

Steelhead Fishing Salmon River



2011 Dates

Anytime September 1 through March 31

TRIP HIGHLIGHTS

- Full day of drift boat steelhead fishing on the Salmon River near Riggins, Idaho
- Experienced and professional fishing guides
- High quality equipment and heated drift boats
- Spinning rods, tackle, bait and lunch included



Trip Overview

Join us for a day of steelhead fishing on the famous Salmon River. You'll fish with our experienced guides from drift boats - pulling plugs, drifting bait or throwing spoons. Steelhead run between late September and March and offer a challenging and thrilling fishing experience. Fly fishermen are welcome to bring their own gear. The fly fishing is typically best early in the season.

If you are looking for more than one day of fishing, consider joining one of our all-inclusive fishing and lodge packages. Bird hunters can also choose to chukar hunt on our steelhead trips.

Difficulty Rating

Full day guided fishing trips are rated EASY, and considered appropriate for any physical ability, including children ages 7 and up. Most physical activities are optional. Those with ailments such as a bad back or bad knees frequently enjoy these trips.

Drift Boats

On this fishing adventure, you will be traveling down river in drift boats. Drift boats are light weight fishing boats designed for whitewater. Equipped with a heater in the winter, two seats for customers and one seat for our guide, our boats provide a spacious, comfortable and safe fishing experience. Northwest Voyageurs provides all of the spinning gear and tackle for this trip. If you choose to fly fishing, you will need to provide your own fly fishing gear and tackle. Note that fly fishing for steelhead is quite difficult with a lower success rate than spin casting.

Weather

The spring and fall here are typically beautiful with mild day temperatures in the 60s and 70s. In March and November, the day temperatures dip into 50s with chilly evenings and mornings.

Detailed Trip Itinerary

Our full-day fishing trips typically leave the Little Salmon Lodge early to arrive at our launch site at first light. (Exact time depends on the time of year). We fish on the Salmon River, typically upstream from Riggins between Carey Creek and Island Bar. We typically fish until at least 4pm.

We provide spinning rods and all tackle you will need for the day. Our trips also include a delicious bagged lunch with deli sandwiches, fresh fruit, chips, homemade cookies and your choice of soda or water.

Trip Cost

\$398 per boat, based on one or two fishermen per boat

Solo fishermen should call us often so we can pair you up with other solo fishermen to share the cost of the boat.

Bird hunters can also choose to chukar hunt on our one day steelhead trips by adding \$25 per person per day.

What's Included

- Spinning gear and tackle (fly fishing gear and tackle not provided)
- Professional, experienced and fun-loving fishing guides
- High quality equipment and heated drift boats
- Lunch

What's Not Included

The cost of the trip does not include airfare to Boise, Idaho; transportation from the airport to the Little Salmon Lodge; lodging the nights before or after your trip; optional gratuities, and applicable taxes.

Tippling: We are sure you will find our fishing guides will work very hard to find fish, even if the conditions are not ideal. While tipping is not required, it is customary if you feel your guides have worked hard and provided you with a wonderful experience. While any amount is appreciated, we recommend an amount of \$30-50 per guest per day.

Why Northwest Voyageurs

Safety: The most important part of any outdoor adventure is safety. Safety comes first and foremost from having experienced, well trained guides who know how to avoid dangerous situations and minimize risk. All outdoor adventures have inherent risks associated with them. Our job as your outfitter is to minimize that risk as much as possible. In 25 years of guiding whitewater trips, we have never had a serious injury. Our safety record is impeccable and speaks for itself.

Exceptional People: When we consider hiring anyone in our company, we want to ensure first and foremost that the person is extraordinary. Maybe we are selfish - we like to surround ourselves with inspiring people! We know we can teach almost anyone the skills to row a boat, or work at our front desk. But we can't teach people to understand people and how to exceed their expectations. This trait is inborn and we search long and hard to find these people.

Experience: Experienced guides bring more to the table than a safe trip. They bring deep knowledge of our rivers and destinations - and they also know how to maximize the fun-factor while minimizing risk. We boast some of the most experienced guides in the industry, as evidenced by a fair amount of white and grey hair in our guide staff. We also boast a very high level of education in our guides and staff in a variety of fields.

