



Deschutes River Trip Planner

2-Day Camp Trip *(Trout Creek to Maupin City Park – 35 Miles)*

Thank you for choosing Ouzel Outfitters. This trip planner contains detailed information designed to make you prepared for your trip. When you make a reservation you will receive a personalized planner with invoice information and specific meeting instructions. Don't hesitate to call or email if you have any questions.

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Ouzel Outfitters

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Invoice, Payments & Cancellation Policy

Multi-Day Trips

Deschutes River: A \$100.00/ person deposit is due within 10 days of making your reservation. 50% of the deposit is refundable up to 60 days prior to your trip. The balance is due 30 days prior to your trip. No refunds for cancellations received after 30 days prior to your trip.

Cancellation due to Insufficient Bookings

Trips with insufficient bookings may be cancelled. In this case full refunds will be offered. For multi-day trips with insufficient bookings we will inform you 30 days prior to the trip date.

Trip Cancellation/Travel Insurance

We highly recommend insurance to protect your vacation investment. Travel Services offers a wide variety of affordable plans that cover cancellation and medical emergencies. Click [here](#) for more information or ask us to send you a brochure.

Meeting Location & Time

Two-Day Deschutes River Trips meet at 9:00 a.m. at Trout Creek Campsite and Boat Ramp. Please refer to the information below for directions to Trout Creek. If you are lost or will be late, please let us know. Also note that cell service at Trout Creek has traditionally been poor or non-existent. **Ouzel Office: 800-788-7238; After Hours: 541-815-4273**

To get to Trout Creek, you'll be turning off HWY 97 just north of Madras. The directions are in two parts. The first part is getting to Gateway. The second is from Gateway to Trout Creek. We highly recommend that you consult a map or use the map links below (Google Maps does a good job). If you need additional information or directions please don't hesitate to call our office.

To Gateway From the North (Coming from The Dalles or Maupin)

Proceed south on Hwy 97 to Milepost 81 and turn right on Quaale Rd. Proceed on Quaale Rd. for 5.5 miles until it intersects with Clark. Take a hard right and proceed to Gateway.

To Gateway from the South (Coming from Bend, Redmond or Madras)

Proceed north on Hwy 97 from the Madras Safeway for approximately 2.3 miles. Turn left at the bottom of a hill on Cora Road. Proceed on Cora Rd (which turns into Clark Road) for approximately 8 miles to Gateway. Be careful not to veer onto Quaale Rd which intersects at a severe angle from the right.

To Trout Creek After Reaching Gateway

Cross the railroad tracks in Gateway and immediately turn right on Clemens. Clemens quickly turns to gravel. Proceed 4.5 miles to Trout Creek. You'll go down a steep grade, pass through a narrow tunnel, cross several creeks and finally go under a railroad trestle. When you come to a "T" in the road near the river, the launch site is to your left. The road can be rough (although high clearance is not necessary) so take it slow and watch for on-coming traffic.

Here are some useful Links:

[Directions from Madras to Trout Creek from Google Maps](#)

[Locate Trout Creek on Google Earth](#) (KMZ file download requires Google Earth)

