

**American River Recreation**  
800-333-7238 ~ www.arraffing.com

## **South Fork American River**

### **1/2-DAY GORGE RUN**

Trip Length: 15 Miles

Season: April – Mid-October

Average Gradient: 23 Feet per Mile



### **DIRECTIONS TO MEETING PLACE**

#### **From Sacramento:**

- Take Hwy 50 east towards South Lake Tahoe and Placerville
- Exit Ponderosa Rd (Exit 37) in Shingle Springs
- Go left on Ponderosa cross over Hwy 50
- At the 2<sup>nd</sup> stop light turn right on North Shingle Rd
- Follow this road about 4.5 miles when North Shingle Rd turns into Lotus Rd
- Continue on Lotus Rd about 7 miles to Highway 49
- Turn right on Hwy 49 Southbound
- Drive approximately 1/4 mile south on Highway 49 passing through James Marshall State Park
- Go straight onto Coloma Heights Road (when Hwy 49 takes a sharp right hand turn) and bear left on New River Road to American River Resort
- Please park in the rafting parking lot area and check in at the American River Resort Reception Office and River Store.

#### **From Auburn:**

- Take Hwy 49 South towards Placerville & Cool
- From Cool continue 11.5 miles on Highway 49
- Go straight onto Coloma Heights Road (when Hwy 49 takes a sharp right hand turn) and bear left on New River Road to American River Resort
- Please park in the rafting parking lot area and check in at the American River Resort Reception Office and River Store.

Our meeting place is about 1 hour from Sacramento, 2.5 hours from San Francisco and 1.5 hours from South Lake Tahoe.

GPS, Google & Map Quest are unable to calculate our exact location  
Latitude 38.798467 Longitude -120.886472

#### **Meeting Time and Place**

Our trip meets promptly at 12:00 PM inside the American River Resort ~ 6019 New River Road, Coloma, CA 95613. Please check-in at the American River Resort Reception Office. Everyone must arrive on time; we do not wait for late arrivals. Please check in with a staff member from American River Recreation.

**Please follow our directions to the meeting place and arrive 10 minutes early**

#### **Trip Logistics**

The adventure begins at our camp where we will launch the rafts. Here you will meet your guides, receive the safety talk and paddling instructions before the journey begins. Our journey starts on Class I-II rapids. Then the excitement builds as you enter the 'Gorge', offering some of the most thrilling rapids and spectacular scenery. Fowler's Rock, Upper Haystack, Satan's Cesspool, Son of Satan's, Bouncing Rock and Hospital Bar are just a few of the rapids you encounter. Our 15-mile-long journey ends at Folsom Lake. Relax and swap stories on the scenic shuttle ride back to your cars, where we arrive at around 4:30-5:00 PM. Please be aware that a variety of factors may cause a trip to end earlier or later than planned. Take this into consideration when making your travel plans.

#### **We Supply**

On half-day trips we provide the following: trained guides, lifejackets, paddles, helmets, whitewater rafts, river shuttle service with cold refreshments at the end of the trip. **Note: Half-Day trips do not** include camping, rental tents, or meals. These items may be added for an additional fee and reserved and paid in advance.

#### **What to Bring**

River attire is very casual and **you will get wet**, so dress accordingly. Quick-dry clothing is recommended. Cotton stays wet and does not keep you warm.

Following the list below will assure you a comfortable and well-prepared trip:

- Shorts or Swimsuit
- Waterproof Camera/GoPro
- Sunscreen (waterproof)
- Sunglasses w/Strap
- Full Personal Water Bottle
- **No Flip-Flops, Crocs or Bare Feet Allowed**
- Sun Hat or Visor
- Dry clothes/Shoes/Towels (leave in the car)
- Tennis Shoes/River Sandals (w/heel straps)
- Lip balm w/ sunscreen

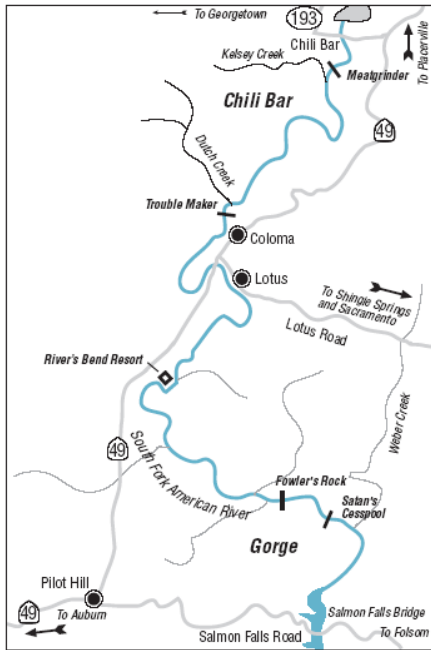
Cold-weather clothing is recommended as a precaution during April-May or anytime during the season when rain or cool weather is a possibility:

- Wetsuit
- Neoprene Booties
- Rain Jacket
- Wool Socks
- Wool Hat
- Polypro Clothing
- Wool Sweater
- Wool Gloves
- Nylon Windbreaker

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

**We do not allow** pets, fireworks, or firearms. Because of the risk of injury, high-pressure water guns are not allowed on trips. **It is in your best interest to leave valuables behind** (we do not have lockers). You will have the opportunity to purchase photographs of you running key rapids upon the end of your journey. American River Recreation is not affiliated with the photo companies. It is not possible to photograph while running the rapids.

## SOUTH FORK AMERICAN RIVER



### SOUTH FORK LODGING OPTIONS

#### **Located off of Highway 50**

- Quality Inn & Suites: 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
- Holiday Inn Express: 916-358-3100
- Lake Natoma Inn: 916-351-1500
- Eden Vale Inn: 530-621-0901

#### **Located off of Highway 49**

- Bella Vista B & B: 530-622-3456
- Walkers Cabin: 530-622-3303
- Coloma Country Inn: 530-622-6919
- Enchanted April Inn: 916-939-9144
- American River Inn: 530-333-4499
- Rock Creek Inn: 530-333-4359

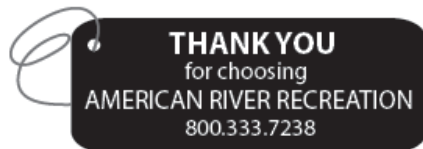
### CAMPGROUNDS: COLOMA/LOTUS

#### **Located off of Highway 49**

- American River Resort: 530-622-6700
- Coloma Resort: 530-621-2267

#### **Located off of Highway 50**

- KOA Campground: 530-676-2267



### Responsibility

All river trips involve some risk and we recognize that accidents or illness can occur. We assume no responsibility for injury, damage or loss of your personal property, or for time and expense incurred. All participants are required to complete and sign the Release of Liability Agreement before the rafting trip begins. Minors participating in a trip without a legal guardian present are required to bring a pre-signed form by his/her legal guardian. Please bring completed form to the river for Check-In. Release forms are available at [www.rafting.com/waiverform.pdf](http://www.rafting.com/waiverform.pdf). 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 cancellation policy and advise all participants in your party. If you must cancel, all but a reservation fee of \$20.00 per person will be refunded for cancellation made 30 days or more before the trip start date. A 50% trip refund will be issued for cancellations made 15-29 days prior to the trip start.

**There are no refunds for cancellations made within two weeks of the trip start date or for 'No Shows'.** Seats are transferrable. In the event of a last-minute cancellation, try to find another person to take the seat. 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. 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 a refund will be made after reviewing the trip details. Guides and other 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 a company officer.

### 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.

### 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 service industry.