Service: Our owners have extremely high expectations of themselves and our staff. We differentiate ourselves on providing an extraordinarily high level of service on our trips and in our lodge. Our goal is to solve your problems and issues before you have them and to smile the entire time. Ultimately, it's our passion for sharing the outdoors with people who may be out of their element that drives us to provide this level of service. It makes your experience that much more rewarding - and makes you want to come back again and again.

Professionalism: While our guides are fun-loving and relaxed, they are also professionals. They've been trained in customer service and are able to handle difficult situations with grace and poise.

Delicious Gourmet Food: One of the elements of our trips that stay with our guests the longest is our amazing food. We can also accommodate any special dietary requests with advanced notice to ensure your enjoyment of our meals.

Getting Here

Flight Information: Most guests choose to fly into Boise, Idaho which is about 3 hours from our lodge and headquarters. All major carriers except American Airlines fly into Boise. Spokane, WA and Missoula, MT have major airports as well and both are 4 hours from us. If your itinerary includes a trip to Coeur d'Alene or Glacier National Park, these cities will likely be more convenient than Boise. Lewiston, Idaho (2 hours) is served by Horizon Air from Seattle. From all airports, most of our guests rent cars and drive to our facility.

Driving Directions: The Little Salmon Lodge and Northwest Voyageurs' headquarters are located in West Central Idaho, 10 miles south of Riggins, just off Highway 95 on Pollock Road. Between highway mile markers 186 and 187, turn west on Pollock Rd. and you will see our lodge 100 yards down the road on the left. For more specific directions please contact Northwest Voyageurs and we will be happy to assist you.

Approximate driving times from regional towns and cities:

Riggins - 10 minutes

McCall - 45 minutes

Grangeville - 1 hour

Lewiston - 2 hours

Boise - 2 hours, 45 minutes

Coeur d'Alene, ID & Spokane, WA - 4 hours

Tri-Cities, WA - 4 hours

Portland, OR - 7 hours

Seattle, WA - 8 hours

Salt Lake City, UT - 8 hours

Accommodations Before and After Your Trip

We invite you to join us at the lodge the nights before and after your trip. Nestled on the banks of the Little Salmon River, lies the Little Salmon Lodge, home of Northwest Voyageurs. The Lodge runs as a full bed & breakfast, featuring 12 guest rooms with private baths, a beautifully hand carved beer and wine bar, river side hot tub, great room, and the most hospitable staff around. With most adventures starting and returning to the

Little Salmon Lodge, it is the perfect place to relax before and after your trip. Call ahead for dinner reservations in the summer.

If you prefer to camp or have an RV, consider our neighbors up the road at the Canyon Pines RV Park. If beach camping without facilities is more your style, check out the many free camping options along the Salmon River just upstream (east) of Riggins.

What to Bring

Spring and Fall Fishing

If you have decided to join us in the spring or fall for cooler weather, please pay special attention to the packing list for those seasons. The water and air temperatures are cooler and the chances of rain are higher. As we mentioned above, even though we hope we never have to use the bad weather gear, it is important that you bring it along, just in case.

During cooler weather, it is always appropriate to wear quick dry, non-cotton clothing to keep you warm even when you are wet. The well known saying “COTTON KILLS” applies to all of our spring and fall trips. Synthetic fabrics such as polypropylene, capilene, and polyester fleece dry quickly and keep you warm when wet. Wool is a good and less expensive option however it tends to dry more slowly and is less comfortable.

When planning your clothing for cool weather rafting, think layers. The first layer is often your long underwear, which provides warmth and wicks away moisture. Again, the newer synthetic fabrics are an excellent choice. The middle layer is often a fleece, heavier or lighter weight depending upon the expected weather conditions. The outer layer is typically a water proof or resistant layer. Since most of our body’s heat loss is through the top of our head, we highly recommend wearing a synthetic or wool hat.

How to Pack

We supply one medium sized bag for two people to share. This bag is a dry bag which you will have access to during the day and is typically shared with one other person and is large enough to hold things you will need access to during the day such as a camera, sun screen, warm fleece or rain jacket etc.

We use water tight NRS Dry Bags. When packed and sealed correctly, these bags will stay dry under most conditions. Our guides will help you to ensure

they are sealed well. To fully protect your gear, particularly items that can’t get wet such as cameras, medications etc., you may want to bring along several zip lock bags for double protection. If you plan to bring an expensive camera, we recommend purchasing a dry box such as a pelican case. See Detailed Packing List on last page of this packet.