Driving Times to Trout Creek

From Madras – 45 minutes

From Bend – 1 hour, 45 minutes

From Maupin – 1 hour, 15 minutes

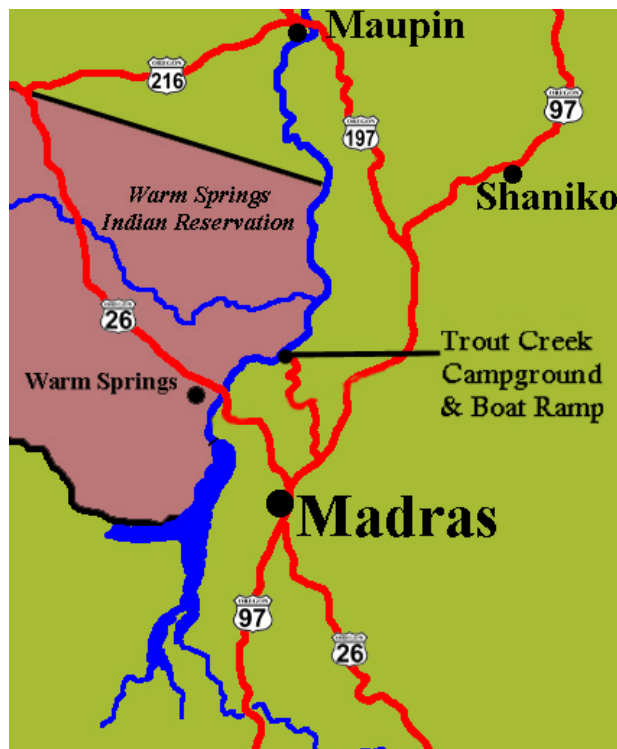
From Portland – 2 hours, 45 minutes

Maupin to Portland – 2 hour, 15 minutes

Transportation Information

Vehicle Security

During the trip your vehicle will be shuttled from Trout Creek to Maupin. We have used the same dependable shuttle company for 20 years. Please bring an extra set of keys and make sure you have at least 100 miles worth of fuel. Your vehicle will not be left overnight at Trout Creek but will be unattended for a good portion of the following day in Maupin. Do **NOT** leave valuables in your vehicle. While we have not had problems at these locations in the past, we cannot completely guarantee the safety and security of your vehicle or valuables during the trip.



Local Accommodations

Camping

[Trout Creek](#) (our Launch Site): Tent camping, pit toilets. No potable water or services
Deschutes Canyon Campground: Tent, RV, Store. 541-553-1011.

Lodging

[Best Western](#) (Madras) 800-528-1234

Oasis Café (Maupin) Cabins, Café, Store. 541-395-2611

[The Shilo Inn](#) (Bend) 800-222-2244

Other Resorts: There are a number of resorts in Central Oregon that offer a wide range of activities including golf, pools and spas. We are happy to help you with accommodations.

Trip Itinerary

Orientation & Packing

Two-Day Deschutes River Trips meet at 9:00 a.m. at Trout Creek Campsite and Boat Ramp. You should have eaten breakfast before this time. Once everyone is assembled at Trout Creek, the trip leader will begin the group orientation. It is best to arrive at the meeting location with your overnight gear already packed.

Packing Your Overnight Bag

You should be able to fit your clothing and personal items into a small duffel or gym bag. It should be smaller than an airline carry-on and about the size of a school book bag or day pack. Your overnight bag will be stored in a large waterproof box on the equipment raft and will be inaccessible during the day. Pack toiletries and liquid items in a Ziploc or waterproof container in case they leak inside your bag. Leave items that you want to have accessible throughout the day separate from your overnight gear (or easily accessible and packed on top in your overnight bag). Dry bags and waterproof boxes will be available on each raft for the things you need accessible during the day such as sunscreen, cameras and extra clothing. If you have special photography equipment or unusual items please call our office for packing suggestions.

Many guests find that owning their own small dry bag for day-use is convenient and eliminates the need to share with other guests.

Getting Ready to Launch

Your overnight bags will be collected along with any other items that need to be stowed on our equipment rafts - this includes personal soft drinks, beer or other items that are not needed during the day. Your overnight bag will not be accessible until you reach camp. The orientation continues as we discuss safety, the environment and what to expect on the trip. We try to be on the river by 10:30 a.m.

Day 1

We launch for a full day of exciting rafting and peaceful floating. The day begins with the waves of Trout Creek Rapids, and after stopping for a mid-day riverside lunch, we navigate the most difficult obstacle on this stretch, Class III+ Whitehorse Rapids. We'll arrive at camp in the afternoon, where the guides will provide and assist with camp gear and begin preparing a delicious dinner while you have time to relax, hike, fish or perhaps enjoy a game of bocce or horseshoes.

Day 2

7:00 AM: Coffee is on! Breakfast will be served at 8:00 AM.

10:00 AM: We'll launch on the river for another day of fun rapids and a delicious riverside lunch with the option to body surf the waves at Buckskin Mary rapid.

