



North Umpqua River One-Day Rafting Trip

(Boulder Flat to Gravel Bin – 13 miles)

Trip Planner – Long Version

Meeting Instructions

All North Umpqua River Rafting trips meet at the Gravel Bin Boat Launch at 10:00 am. If you will be late, please let us know. We will wait 20 minutes before departing. **Please call 541-385-5947. After Hours: 541-815-4273.** Please note that cell service is non-existent or spotty within about 10 miles of Gravel Bin in each direction.

Gravel Bin Boat Launch – 10:00 AM

The Gravel Bin Boat Launch is located on **HWY 138** approximately 40 miles east of Roseburg and 40 miles west of Diamond Lake. It is 1.3 miles east of the Steamboat Inn. It is well marked with a large sign and is visible from the highway. **Gravel Bin is between mile posts 39 and 40.** You can find the Steamboat Inn in your navigation device but there is no address for Gravel Bin Boat Ramp. Click [HERE](#) for the location in Google Maps

What to Bring on Your Trip

- Hat for sun protection (must fit under helmet)
- Sunglasses (w/strap)
- Shorts (boards shorts are great – avoid cotton) **Don't wear jeans!**
- Rafting Shoes: Sandals w/heel strap, Keens or sneakers – no bare feet, Crocs or flip flops.
- Lip Balm (with SPF protection) & Sunscreen
- Water Bottle (**Important!** You will be able to refill your bottle from our water cooler).
- Hydro-silk, Rash Guard or similar (non-cotton) clothing (**highly recommended**). These stretchy and insulating fabrics are designed for water sports activities and will help to keep you warm when wet.
- Change of clothes for after the trip (stays in your vehicle)
- Personal dry bag (**optional**). All rafts have shared dry bags for items you want to keep accessible.

The North Umpqua is a chilly river (even on the warmest days). For typically warm summer days, thin or medium thickness synthetic fabrics (as described above) are adequate. We do not cancel trips because of poor weather, so it's up to you to be prepared. If the weather forecast calls for rain or cooler temperatures, you might want to add a warmer/thicker layer and give some thought to keeping feet and hands warm. Ouzel Outfitters will supply splash jackets, splash pants and wetsuit booties (and wetsuits when conditions warrant), but having a good non-cotton base layer is crucial for your comfort. Click [HERE](#) for the weather forecast for Glide, OR.

Services

Dry Creek Store, just 8 miles east of our meeting place, has fuel, groceries, firewood and most last minute purchases. Services are also available at Glide, OR, which is 22 miles west of our meeting location. Full services are also available in Roseburg. **Cell service is generally unavailable on Hwy 138 in the area where we operate.** There is a payphone in Glide and at the Dry Creek Store.

Vehicles and Valuables

Your vehicle will be parked at Gravel Bin Boat Ramp. While the entire parking lot is visible from the HWY, unfortunately, theft from vehicles is not unknown along this stretch of the HWY 138. We highly recommend leaving valuables at home or at the very least, locking them in your trunk, glove box or keeping them out of sight. Wallets and keys can be stored in the dry bags available on each raft or may be left in our van during the trip.

Environmental Concerns

Whether you are on the river for a day or two days, you will be exposed to the elements. Exposure to the sun is always a concern, but cooler days are not uncommon during the summer. The water temperature is cool to cold during the rafting season, so even on the warmest days having a lightweight synthetic base layer can make a lot of difference. Pay special attention to the clothing suggestions and [CHECK THE WEATHER](#) before your trip.

The North Umpqua River is fairly benign when it comes to troublesome insects and plants. 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. Ticks are present in the spring and early summer - check yourself after hiking through grass or brush. Yellow jackets (bees) become more numerous throughout the summer. They like to hang out around the serving table at lunch, so if you're sensitive to bee stings, have a friend or one of the guides prepare your lunch for you.