Trip Extensions

Bird hunters can also choose to chukar hunt on our steelhead trips by adding \$25 per person per day. Please give us a call or check out our website for more information on this extension.

If you are planning to fish for more than one day, consider booking one of our All-Inclusive Fishing & Lodging Packages.

Recommended Reading List

General:

Indian Creek Chronicles Pete Fromm

River Tales of Idaho Darcy Williams

Water – The Fate of Our Most Precious Resource Marq De Villiers

Roadside Geology of Idaho David Alt

Myths of Idaho Indians Deward Walker Jr.

Salmon River:

River of No Return Johnny Carrey and Cort Conley

Spirits of the Salmon River Kathy Deinhart Hill

Last of the Mountain Men Harold Peterson and Sylvan Hart

The Lower Salmon Sourcebook: A Guide’s Guide Caroline Tan

Fishing:

Steelhead Water Bob Arnold

Mist on the River: An Angler’s Quest for Steelhead Michael Checcio

Emergencies

Should your friends or family have an emergency, please ask them to contact us directly at the lodge at (208) 628-3021. We will do our best to get any appropriate message to you. It is often exceedingly difficult for us to reach our trips with a message, as we are often in remote, roadless wilderness areas. You will be responsible for any cost associated with retrieving you early from a trip or getting a message to you. So please be sure to let your friends and family know that they should be very clear with us the urgency of the message.

Payment and Cancellation Policy

Northwest Voyageurs requires a non-refundable deposit of 50% from each person to secure your reservation on this trip. Final payments are due no later than 90 days prior to the departure date. If you find you must cancel your trip, please notify Northwest Voyageurs in writing as soon as possible. If we have not received your final payment by the due date, and if we have not received written notification of your need to cancel your reservation, Northwest Voyageurs may at its sole discretion charge the remaining invoice balance to your credit card on file or consider the reservation cancelled and release your spaces.

All payments are non-refundable. However, if you notify us in writing of your need to cancel your trip at least 90 days prior to your departure, we will hold payments on your account less the initial deposit for a period of one year. If you notify us less than 90 days prior to your departure, all payments will be forfeited. Please understand that once you sign up, we lose the right to sell your space to another individual. Therefore, we regretfully cannot make exceptions to our cancellation policies. Northwest Voyageurs **STRONGLY** recommends purchasing travel insurance for all multi-day reservations.

Travel Insurance

Travel insurance can cover unforeseen costs or problems such as lost baggage, cancelled flights, and the costs of canceling your trip due to illness or injury. Northwest Voyageurs **STRONGLY** recommends purchasing travel insurance for this trip. It is very important to consider purchasing your insurance within 15 days of making your reservation, as there are additional benefits included in the policy including a waiver of pre-existing medical conditions. For more information, or to purchase travel insurance, please visit:

<http://www.travelinsure.com/what/selecthigh.htm?32922>

Other Questions

If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact us by email at info@voyageurs.com or by phone at (800) 727-9977 and we will be more than happy to assist you in any way that we can.

Detailed Packing List:

Clothing and Personal Items:

- Pack for layering: non-cotton warm layers, poly-propylene underwear, fleece, a warm coat, etc.
- Long underwear (synthetic, quick dry fabrics like polypropylene, capilene, and polyester fleece)
- Warm wool socks
- Warm tops (fleece or wool)
- Warm bottoms (fleece, carhartts)*
- Sunglasses with retainer straps *
- Floppy hat, baseball hat, or visor for sun protection*
- Sunscreen and lip balm or chapstick*
- Boots to wear on the boat, preferably warm and leather
- Warm Goretex/waterproof jacket and pants or good quality rain jacket and pants (we can provide splash jackets and pants if needed)
- Winter hat and gloves

Optional Items to Bring:

- Fly fishing rod and tackle

Northwest Voyageurs Provides:

- Spinning rods, tackle and bait
- Life jackets
- First aid supplies
- Lunch

Please Do Not Bring:

- Radios (personal headphones OK)
- Valuables
- Pets

Where can I buy these items?

Asterisked items in the above list are available for purchase when you arrive at our headquarters, the Little Salmon Lodge. Many of the other items can be purchased from a variety of general stores or local sporting goods stores. For specialty river or camping items including synthetic clothing, some of the many vendors to consider are:

Northwest River Supply: www.nrsweb.com

REI: www.rei.com

EMS (Eastern Mountain Sports): www.ems.com