3:30 PM: We'll arrive at Maupin City Park, load the equipment, and return to Bend before 6:00 PM. If we are ahead of schedule, we'll make a quick stop for ice cream and to look at photos of our runs through the rapids at Box Car and Wapinitia. These photos can be purchased at the ice cream shop or on line at a later time. See page 9 for photo information.

Weather Conditions

The weather is usually warm and sunny from June to mid-September with daytime temperatures between 85 and 100 degrees. Nights are cool but not cold. Spring and fall weather can be variable and brief thundershowers are always possible during summer afternoons. Water temperatures are cool year-round averaging in the mid to high 50s. On hot days, swimming is fun and refreshing. Follow the packing lists below and make sure to check the weather before you go. The trick is to be well prepared, but not to over pack. Don't hesitate to call us if you have any questions. [Check the Deschutes River weather.](#)

What to Pack for Wearing on the River

On Warm Days

- Visor, Cap, or Sun Hat
- Sunglasses (w/strap)
- T-Shirt & shorts or swimsuit
- Rafting Shoes: Sandals w/heel strap or sneakers
- Lip Balm (with spf) & Sunscreen (spray sunscreen runs out quickly)
- If you are sensitive to the sun, you might consider wearing pants and a long-sleeve shirt made from a lightweight, quick-drying material.

On Cooler Days Add a Second Layer:

- Polypropylene long johns (not cotton) —tops and bottoms (light to mid-weight)

Ouzel provides a limited supply of splash jackets & pants for use on cooler days. We also recommend that you have good quality rain gear for inclement conditions. Dressing in layers allows easy adjustment to changing conditions. The best way to keep warm on the river is to **AVOID WEARING COTTON on the river!**

What to Pack for Camp

- Overnight Bag: You should be able to fit your clothing and personal items into a small duffel or gym bag. It should be smaller than an airline carry-on and about the size of a school book bag or day pack. Your overnight bag will be stored in large waterproof boxes or dry bags and will be inaccessible during the day.
- T-Shirt and Shorts
- Long sleeve shirt (cotton okay)
- One pair of long pants (cotton okay)
- Sweatshirt or fleece top
- Socks and underwear
- Warm hat (optional for chilly mornings)
- Sneakers or light hikers (light hiking boots are fine for hiking)
- Rain jacket (just in case)
- Small Towel & Toiletries
- Insect Repellent
- Flashlight or headlamp

It is wise to assume that every article of clothing you wear on the river will be soaked by the time you reach camp in the afternoon. You should be prepared to change into a completely dry set of clothes when we reach camp (including socks & shoes).

Cold Weather Clothing Suggestions

- Check the weather before your trip!**
- Footwear. On colder trips we recommend having neoprene socks or booties. Booties have a built in sole. Neoprene socks are designed to be worn with a sandal or tennis shoe.
- Neoprene gloves.
- Warm and waterproof hat.
- Good quality rain top and pants. Fabrics that are waterproof and breathable work best.
- Extra polypropylene or fleece tops and bottoms (non-cotton). Wear these in layers under your raingear or our splash gear.
- Do not wear cotton!

Optional Items to Pack for your Trip

- Camera and Film (disposable waterproof cameras work great)
- Extra batteries (for flashlight, camera, etc.)
- Hi-Tech Clothing. Hydroskin, Hydrosilk or Rash Guard shirts are designed for water activities. Many of these stretchy nylon/spandex fabrics offer UV protection, protect against chaffing from your life jacket and help keep you warm on cooler days.
- Soda, beer, wine or your favorite spirits—we'll keep your drinks on ice if desired. Avoid glass.
- Small pillow (travel or backpack kind or a pillow case that you can fill with extra clothes)
- Personal amenities such as a journal, book, deck of cards, Frisbee, football, etc...
- Small personal dry bag for day use. (eliminates having to share with others – 9.5" X 18" is a good size for two people)
- Kayaking gloves. If you plan do spend a lot of time in the inflatable kayak, gloves will keep your hands from chaffing. Fingerless cycling gloves or neoprene gloves will do the trick.
- Small first aid kit with Band-Aids, ibuprofen, etc... All trips carry major and minor kits and each guide has their own supplies, but it can be handy to have your own "ouch pouch".
- Extra sunglasses
- Sarong

