

Orion River Rafting

WENATCHEE RIVER Rendezvous Information

High Water Wenatchee • 12 years+ • Class III • Introductory White Water • Towering Waves • Sunshine • 14 miles • May/June/July

Low Water Wenatchee • 8 years+ • Class II-III • Introductory White Water • Splashy Waves • Sunshine • 8 miles • July/August

MEETING POINT

Our guides will meet your group at our Warehouse - Wenatchee River Meeting Site - on Chumstick Highway 5 miles outside of Leavenworth.

To reach the Wenatchee River Meeting Site from Seattle via I-90:

Drive I-90 to Cle Elum, WA. Take the Wenatchee Exit 85 for U.S. 97 over Blewett Pass. Drive U.S. 97 to U.S. 2, turn west to Leavenworth. Once in Leavenworth, turn north on Chumstick Highway. Drive 5.3 miles and turn west or left, on NF-7705, aka Sunitsch Canyon Road. Turn right at first drive in about 50 yards. **DO NOT CROSS the railroad tracks.**

To reach the Wenatchee River Meeting Site from Seattle via U.S. 2:

Take S.R. 522 out of Seattle. Drive U.S. 2 east out of Monroe, WA. At Coles Corner, WA, turn north on S.R. 207. Turn right on Beaver Valley Rd (Chumstick Highway), continue on Chumstick Highway through Plain, WA, continue to NF-7705, aka Sunitsch Canyon Road, turning right upon arrival and then first drive on the right in about 50 yards. **DO NOT CROSS the railroad tracks.**

To reach the Wenatchee River Meeting Site from Wenatchee/Spokane via U.S. 2:

Drive west out of Wenatchee, WA on U.S. 2 toward Leavenworth, WA. Once in Leavenworth, turn north on Chumstick Highway. Drive 5.3 miles and turn west or left, on NF-7705, aka Sunitsch Canyon Road. Turn right at first drive in about 50 yards. **DO NOT CROSS the railroad tracks.**

CONTACT INFO

Our office hours are 7 days a week during the season, 9am to 5pm.

Office: 509-548-1401/ info@orionexp.com.

WEATHER

Washington weather is fickle and unpredictable while the water temperature is always cold; consequently, Orion River Rafting provides wetsuits on all Washington river trips. We also have a limited number of splash jackets available for those rainy, overcast days. HOWEVER, even being clad head-to-foot in neoprene, additional river gear is often needed and strongly recommended. For Local Weather reports: www.weather.com
Type in Zip Code: 98226

MEAL OPTIONS

Wenatchee River Trips do not include a Meal Option - unless specific arrangements have been made well in advance.

DRINKING

No alcoholic beverages are allowed on one-day trips for safety reasons. Guests suspected to be under the influence of alcohol, or any other drug, will be required to remain on shore. There will be no exceptions. The whitewater should provide plenty of excitement.

SAFETY RECORD/GUIDE EXPERIENCE

Orion has been in operation since 1978 and proudly holds one of the best track records in the industry. Orion conducts a thorough and comprehensive guide training program that meets and exceeds Washington state standards.

GRATUITIES

If you enjoyed your ride, why not tip your guide? Guides work long hours trying to ensure your day on the river is picture perfect. Their days begin early in the morning and usually don't conclude until nightfall. If you've had a pleasant or exhilarating experience, feel free to consider a token of appreciation. Additionally, you may request a guide whenever you make a future reservation. An excellent way of demonstrating your gratitude.

PERMITS

ORION operates under permits authorized by Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie and Wenatchee National Forests, North Cascades National Park, the Bureau of Land Management and various regional/ State Game Departments. Orion Expeditions is an Equal Opportunity recreation provider and employer under Special Use Permit from the Mt. Baker Snoqualmie National Forest.

WARNING

River running is an inherently risky activity. Moving water and powerful forces in combination are never entirely predictable. Orion will do everything possible to conduct a safe trip, but cannot assume responsibility for injury or loss of personal belongings.

TERMS & CONDITIONS

AGE RESTRICTIONS

In general, for Class V, such as the Skykomish River, you need to be 18 years of age.· Class IV, such as the Sauk River at higher water flows, you need to be 14 years of age.· Class III, such as the Wenatchee River, you need to be 12 years of age.· On Class I–II rivers, the Skagit River for instance, 8 years of age is required. Deschutes River: 8 years of age and up with a parent.

Exceptions are occasionally made depending on the time of the year and the water levels.· Please call the office to discuss the circumstances in advance of committing yourself to a reservation.

