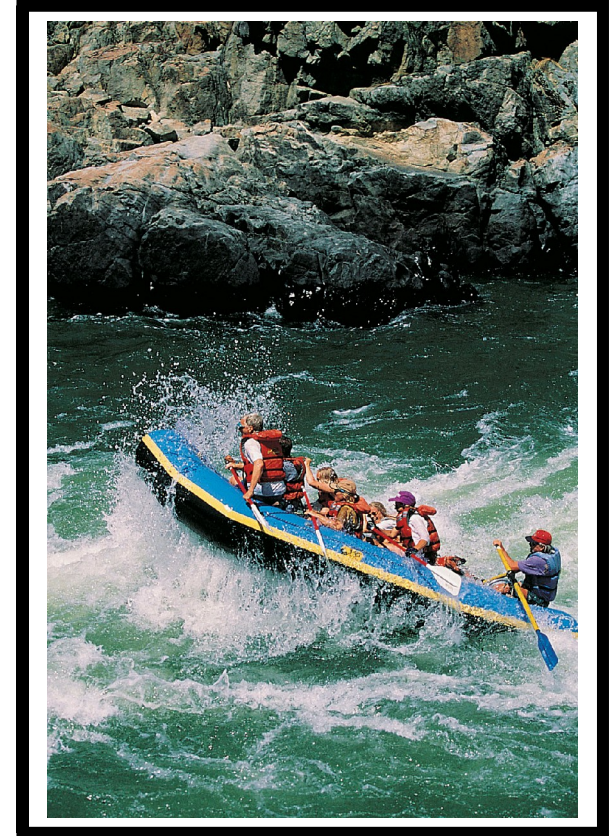


Salmon River Whitewater Adventure

July 25-31, 2011



TRIP HIGHLIGHTS

- 2 Nights in the riverside Little Salmon Lodge
- 4 Nights luxury beach camping with fantastic river meals
- 5 Days Class II, III, and IV whitewater rafting
- Beautiful Salmon River Canyon wildlife scenery and Native American Indian pictograph and historic pioneer homestead site viewing
- All meals and non-alcoholic beverages
- Transportation to/from Boise, Idaho
- Optional hiking, fishing and kayaking
- Appropriate ages 7 and up



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Dear Houston Alumni Traveler,

The University of Houston Alumni & Friends Travel Program is excited to announce another University of Houston alumni whitewater adventure. We invite you on an incredible five day, 72-mile river journey down the famous Salmon River in Idaho. This is a unique opportunity to travel with a small group of University of Houston alumni on an exclusive wilderness adventure.

The Salmon River is an amazing backdrop to one of the West's classic whitewater river journeys. Canyon walls carved over millions of years hide quiet pools that separate numerous Class III rapids with names like "Lorna's Lu-Lu" and "Bodacious Bounce." Our small group floats in rafts with experienced river guides, while more adventurous souls can navigate the rapids in their own inflatable kayaks. Our journey includes two nights at the riverside Little Salmon Lodge, four nights of beach camping and five days of exciting Class III whitewater. This adventure is appropriate for anyone seven years and older and is ideal for beginners and seasoned rafters.

Our travel partner, Northwest Voyageurs, has more than 31 years of experience running the highest quality outdoor adventures. They are available to answer any questions you may have and can be reached at: **(800) 727-9977** or online at: www.voyageurs.com/trips/houston2011.

We hope you will join us on this outstanding outdoor adventure. We recommend early reservations as space is very limited on this journey.

In the spirit of adventure,



Shivaughn Batiste
Director of Special Events and Stewardship Activities
University of Houston Alumni Association

Difficulty Rating

The Lower Salmon River Canyons adventure is rated EASY and considered appropriate for any physical ability, including children ages seven and up. Most physical activities are optional. The trip may require walking on uneven terrain for short distances. Those with ailments such as a bad back or bad knees frequently enjoy these trips.

The Salmon River is a Class III-IV river - mostly Class IIIs with a few Class IVs. It is a big volume, pool and drop river. While most rapids are not technically difficult, they present big waves, big rides, are safe and are a lot of fun.