Recommendations for Kids

- A pair of river shoes or river sandals (designed for water sports) that wrap around the toes and provide extra protection for the feet. Avoid slip-on water socks and crocs.
- Hydrosilk or rashguard tops. These fabrics are warm and comfortable when wet, help avoid chaffing from the life jacket and are "cool".
- Hat & sunglasses with a strap. Kids can tire easily in the sun and protecting the eyes and face helps avoid over-exposure. Since kids often lose or break sunglasses, inexpensive pairs are recommended.
- Games. While there are plenty of activities for kids on our trips, we recommend bringing diversions that your kids or family can enjoy. Card games, compact board games, books, paints and other activities can provide occasional evening entertainment. Our game bags usually include bocce, horseshoes and other games, but if your family enjoys throwing a football or Frisbee around you should consider bringing one. We highly discourage electronic games and gadgets as they can be easily damaged and run counter to the wilderness experience.
- Bring plenty of sunscreen for kids and encourage them to drink lots of water.
- On colder trips make sure that the kids have neoprene footwear, a warm and waterproof hat and plenty of polyester/fleece tops and bottoms for layering.

What Ouzel Outfitters will Provide

- Tent (Sleeps two) *Family-sized tents are available on request and sleep four.*
- Sleeping Bag & Pad
- Souvenir T-shirt and water bottle with the Ouzel logo – your's to keep. (water bottles are BPA free)
- Water bottle with the Ouzel logo – your's to keep.
- Beverages include: Water, Lemonade, Iced Tea, Coffee, Hot Chocolate, Tea and an assortment of wines served with dinner (we plan for 2 glasses per adult per evening). You are welcome to bring your favorite sodas, beer, wine or spirits. We bring additional coolers with ice for this purpose. Consumption of alcohol is not allowed while on the river during the day.
- Splash Jackets & Pants (Our supply is limited and does not replace the need to bring good rain/wind tops and bottoms)
- Small library with books and information about the area
- All meals from lunch the first day to lunch on the last. Healthy snacks are always available.
- All group camp gear including tarps, fire pans (when allowed), tables & chairs, toilets.

Where to Purchase Items on the Packing List

Items listed in the packing list and other useful "river wear" such as fleece and polypropylene tops and bottoms can be purchased at most local sporting goods stores. Neoprene socks and gloves are also available at sporting good stores and dive shops. Don't hesitate to call us if you have questions. You can also find a useful tutorial on dressing for a river trip as well as order clothes and equipment at www.rivertraveler.com. Or call Cascade Outfitters at 888-748-3717 for a free catalog.

Camping Equipment

Tents: Our tents are Alps brand outfitter model tents designed for durability. They are spacious for two (7ft x 8ft on average) and can accommodate more in a pinch. Special family-sized tents that accommodate up to four are available upon request. Please indicate your request for a family-sized tent on the Guest Information Form.

Sleeping Bags: Our sleeping bags are 3 or 4 pound square bags with a flannel or polypro lining. Sleeping bags are professionally cleaned by a commercial launderer after each and every trip. Our bags are of standard length (75" to 80") and will sleep a 6'0 person comfortably. If you feel that you need a larger bag it may be advisable to bring your own. Please call us for options. If you wish to bring your own sleeping bag, please indicate this on the Guest Information Form.

Pads: The pads we use are called "Paco" pads. These pads are used by river rafters and guides all over the world for their comfort and durability. They are 1-1/2" poly foam in a heavy duty PVC shell. They are waterproof, do not roll up and are carried flat on our equipment rafts. If you feel you need additional padding you are welcome to bring an additional pad to use with the Paco pad that we provide. Please bring only a closed-cell foam "backpacker" pad or compact thermarest as space is limited. If you bring a small air mattress make sure you have a pump and patch kit.

Setting up Tents: The riverside campsites we select most often have a variety of options for tent sites. We find that most guests enjoy selecting their own personal site and setting up our easy-to-set-up tents on their own. Our guides will be happy to teach you how to set up your tent and are always available for "troubleshooting" during the trip. If you find that setting up your tent is difficult and don't mind the guides selecting your site, feel free to let your trip leader know during the orientation that you would like your tent set up for you. We will be happy to accommodate your request.