CANCELLATION POLICY

Please be aware and understand that when a reservation is made and confirmed with a deposit it becomes an assured/guaranteed reservation. Orion River Rafting has committed to set aside space for you and removed that space or block of spaces from the commercial market. If you decide to cancel, it can be difficult to impossible for us to reissue and sell that space, especially in the case of cancellations that occur close to the trip date, regardless of reason.

With this in mind, we must firmly adhere to the following policy:

No Shows/Late Arrivals – No refunds or trip credits will be given for “no-shows” or late arriving guests that miss the trip departure. In the event of this happening, all payments are forfeited.

Also note:· Orion River Rafting has never canceled a river trip due to weather conditions.·

According to the time frame in which you cancel, a cancellation fee will be assessed and the remaining balance of monies paid toward the canceled space will be issued either as refund or trip credit (trip credits are good for future trips with Orion River Rafting):

Cancellation occurs 3 or fewer days prior to trip date: No Refund

Expenses incurred in association with your planned trip, or monies paid to third party vendors/ facilities in connection with your canceled trip, are not the responsibility or liability of Orion River Rafting. Refunds issued are done so in the same method that the client payment was made to Orion River Rafting.

There are no exceptions to these terms. **You may, however, substitute another person in your place without penalty.** We regret that exceptions cannot be made for personal emergencies or illness. For this reason, we urge our guests to purchase trip cancellation insurance when making a reservation. Trip cancellation insurance is available through [Travel Insured International, Inc.](#)

WHAT TO BRING WHITE WATER RAFTING

Standard Gear Everyone Should Bring to the River

- Secure Eyeglass or Sunglasses Strap
- Clothing Appropriate to the Time of the Year (Remember: the wetsuits are sleeveless!)
- Shoes that can get wet and will stay on your feet during an unscheduled 'swim'
 - ~ Wetsuit booties will be available, however, in the heat of the summer you will prefer protective footwear more suitable to the hot temps like old tennis shoes, water sandals with heel straps
- Swim trunks/swimsuit worn beneath street clothes to facilitate changing into river attire
- Plastic water bottle
- Waterproof or disposable camera
- Towel to dry off at the end of the day (and for changing back into street clothes!)
- Change of clothes and shoes for the ride home
- Magnetic hide-a-key for your car keys (Keys should NEVER go down the river.)

CLOTHING SUGGESTIONS

Summer (Low Water & Hot Weather Conditions)

- Sunblock with a High SPF#
- Sun Visor or Hat
- Quick drying shorts or Swim Trunks
- Thin, synthetic top – short or long sleeved
- Windbreaker

Spring & Fall (Higher Water & Wet Weather Conditions)

Orion River Rafting will provide you with a sleeveless, 3mm thick neoprene wetsuit whenever the weather and water conditions warrant it. However, in addition to your wetsuit, you want to think about LAYERING. Even if the air temperature is warm, the river, most likely, will be very cold from snowmelt.

Clothing Layers (in the order in which you would put them on):

Note: There is NO Cotton Clothing recommended

- Close fitting swimsuit, bike shorts, shorts, UnderArmour wear
- Thin, synthetic, close-fitting long or short-sleeved top

- Neoprene wetsuit (provided – but you are welcome to bring your own)
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- Thick, synthetic long or short-sleeved top
- Finally, your ‘barrier’ layer – rain jacket, windbreaker, paddle jacket
- Warm, synthetic ski cap

If rain or cold weather is a possibility, we suggest bringing extra synthetic clothing. River guides carry day bags on their paddle boats that can accommodate extra gear if necessary. Please don't be shy about clothing. In the summer, once the air temperature reaches the 80s, usually the wetsuits are not necessary, however, we always suggest a warm top and windbreaker just in case the weather deteriorates or you take an ‘unscheduled’ swim. Remember: Layers are preferable to bulk for trapping heat and cotton is useless once it gets wet. When cotton gets wet, your body spends more energy trying to dry the cotton clothing than it does trying to keep you warm.

So, once again, NO COTTON CLOTHING on the river.

MEDICAL CONDITION ALERT:
BRING YOUR OWN MEDICATION

Our staff is trained to provide Basic First Aid, but we are prohibited by law from providing, and we are not trained, to administer medications or advanced medical care. So, all clients with medical conditions such as a susceptibility to anaphylactic shock from allergic reactions to bee stings, etc should bring and keep handy and inform their guide about their specific medical condition and specific kits.