



McKenzie River One-Day Trip (Paradise to Blue River- 15 miles) Trip Planner

Cancellation & Payment Policy

For all half-day and one-day trips, the full trip fare is due at the time of making your reservation. Credit card guarantees are required if you wish to pay by cash, check or credit card at the meeting location. Guides cannot make change at the river so please bring the exact amount due. After 30 days prior to your trip there is a \$10/person cancellation fee. No refunds are given for cancellations received after 48 hours prior to your trip. If your reservation has been secured with a credit card guarantee, your card will be charged the amount due according to this cancellation policy. The \$10 cancellation fee is held as credit for one year from your trip date. Click [here](#) to read our full cancellation policy. **Groups:** For group reservations (10 or more guests) the \$10 cancellation fee only applies after the final payment has been made seven days prior to your trip. The 20% group deposit is non-refundable.

Insufficient Bookings

Trips with insufficient bookings may be cancelled and full refunds offered. For half & one-day trips we will inform you of the possibility of cancellation at least 3 days in advance. Since half & one-day trips tend to fill up at the last minute, cancellation due to insufficient bookings is not common.

Order T-Shirts!

Take home the perfect souvenir of your Ouzel rafting experience. Call to order t-shirts at least 24 hours prior to your trip and we'll deliver them to you at the river. T-shirts are \$15 if ordered in advance or \$20 if ordered after your trip. [Click here to see this year's t-shirt.](#) Call 800-788-7238 or email us your order at info@oregonrafting.com (please reference your reservation number listed above).

How Strenuous is the Trip

Our one-day and half-day trips on the McKenzie River are paddle rafting trips. Our rafts and inflatable kayaks are not available. In a [paddle raft](#), each participant is expected to assist with paddling. Paddling is intermittent, requiring short bursts of moderate paddling from time to time. The overall effect is moderate upper-body workout. If you are concerned about the level of activity, don't hesitate to call our office.

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.

Meeting Instructions

Please refer to the information below for directions to your meeting location. If you wish to change your meeting location please call our office ahead of time – we do not stop at all locations on every trip. PLEASE DO NOT BE LATE. If we have not heard from you we will wait 15 minutes at your stop before departing. **Please call 800-788-7238. After Hours: 541-815-4273 or 541-815-2136.**

Shilo Inn – Bend – 8:00 AM

3105 NE O.B. Riley Rd. (541) 389-9600. Just off of HWY 97 Business (Also HWY 20) on the north end of Bend next to the Riverhouse Resort. Look for an Ouzel van with Ouzel rafts near the restaurant and the main entrance.

Click [HERE](#) for MapQuest Directions

Ray's Food Store – Sisters - 8:35 AM

445 West Cascade Ave. (541) 549-2222). On the south side of HWY 20 just west of downtown Sisters. Look for an Ouzel van with Ouzel rafts in the parking lot.

Click [HERE](#) for MapQuest Directions

Black Butte Ranch – 9:00 AM

8 miles west of Sisters on HWY 20. (541)595-1282. Entrance is on the south side near milepost 93. Ask gate attendant for directions to Recreation Center where Ouzel vans will be waiting. (If there is no attendant stay to the right as you enter the Ranch; the Recreation Center is on your left just as you pass the main Lodge.)

Click [HERE](#) for MapQuest Directions

Paradise Campground – 10:00 AM

Paradise campground is well marked on the north side of HWY 126 just east of McKenzie Bridge and just west of Belknap Hot Springs and the junction with HWY 242. Follow signs to the boat ramp. For those meeting us at Paradise, transportation is provided back to Paradise after the trip.

Click [HERE](#) for MapQuest Directions

Drive Times to Paradise Campground

Drive times are estimated for private vehicles. Our vans move slower and may stop at the locations listed above.

Bend (Shilo Inn) - 1 hour, 30 minutes; Sisters (Ray's Food Store) - 1 hour; Black Butte Ranch- 50 minutes;
Portland – 2 hours, 45 minutes; Salem – 2 hours; Eugene – 1 hour, 15 minutes.

Vehicles and Valuables

Whether parking your car at the Shilo Inn, Sister's Rays, Black Butte Ranch or Paradise we recommend leaving valuables at home, or at the very least, locking them in your trunk, glove box or keeping them out of site. Wallets can be stored in the dry bags available on each raft along with keys – although keys can also be stored in a securely zippered pocket if you have one. Valuables may be left in our vans but we cannot guarantee the safety of your possessions. We have not had a company or guest vehicle broken into or vandalized at any of the above locations, but the possibility cannot be eliminated.

