



*Guest Information Packet*

Ahoy Matey,

Thanks fer joinin' the Pirate Rafting Crew on another **Incredible Voyage!**

This packet will give you all the information you need to make your entire rafting trip as easy and as unforgettable as possible. We have divided this packet into 3 sections, for your convenience; if you do not need a section simply leave it out when you go to print. The first page will include: some information about the river, what we offer, our season, other things to do in the area, and other interesting information that you can share with the rest of your group

The second page includes: driving directions, meeting times, the address of our camp (if you would like to look it up on an online map), and basic things to bring.

The third page includes everything you will need to know for camping, specifically: What to bring, when to arrive, and where to go when you do get here. We are happy to answer any other questions that you might have about your trip, so feel free to contact us whenever you like.

We'll see ye on the water, Matey  
Commodore Trevor  
(530) 306-9883  
[booking@pirateraftingcompany.com](mailto:booking@pirateraftingcompany.com)

## **About the River**

You are about to experience one of the most venerated rafting runs in the world. The South Fork of the American River is known around the world as one of the truly classic sections of river. The South Fork of the American is considered a Class III River, and it is a perfect choice for any rafter. Although the river is considered a beginner/intermediate river, even veteran rafters come away from a trip on the South Fork excited and energized. If incredible rapids aren't enough, the sheer diversity and raw power of nature will surely mesmerize you in this outdoor wonderland. The South Fork passes through steep rugged soaring canyons and pastoral gently rolling hills; Pine and Oak forests, rolling fields and rugged Chaparral. Nature brings its raw power to bear on this extraordinary river, it is a truly awe inspiring and unforgettable experience.

## **What We Offer**

The river is truly a sight to behold, but the experience runs much deeper than just the raw power of nature. This trip is an opportunity to cement your relationships with those close to you, and maybe meet some new friends along the way. To make the experience the absolute best possible, we have many options for you to choose from when you take a trip with us. We start with a delicious menu and a beautiful river front camp, but it doesn't end there. We offer a full range of camping services from sleeping out under the stars to basic tents, pads, cots; and even roomy cabin tents. There are warm showers and bathrooms in camp, along with a volleyball court, several game tables, a campfire ring (where guides and guests frequently show off their skills; in the past we have had many musicians and fire dancers performing on overnight trips). We offer breakfast, lunch and dinner with a variety of entrees, and we are happy to accommodate you if you have special dietary concerns, or you have a birthday or celebration planned. From simple rafting to whatever you need, we are here for you.

## **Our Season**

People always ask: Is there enough water to raft? Always! The best part about the South Fork is that it is dam controlled. Hydroelectric power plants upstream release water all year long, allowing recreational boating all year long. Our season generally runs from May to October and you will enjoy consistent flows all season long.

## **Things to do in the Area**

Your vacation does not have to stop with your rafting trip either. Our camp is situated in the heart of California's gold country; in fact gold was discovered just up stream from our camp. There are many scenic and historic parks not far from us. The area also abounds with wineries and orchards. One of the most popular destinations is the famous Coloma Club a laid back bar with an old west rough around the edges feel. Most of our fall visitors often end their vacation with the short drive up to many of the orchards located in the famous Apple Hill area. However you choose to spend your vacation with us let us be your guides on and off the river. We are more than happy to let you know about any thing of interest in the local area, just ask.

## Directions

Our Meeting Spot is located just off of Highway 49, in Lotus, California. Starting from Placerville, CA, on US 50, turn onto California Highway 49 heading north. Travel north on Highway 49 for approximately 10 miles. You will pass through Historic, Gold Discovery State Park. After Crossing the South Fork of the American River, turn left into the River Park shopping center. Continue through the shopping center past Sierra Rising bakery. You will enter a gravel parking lot turn left into the first gravel parking lot and look for Earthtrek Expeditions Camp and Pirate Rafting Company's meeting spot.

From Sacramento, CA take Highway 50 eastbound and travel 32.2 miles until you reach the Ponderosa rd. exit, and then turn left at Ponderosa Rd/S Shingle Rd. Go over the highway, there will be 2 stop lights across the highway, at the second light turn right. This will be Lotus road; there is a park and ride at the corner. This road will also parallel the highway for a little less than a mile. Stay on Lotus road until it ends at highway 49 in Lotus. From Highway 50 it is about 12 miles into Highway 49. Once you reach Highway 49 turn left on to Highway 49 and go less than 1 mile, you will cross the American River at Lotus Bridge. After crossing the South Fork of the American River, turn left into the River Park shopping center. Continue through the shopping center past Sierra Rising bakery. You will enter a gravel parking lot turn left into the first gravel parking lot and look for Earthtrek Expeditions Camp; this is Pirate Rafting Company's meeting spot and your camping area.

## Meeting time

River Section	With Breakfast	Without Breakfast
Chili Bar	7:45 A.M.	9 A.M.
The Gorge	9 A.M.	10:30 A.M.

## Camp Address

The Camp is operated by Earthtrek Expeditions.  
7308 Highway 49  
Lotus, CA 95651

## What to Bring

1. Sunscreen
2. A hat
3. Sunglasses
4. Swim wear (no jeans or slacks)
5. Shoes that will stay on your feet, please no flip flops on the river
6. Gratuity (if you feel your guide has done a good job, please let them know)

## Camping and Overnight Stays

### **What to bring**

In addition to what you should bring for your rafting trip, you should bring the following.

1. Sleeping bag and pillow if you would like
2. A change of clothes
3. Flashlight
4. A light jacket (especially in the early or late season as it generally gets cool at night, summer months tend to have warmer nights)
5. Any other overnight products that require (toothpaste, soap, shampoo, etc.)

### **When to arrive**

If you are camping with us we recommend that you arrive the evening before your trip. Check in time is after 6 pm the night before your trip.

### **Where to go when you get here**

When you arrive you will see an arch at the far end of the parking lot towards the river that says Earthtrek Expeditions. Walk under the arch and you will see a set of stairs leading down. At the bottom of the stairs turn right and you will see a small building, this is the camp store, on the back of the store is a white board with a map of the camp.

### **If you have requested a stay in a cabin tent**

We will likely assign a cabin tent to before you arrive. All of the cabin tents are numbered and you will find that number on the map, simply head to your assigned tent. If we have not given you a cabin tent number in advance your party name will be listed on the white board with your cabin tent number.

### **If you are tent camping (with your own tent)**

The grassy lawn near the river is where you will be staying. Please check the white board for your assigned camping area. If you do not see your name or we have not assigned an area for you, you are welcome to stay where ever you like, simply pitch your tent and we will see you in the morning.

### **If you are tent camping (and have requested a tent be set up for you)**

The grassy lawn near the river is where you will be staying. Your tent(s) will be set up in a specific area; please check the white board for your assigned camping area and which tent(s) you will be staying in.