



Looking down into Green Dragon Canyon

Rafting the Magnificent Owyhee

April 27 – May 1
with Ouzel Outfitters

Discover steep, cathedral-like canyons and painted rock minarets, desert vistas framed by blooming wildflowers, soaring raptors and singing canyon wrens on the magnificent Owyhee, one of America's wildest remaining rivers. With over a hundred river-miles under official protection, the seldom-traveled Owyhee provides us with a unique wilderness experience that few each year have the opportunity to enjoy. Oregon's Grand Canyon offers dramatic rock formations, colorful bluffs, hot springs and ancient Indian petroglyphs.

There will be time to hike and explore the side canyons and spectacular geologic formations of areas such as Chalk Basin and Sentinel Canyon. Wildlife including antelope, mule deer, bighorn sheep, hawks, osprey, golden eagles, heron, otter and coyotes are abundant in the area. A Nature Conservancy representative will accompany the trip.

Many sections of the river are calm providing relaxing time to float and enjoy the scenery and conversation with fellow rafters. The rapids are moderate, with a few such as Whistling Bird, Bull's-eye and Montgomery adding just the right amount of excitement and challenge. Your river trip can be as active as you desire -- join a paddle

crew, try an inflatable kayak or sit back and enjoy the ride in an oar raft. This trip is fully outfitted with all the equipment and comforts necessary to make your experience enjoyable.

What's Included

We include delicious meals starting with lunch the first day through lunch the last and are happy to accommodate your dietary needs. We serve wine with dinner on full-sized tables and always have an assortment of hot and cold drinks available. We are happy to keep personal beverages on ice during the trip.

Camping gear is included and is first-rate with spacious tents, comfortable pads and warm cozy sleeping bags. We provide all rafting equipment including specialized splash tops and pants for cooler days. A detailed packing list and interpretive information will be sent upon confirmation of your reservation. River travel is by oar raft and oar-assisted paddle raft. We also bring several inflatable kayaks for those who wish to do a little exploring on their own.

Trip Itinerary

Our trip covers 63 miles of the Owyhee River between Rome and Leslie Gulch on the Owyhee Reservoir. We meet at 8 am (Pacific Time) on April 27th at the boat ramp in Rome where gear is packed into waterproof bags, lifejackets fitted and safety precautions reviewed before launching. Days on the river are leisurely, allowing time to respond to the moods of the canyon and the preferences of our guests. We'll explore petroglyphs and historic homesteads, hike side canyons and enjoy the easy pace of the river each day.

Each morning, freshly brewed coffee is available by 7:00 am and breakfast is served at 8:00 am. We are on the river by 10:00 am. Camp is selected from available riverside beaches by approximately 4:00 pm. Late afternoon there is time to hike, read or relax. The evening is a time to enjoy wonderful dinners, campfire conversation and stargazing with fellow river travelers. On the final day we arrive at our take-out at about 3:00 pm. Return transportation to Rome and your vehicle is provided – expect to be back to Rome between 5 and 6 PM. As an alternative, you may (at additional cost) have your vehicle shuttled to the take-out. Motel accommodations are available in Jordan Valley (30 minutes East of Rome) at the Basque Station Motel (541) 586-2244. Rustic cabins are available at Crystal Crane Hotsprings (90 minutes west of Rome) 541-493-2312. Basic cabins are also available at the Rome Café (541) 586-2294. Travel time from Bend is 5 hrs; from Portland, 8 hrs; from Boise 2.5 hrs. If flying, make connections to Boise and call Owyhee River Shuttles at 541-586-2352 for transportation to Rome or Jordan Valley. Rome has a café, RV park and gas station. Unimproved camping is available at the BLM launch site at Rome.

Costs & Reservations

Space is limited to 14 guests. A \$250/person non-refundable deposit is required to reserve one's space and final payment is due March 27th - both *payable to Ouzel Outfitters*. All checks should be sent to Ouzel Outfitters.

Registration Deposit:	\$250.00 Payable to <u>Ouzel Outfitters</u>
3% Government User Fee	\$30.00 Include with final payment to Ouzel Outfitters
<u>Final Payment:</u>	<u>\$895.00 Payable to Ouzel Outfitters</u>
Total Trip Cost:	\$1,175.00 per person (This includes a commission to The Nature Conservancy)