Meals & Dietary Restrictions

Our menus are designed to be flexible in order to accommodate vegetarians and those with dietary restrictions. Since our meals are largely made from scratch, it is easy for us to prepare portions on the side without garlic, meat or other ingredients you may be allergic to. While we will know your preferences and allergies in advance, it is ESSENTIAL that you remind the guides of your preferences or restrictions PRIOR to meal preparation. When appropriate, dishes and utensils are not used to prepare or serve more than one dish. Utensils used to prepare dishes with meat are not used to prepare vegetarian options. Here is a breakdown of what we are able to provide:

Vegetarians/Vegans – Plenty of fresh fruits and vegetables (including avocado and bell peppers) will be supplemented with Hummus, Tofu, Bocca Burgers, Pates and other protein sources. Meals that have ingredients containing animal products and/or dairy products will have portions that can be prepared on the side without these ingredients.

Nut Allergies - Since we don't use a lot of pre-made and processed ingredients, it is not difficult for us to check for oils and extracts, avoiding them altogether or preparing portions on the side.

Wheat/Gluten Allergies – While we cannot guarantee your favorite brand we will have gluten free products such as breads, tortillas, snacks and pastas.

Non-Dairy – While we cannot guarantee your favorite brand, we can provide soymilk and will prepare dairy-free portions of meals where necessary.

Guest Information Form - Please record any dietary allergies or restrictions on the Guest Information Form. We purchase food for our trips the day before departure and do not have the ability to significantly adjust menus or add alternate dishes once the trip has begun. Please keep in mind that "preferences" are different than "restrictions". We often find that "preferences" become less important as most guests find they are burning more calories than they're used to during the course of a day. As an example, folks on low-carb diets often appreciate the "extra calories". It is also common for kids to eat foods that they may not eat at home. Don't hesitate to call or email if you have any questions. Download a [Sample Menu](#) here.

Environmental Concerns

Whether you are on the river for a day or three days, you will be exposed to the elements. Exposure to the sun is our most common concern, but cold days are also possible at any time of year. Pay special attention to the clothing suggestions in your trip planner and [CHECK THE WEATHER](#) before you trip.

The Deschutes is home to a few pesky plants and insects. Poison oak is common, so keep on the lookout. Our guides will help you identify it if you're not sure what to look for. While most guests never encounter them, scorpions, rattle snakes and black widow spiders are present in the Deschutes River Canyon. It is important while on shore to watch where you put your hands and feet. Ticks are present in the spring and early summer - check yourself after hiking through grass or brush. Mosquitoes, when present, are not abundant, but we recommend bringing insect repellent. Yellow jackets (bees) become more numerous as the summer moves on. They like to hang out around the lunch table, so if you're sensitive to bee stings, have a friend or one of the guides prepare your lunch for you. If you see a skunk, don't try to pet it.

Toilet Facilities

For many, the most apprehensive aspect of a river trip is the "toilet situation". On the Deschutes, most campsites are within a short walk of a permanent composting outhouse. Sanitation is of great concern to us in camp, and we always provide a hand washing system to accompany the toilet facilities located on the river.

Hygiene Information

Safety on a river trip doesn't just mean wearing your life jacket and never diving into the river, it also includes washing your hands! We are very careful when it comes to contaminants on a trip. Our food coolers are organized and drained daily and ice is carefully managed. Our dish washing and kitchen cleaning systems include a sanitizing bleach solution and hand washing stations are always set up near the kitchen and toilet. Please help us keep everyone healthy by washing your hands prior to each meal and after using the toilet.

For Women: Most of our river trips have female guides on them so it is easy to ask questions. Our male guides are also fully aware of issues specific to women, so if you are comfortable speaking with them, they are comfortable addressing your concerns. Sometimes, however, they need to be reminded that you may need more "stops" than they might have anticipated. Frequent stops for urination are common and locations are selected to maximize privacy. Don't hesitate to ask your guide for a "potty stop".

