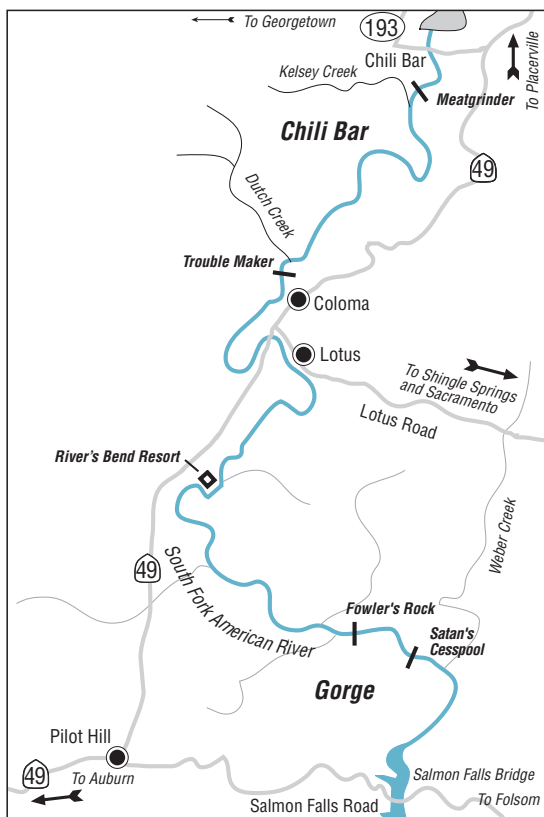
**AMERICAN RIVER RECREATION**

P.O. BOX 465, LOTUS, CA, 95651

530-622-6802 • 800-333-7238

WWW.ARRAFTING.COM

## SOUTH FORK AMERICAN RIVER



## South Fork Lodging Options

Located off Highway 50

**Cameron Park Inn:** 530-677-2203

**Cameron Park Motel 6:** 530-677-7177

**Placerville Inn:** 530-622-9100

**Cary House Hotel:** 530-622-4271

**Shafsky House:** 530-642-2776

**Coloma Country Inn:** 530-622-6919

**Holiday Inn Express:** 916-358-3100

**Lake Natoma Inn:** 916-351-1500

**Campgrounds: Coloma/Lotus**

**American River Resort:** 530-622-6700

**Coloma Resort:** 530-621-2267

**Camp Lotus:** 530-622-8672

*Thank You for Choosing  
American River Recreation*

**1-800-333-7238**

## Responsibility

All river trips involve some risk and we recognize that accidents or illnesses can occur. We assume no responsibility for injury, damage or loss of your personal property, or for time and expense incurred. All participants will be required to sign an Assumption of Risk/Liability Release form before the rafting trip begins (see enclosed sample copy). We require every minor participating in a trip without a legal guardian present to bring a form pre-signed by his or her legal guardian.

We ask that each participant be both physically and mentally prepared for the rafting trip. Each participant must notify us prior to a trip of any medical conditions, i.e., life-threatening allergic reactions and prescribed medications for severe physical conditions, etc. We reserve the right to turn away anyone we feel will jeopardize his or her own safety or the safety of other passengers and guides.

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 that will hinder his or her performance and jeopardize personal safety or safety of others. There are no refunds for cancellations made for this reason.

## Waterflow Notice

Waterflows for the South Fork American River result from releases from hydroelectric facilities located upstream. Such water releases are not subject to the control of El Dorado County or commercial rafting companies operating under permits from the County of El Dorado.

## Cancellation Policy

Please read our policy and advise other trip members. If you must cancel, all but a reservation fee of \$20.00 per person will be refunded up to four weeks before the trip. We will refund 50% of the trip cost for cancellations made up to two weeks prior to the trip start. There are no refunds for cancellations made within two weeks of the trip start date.

Seats are transferrable. In the event of a last-minute cancellation, try to find another person to take the place. The reason for this strict policy is that we have a limited amount of seats we can sell. Often our trips fill up and we have to turn others away. Also, substantial commitments and expenses must be incurred by American River Recreation before a trip departs.

It is sometimes necessary to cancel or modify a trip because of unusual circumstances. We reserve the right to cancel or modify any trip due to weather, water conditions, insufficient reservations or other circumstances beyond our control. In such cases, we cannot be responsible for expenses other than refunding all or part of the fees paid to American River Recreation. We are not responsible for any other expenses incurred by the individuals. The determination of refunds will be made after reviewing trip details. Guides and other on-river personnel employed by American River Recreation are not authorized to make or promise trip refunds or trip credits. Such determination can only be made by company officers.

## Travel Insurance

Unforeseen circumstances may result in last-minute cancellations and could cause significant financial loss to our guests. For this reason we strongly recommend short-term travel insurance. Policy information that includes accident, cancellation and baggage protection is available through our office, as well as through most insurance agents. If you must cancel because of unforeseen circumstances, this insurance protects against the loss of fees paid to American River Recreation. Please call our office if you have any further questions concerning cancellations.

## Gratuities

Clients often ask us if tipping the guides is appropriate. Although our staff is well compensated for their services, if you feel they went that extra distance to make your trip special, a tip is a great way of showing your appreciation, as in any other service industry. Tips are generally around 5% of the trip cost.