How Strenuous is the Trip

All North Umpqua River rafting trips are paddle rafting trips. Oar 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 to strong paddling and some periods of sustained moderate paddling. Paddling also involves a fair amount of twisting and turning and bracing firmly with your legs will keep you in the raft. The overall effect is a moderate upper-body workout. Depending on water levels, the Umpqua can be rocky and “technical”. Impacts with rocks are more common than on our other rivers and once in a while, rafts will get briefly stuck on a rock. Days on the river can be long, so preparing for extended exposure to the elements is vitally important. [Read our General Participation Requirements](#). 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. The presence of this risk is part of what constitutes (by definition) an “adventure sport”. Whitewater rafting is an adventure sport. 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. Guests are expected to be prepared for their trip, to follow all instructions provided by Ouzel guides and staff and to act responsibly. Each participant is required to sign an [Assumption of Risk Form](#) 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. Feel free to review our [full participation requirements](#) and please don't hesitate to call or [email](#) if you have any questions or concerns.

Trip Itinerary

The day begins at 10:00 a.m. as you meet your guides and fellow rafters at the Gravel Bin boat ramp. Here you will be asked to sign an “Assumption of Risk” form and to pay your balance if needed. Once everyone is gathered and properly dressed we'll board our vans for a short shuttle upriver to our launch location at Boulder Flat. At Boulder Flat we'll fit everyone for life jackets and paddle jackets (wetsuits if needed) and discuss safety issues for the day. After dividing into paddle raft crews we'll get on the water for a full day of exciting whitewater. The first half of the day includes numerous Class II and some Class III rapids. After a riverside lunch at Horseshoe Bend the action intensifies with plenty of Class III rapids culminating in Class IV Pinball Rapid. The day finishes with a few Class II rapids before arriving at Gravel Bin where our day started. The trip typically ends between 4:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m.

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.

Order T-Shirts & Water Bottles!

Take home the perfect souvenir from your rafting experience with Ouzel. Call to order t-shirts or water bottles at least 24 hours prior to your trip and we'll deliver them to you at the river. T-shirts are \$15 and water bottles are \$10 if ordered in advance. [Click here to see our t-shirts and water bottles](#). Call 541-385-5947 or email us at info@oregonrafting.com.

Splitting up Groups

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

Insufficient Bookings

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

Payment & Cancellation Policy

For all 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. Fares are fully refundable up to 30 days prior to your trip. 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. Click [here](#) to read our full cancellation policy. If we have arranged a special payment plan or cancellation policy for your group, please refer to your invoice for details.

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.

The Beautiful and Action-Packed North Umpqua

Set amidst the wilderness areas and national forests of the Southern Oregon Cascades, the North Umpqua River is one of the most beautiful rivers in the Northwest. Towering Douglas fir forests line this steep and rugged canyon, shading the crystal clear water as it leaps and cascades through steep gorges and boulder-strewn rapids. With over 25 significant rapids and numerous smaller ones in a little over 20 miles the Umpqua delivers one of the most fun and enjoyable paddle rafting experiences in the Northwest. In between rapids marvel at the majestic moss and lichen hung forests – and keep an eye out for the American Dipper—also known as the water Ouzel!

With no major airports or large tourist cities nearby, the Umpqua River is off the beaten track. For those seeking relaxation and inspiration in the outdoors (with a splash of adventure thrown in) this area is a rewarding playground. Numerous hiking and mountain biking trails and more than 25 scenic waterfalls in the Umpqua National forest provide fantastic experiences. For a grander view, close by [Crater Lake National Park](#), formed by the collapse of Mt. Mazama, holds the deepest, clearest, and coldest lake in America. And for the fisherman, the combination of a large (and mostly native) summer steelhead run, fly-angling only restrictions and an idyllic setting has made the North Umpqua a popular fishing destination for fisherman from around the world. Visit our [North Umpqua River Photo Gallery](#).

Most [one day trips](#) include the most exciting section of the North Umpqua River, but you may also schedule a trip on the lower section for a little less whitewater. If you are looking for a longer trip we offer fully outfitted [weekend getaways](#) which include a full two days of rafting. For more information about area attractions, accommodations and camping visit [North Umpqua River Info Links](#) on our website.

Ouzel Outfitters

PO Box 817, Bend, OR 97709

Office: 541-385-5947

Fax: 541-385-0461

info@OregonRafting.com

www.OregonRafting.com

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.