If you are expecting your period during the trip, we suggest that you pack a small amount of toilet tissue, a few Ziploc bags (small and large sizes), a few small paper bags, a small bottle of hand sanitizer and your napkins/tampons into one large Ziploc bag. Each day, pack a day's supply of tissue, pads/tampons, small Ziplocs and a paper bag in a large zip lock and put this in your day-bag or in one of the watertight boxes that is available during the trip. During the day when you change a napkin/tampon, place the used one in a small Ziploc bag and put that in the paper bag with everything going back into the large zip lock. You can dispose of used products in the garbage set up in camp each afternoon. Do NOT put used products in the toilets. Feel free to ask any of your guides for assistance. We carry extra feminine supplies on each trip as well as zip locks and plenty of toilet paper to help restock your kit.

Photos

Photos of every raft are taken at Wapinitia and Boxcar Rapids. These photos can be ordered online at either www.prontopics.com or www.whitewaterpix.com. Photos for a given day are organized by the rapid and the time. Our 2-day trips usually run through Wapinitia and Boxcar rapids between 1:00 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. on the last day. While scrolling through photos look for blue boats and yellow lifejackets.

Fishing on the Deschutes

The Deschutes River is world famous for its trout and steelhead fishery. The Deschutes Redband Trout, a species similar to rainbow trout, is highly regarded for its enthusiastic strike and acrobatic fight and draws fly fishermen from around the world to the banks of the river. In the Spring and Fall, the Deschutes offers one of the best opportunities around to hook a steelhead on a fly rod. The river also holds Chinook salmon and provides one of the last strongholds for the threatened Bull Trout. During the summer rafting season, trout fishing can be challenging, but rewarding for the patient angler. A light- to mid-weight rod and flies or lures are recommended for trout. It is your responsibility to possess the appropriate license(s) and to be aware of Deschutes River fishing regulations before angling on the river. Keep in mind that while kids under 14 do not need a license to fish for trout, an adult who is assisting a child to fish must have the appropriate license. Find out more about license fees and regulations at the [Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife](#).

Raft Types

Oar-Assisted Paddle Rafts, Inflatable Kayaks. [Get a description of our raft types.](#)

Assumption of Risk

Whitewater rafting is an outdoor activity that requires moderate physical exertion and exposure to the elements. There are risks associated with whitewater rafting and trip-related activities that are impossible to eliminate. While we take all reasonable steps to minimize the risks associated with the activity, it is vitally important for our guests to understand what is required of them and to appreciate and assume the risks of participation. Each participant is required to sign an "Assumption of Risk" prior to departure. **Only parents or legal guardians can sign for minor children.** Please let us know ahead of time if there will be minors on your trip who will **NOT** be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian. A copy of our "Assumption of Risk" form is included for your review. To read our participation requirements in detail – [CLICK HERE](#) or you may call our office for a copy. Please don't hesitate to call or [email](#) if you have any questions or concerns.

How Strenuous is the Trip

Our two and three-day Deschutes trips involve [paddle rafts or oar-assisted paddle rafts](#) and [inflatable kayaks](#). Oar rafts are only available on a limited number of trips. In a paddle raft, all participants are expected to assist with paddling. Paddling is intermittent and only moderately strenuous. Optional inflatable kayakers require more upper body strength and endurance. Camping involves sleeping on the ground (we provide pads) and negotiating rocky or uneven ground on hikes and around camp. The only lifting required is what you have packed in your bag. Days on the river can be long, and so preparing for extended exposure to the elements is vitally important.

Gratuities for Guides

If you have enjoyed your trip and feel that your guides have done an outstanding job, it is customary to thank them with a gratuity. The amount is up to you, but a gratuity of between 15% and 20% of your trip fare is typical for Ouzel guests. The guides share their gratuities and will appreciate any expression of thanks you care to offer. [Meet Ouzel Guides.](#)

More about the Deschutes River

The Deschutes River begins its journey in the Cascade Mountains of Central Oregon creating a diverse and scenic riverway as it travels north through the high desert sunshine of Central Oregon to its final destination in the Columbia River Gorge. As the life-blood of Central Oregon recreation, the Deschutes offers everything from fly fishing to scenic hiking and mountain biking, flat-water canoeing, wildlife viewing and whitewater rafting through alpine forests, desert flatlands and rocky gorges. Whitewater rafting is at its best on the last 100 miles of its northward journey, offering a variety of well-defined sections delivering moderate, but big and splashy rapids with numerous options for trips. With dependable water flows and constant summer sunshine, the Deschutes is the most popularly rafted river in Oregon, especially in and around the town of Maupin where many thousands of people enjoy one-day trips every summer.