What to Bring on Your Trip

- Visor, Cap, or other Brimmed Hat
- Sunglasses (w/strap)
- Shorts or bathing suit. Most women prefer to wear shorts over bikini bottoms.
- Rafting Shoes: Sandals w/heel strap or sneakers – no bare feet, Crocs or flip flops.
- Don't wear blue jeans.**
- Lip Balm (with spf protection) & Sunscreen
- Waterproof Camera
- Water Bottle (**Important!**)- You will be able to refill your bottle from our water cooler.
- Change of clothes (stays in van)
- If you are sensitive to the sun, we recommend a long sleeve shirt and pants made from lightweight quick-drying materials.
- Games or activities for kids for the drive to and from the river. (*optional*)
- Small dry bag (*optional*). All rafts have waterproof dry bags for things you want to keep accessible. Having your own dry bag eliminates the need to share with others.
- Hydro-silk or Rash Guard shirt (*optional*). These fabrics are designed for water sports activities and will protect you from the sun as well as helping to keep you warm when wet.

What if it's Cold and Rainy?

We do not cancel trips because of poor weather. It is important for you to be prepared for your trip. **CHECK THE WEATHER** before your trip - click [HERE](#) to see the weather forecast for McKenzie Bridge, OR. On cold days it is important to **AVOID COTTON CLOTHING**. Dressing in layers of synthetic fabrics with rain gear over the top will increase the enjoyment of your trip. Ouzel has a limited supply of paddle jackets and pants for those who are unprepared. To learn about how to dress for a river trip and to purchase appropriate clothing please visit Cascade Outfitters at www.rivertraveler.com or call: 888-748-3717. Don't hesitate to call our office if you have questions.

Splitting up Groups

We use [12' and 14' self-bailing paddle rafts](#) on our trips. Each raft will seat up to seven participants and one guide. Groups larger than seven will be split into separate rafts while groups with less than seven will likely share a raft with other guests. While it is extremely rare that we must split up groups of less than seven, we will make every effort to let you know when you make your reservation. Please keep in mind that overloading rafts reduces the level of safety and this is our guides' number one priority.

Lunch

A delicious deli lunch is served buffet style. The lunch includes a variety of whole grain breads, fresh deli meats and cheeses and a wide variety of fruits & vegetables sliced fresh just before serving. Lemonade, iced tea and iced water are available. Our lunch accommodates vegetarians with peppers, avocados, cucumbers or other additional vegetables. Peanut butter & jam is always available. Please let us know if you have specific food allergies or dietary restrictions. If this is a special occasion for someone in your group (i.e. anniversary, birthday, etc...) please let us know and we might have a little extra something special for the occasion.

Gratuities for Guides

If you have enjoyed your trip and feel that your guides have done an outstanding job, please feel free to offer a gratuity. The amount is up to you but guests will typically offer between 10% and 20% of their trip fare. The guide staff shares gratuities. Click [HERE](#) to meet our guide staff.

Environmental Concerns

Whether you are on the river for a day or half a day, 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. The water temperature is cold year-round, so even on the warmest days, having a lightweight synthetic shirt can make a lot of difference. Pay special attention to the clothing suggestions in your trip planner and [CHECK THE WEATHER](#) before you trip.

The McKenzie River is fairly benign when it comes to troublesome insects and plants. Poison oak is present in some areas along the shore but we spend very little time in non-developed areas. Yellow jackets (bees) will create an occasional annoyance at lunch. 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.

Trip Itinerary

The day begins when we meet you at your scheduled meeting location. You will be asked to read and sign an Assumption of Risk Form at this time and to pay your trip fare if needed. By 10:00 am. we will all be gathered at the boat ramp at Paradise Campground. We'll get everyone fitted for life jackets and discuss safety for the trip. Once we've divided into paddle crews, we'll board the rafts for 4 to 5 hours of splashy fun. The first part of the day is active with almost continuous class I & II rapids. We'll stop for lunch at McKenzie Bridge. After lunch the river calms down a bit with fewer but larger rapids. We'll reach our take out at Forest Glen near Blue River by 4:00 p.m. Here, you will have time to change clothes before the van ride back. Guests who have met us in Bend can plan on being back by 6:00 p.m.

The Idyllic McKenzie River

The beautiful forested McKenzie River is a post-card perfect Oregon mountain stream. Born high in the Cascade Mountains, its crystal clear waters wind their way through narrow gorges and over stunning waterfalls before settling down to a swift but easily-rafted mountain river. With plenty of opportunities for mountain biking, rafting, fishing, hiking to waterfalls and riverside dining the [McKenzie River](#) is the perfect playground for a [few hours](#) or a [whole day](#). Visit our [Area Links Page](#) to find accommodations, maps, area activities and much more! See the [McKenzie River Photo Gallery](#).

Ouzel Outfitters

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Thanks again for choosing Ouzel Outfitters. We look forward to hosting you for a memorable rafting adventure. Please don't hesitate to contact us if you have any questions.

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 _____