The Lower Deschutes was designated an Oregon Scenic Waterway in 1970 and a Federal Wild and Scenic River in 1988. Within this canyon, you will experience an incredible geologic and cultural history, a diverse community of fish, wildlife and vegetation, and an abundance of recreational opportunities.

Geologic evidence indicates that the region has alternately been covered by shallow seas and reshaped by volcanic episodes. Vast numbers of lava flows have layered the area forming what is known as the Central Oregon Plateau. The river has carved through sedimentary and igneous rock ranging in age from more than 65 million years old too as young as 1,300 years old. The vast majority of these rocks are volcanic in origin. Most of the dark colored cliff walls consist of basalt from the large scale Columbia basin basalt flows (14 to 17 million years ago) and younger more localized Deschutes and Dalles formation (6 to 10 million years ago). The Deschutes canyon formed 1 to 4 million years ago through a series of volcanic, tectonic and erosional processes. The legendary Missoula floods as well as periodic flooding also influenced the current appearance of the canyon during glacial periods. The combination of these events scoured and gouged the land, revealing the pages that time has written during the last 65 million years.

For thousands of years Indian people of the Central Oregon area have had a tie to the land that has kept their spirituality intact. The early inhabitants were mobile foragers, hunting herds of large mammals that grazed the vast tundra grasslands. Eventually, as the Indian people began to set up permanent villages, their economy diversified. They seasonally harvested salmon, waterfowl, culturally important plants, and constructed more permanent dwellings. By 1855, increasing pressure from white settlers resulted in a treaty in which the Indian people of the Deschutes and John Day Basins ceded much of their homelands. The lands now known as the Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon were reserved for their exclusive use. Members of the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs retain the right to fish seasonally along the Deschutes River as part of their cultural heritage. Today, tribal members can be seen dip-net fishing below Sherars Falls for large fall Chinook and steelhead.

White explorers saw the Deschutes River for the first time on October 22, 1805. Lewis and Clark stopped at the mouth of the river while exploring the Columbia. They referred to this tributary of the Columbia River by its Indian name "Towornehiooks." The first white men to actually explore the Deschutes River were trappers from the Hudson Bay Company twenty years later. In 1825, a group of trappers lead by Peter Skene Ogden ascended the Deschutes from the Columbia River and gave the river the name that is used today. They referred to the river as the Riviere Des Chutes, which is French for "river of the falls." Although the area was not settled until years later, hundreds of settlers crossed the river on the Oregon Trail as they traveled west to the Willamette Valley to homestead or headed east to supply miners or graze livestock. View the Deschutes River [Photo Gallery](#) or the

Visit our [Area Links Page](#) to view accommodations, maps, activities and much more!

Section 1 I, the undersigned, as a participant on an Ouzel Holding, Co., Inc. (dba) Ouzel Outfitters (hereafter referred to as "Ouzel") trip, have been informed that Ouzel makes every reasonable effort to safeguard me, my family, and my (our) belongings. However, by reading and signing this document, I acknowledge and appreciate that during the river trip or tour and related activities in which I am participating with Ouzel and its agents, employees or associates, certain risks and dangers exist which are inherent in river running, associated activities and wilderness travel. I acknowledge and appreciate that these risks include but are not limited to loss or damage to personal property, personal injury or fatality to myself, my spouse, family members or friends. **Damage to or loss of property, personal injury or fatality may occur due to the capsizing of a raft, kayak or other water craft; collision of a raft, kayak or other water craft with a vehicle, bridge, other water craft, rock, log, tree, or other object in the river or on shore; falling into or from a raft, kayak or water craft, or falling while hiking or walking on shore on and off established trails and paths; water damage due to leaking bags or other containers; illness caused by waterborne parasites or insect or animal borne bacteria and viruses; exposure to temperature extremes or inclement weather; immersion in cold water and hypothermia (significant loss of body heat); prolonged submersion or entrapment in or under the water due to a rock, tree, water craft, loose equipment, river current or other object in the water; collision while swimming in swift or calm water with a rock, tree, water craft or other manmade or natural object in the water or on shore. Damage to or loss of property, personal injury or fatality may also occur due to vehicle accident while riding in vehicles operated by Ouzel, its agents, employee or associates. I also acknowledge and appreciate that delay of advanced medical care in the event of accident or illness in remote places without medical facilities, physicians or nurses is inherent in the activities in which I am participating with Ouzel. I further acknowledge that emergency electronic communication devices (satellite phones) are **NOT** carried on **Deschutes, McKenzie and North Umpqua River trips.****

In consideration of and as part of payment for the right to participate in Ouzel trips or tours and the services and meals arranged for me by Ouzel and its agents and associates, I certify that I have the necessary skills and ability to participate in this activity, and do voluntarily participate in this river trip and the related activities with knowledge of the dangers and risks involved, as stated above. By my signature below, I accept and assume responsibility for myself or a minor for whom I have legal guardianship, for injury, death and/or loss of or damage to personal property and expenses thereof as a result of my participation in this activity except to the extent such damage or injury may be due to the gross negligence of Ouzel. I hereby agree to assume all responsibility for myself, my property and those for whom I have legal custody and hereby release and discharge Ouzel and its officers, directors, stockholders, employees, representatives, sub contractors and agents from all claims, demands, and rights or causes of action for injuries or damages of any description which may occur as a result of my participation on this Ouzel trip. If I am signing this agreement on behalf of another person, I certify that all representations are true with respect to the participant and that I am the participant's legal guardian with full authority to bind that person to the terms of this agreement.

Section 2. Ouzel and/or its associates and employees act only as agents for the client in making arrangements for trips and/or travel services with common carriers or other outfitters and/or guide services, for vehicle shuttle services, and for carpools among various trip members, and accepts and assumes no liability or responsibility whatsoever for any damages, injuries, fatalities, losses, or delays due to any cause whatsoever, whether to person or property in connection with such services and/or arrangements. Ouzel shall not be held responsible for any act, omission, or event during the time participants are aboard airlines, trains, buses, vans, or other common carriers or private passenger cars which are not operated by Ouzel and each trip member hereby agrees to release Ouzel from any and all liability in connection therewith.

Participants are strongly advised to have personal medical insurance, along with baggage and camera insurance. It is understood that if emergency evacuation should become necessary, the expenses are the sole responsibility of the participant and not that of Ouzel. Ouzel is not responsible for the safety and security of client vehicles or personal property left in vehicles during the course of any Ouzel trip or related activity. Ouzel reserves the right to accept or decline service to any person.

Section 3. I hereby agree to permit Ouzel employees and other guests to take photographs and make film records of the trip without further recourse or compensation to me. I understand and agree that such photographs and/or film records may be used for commercial and/or promotional purposes.

I HAVE CAREFULLY READ ALL SECTIONS OF THIS DOCUMENT AND FULLY UNDERSTAND THE CONTENTS OF EACH. I AM AWARE THAT THIS AGREEMENT CONSTITUTES AN ASSUMPTION OF RISK AND CONTRACT BETWEEN OUZEL AND/OR ITS AFFILIATED ORGANIZATIONS AND MYSELF. I SIGN OF MY OWN FREE WILL ON MY BEHALF OR ON BEHALF OF PARTICIPATING MINORS FOR WHICH I HAVE LEGAL CUSTODY.

NAME OF PARTICIPANT _____ D.O.B. _____ TRIP DATE _____

SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____

Minor participants should sign here, but parent or legal guardian must sign below.

NAME OF LEGAL GUARDIAN SIGNING FOR MINOR LISTED ABOVE _____

SIGNATURE OF GUARDIAN _____ DATE _____