Types of Water Craft NWV Offers:

Oar Rafts: In these boats, the guide sits in the middle with oars and has complete control of the raft. You can paddle if you wish, but it is optional at all times. In oar boats, you can sit back, enjoy the scenery and let the guide do all the work. This is relaxing and our least participative option.

Paddle-Assist Rafts: In paddle-assist boats, the guide has oars (typically mounted in the back of the boat), but needs paddling help during rapids and occasionally during some of the flat water. This is the most popular boat for people who wish to paddle during their trip.

Paddle Rafts: Our paddle boats have a guide in the back with a paddle (no oars). The guide steers, but provides no power. Paddling is required the entire day. Due to the nature of our rivers being big volume pool and drop rivers (very different from small volume technical East Coast & California rivers), and the tendency for upstream wind, this option is only appropriate for people who **really** want to paddle **all day** long. We have found that most people who request paddle rafts are actually happier in paddle-assist rafts.

Inflatable Kayaks: Thrill-seekers can brave our biggest rapids on their own in one of our single or double "duckies." In smaller rapids and calmer waters, the kayaks are great for anybody (including younger kids) who wants to get a little closer to the action. They do not require experience or knowledge of how to "Eskimo-roll." If you flip the kayak and fall out, you

will simply swim through the rest of the rapid. Another raft will paddle over to rescue you and everyone is happy!

Once you book your trip, we will have you complete a trip questionnaire that will help us plan the right mix of boats for the entire group on your launch date.

Weather

Summer weather in Idaho is beautiful! Most days are hot and dry, with temperatures ranging from the 80's to the occasional 100 degrees or more, with very low humidity. Fortunately we have our rivers to cool off in. The nights are perfect for camping, with clear skies, brilliant stars and pleasant temperatures. We do have the occasional afternoon thunderstorm, but they usually dissipate within an hour or two. Most importantly, our river canyons have no mosquitoes to harass us!

Detailed Trip Itinerary

Day 1: Please arrive to the Boise Airport by 4 p.m. Transportation is provided to the Little Salmon Lodge in Pollock, ID (3 hours). After a welcome reception and pre-trip orientation, we enjoy dinner and a relaxing evening at our beautiful riverside lodge.

Day 2: Following breakfast we will head to the launch site of our river trip for a thorough safety orientation before beginning our 5-day and 4-night whitewater journey. The first day we will relax, have lunch on the river and take time for everyone to learn to paddle or get acquainted with the inflatable kayaks. Our guides share colorful stories of the history of the canyon and its inhabitants. Several times during the day we will have opportunities to stop and visit ancient Indian pictograph sites and abandoned pioneer homesteads.

We typically arrive to camp in the late afternoon where our Salmon River camps have been set up on huge white, sandy beaches. Our camp crew has already done all the work leaving you plenty of time to swim, take a hike, fish for smallmouth bass and rainbow trout, play horseshoes and bocce ball or just to relax in camp. Special activities for children are planned throughout the trip, including a few of our river favorites - "ducky jousting" and "ammo-can tug-o-war"!

Each evening we enjoy appetizers and delicious riverside dinners. Our guides and chefs are very experienced and will cook for both adult and child palates. Following dinner we continue to unwind and begin to enter into the flow of our trip—something we call “river time.” Dessert is always baked fresh in our Dutch ovens and the night ends with warm companionship around the camp fire and a sky full of brilliant stars.

Days 3-5: After a full breakfast in camp, each day will follow the same general pattern as Day 2. After breakfast, we return to the river and continue our downstream journey. Each day features numerous rapids (mostly Class III and with an occasional Class IV), several planned stops and amazing scenery. Most people choose to try our inflatable kayaks - more adventurous souls paddle through the bigger rapids, while more timid paddlers and younger kids can still try them out in slower water and smaller rapids. With each day we find that the river slowly seeps further and further into our soul. Each night we become more relaxed and more in touch with our surroundings.

Day 6: On Day 6 we reach the confluence of the Snake and Salmon Rivers. We continue downstream where our journey concludes on the Snake River in Hells Canyon. In the early afternoon, we reach our take-out and quickly depart back to the Little Salmon Lodge. At the lodge we enjoy a celebration dinner and prepare for our return back to the real world.

Day 7: After breakfast, we depart for the Boise Airport. **Please plan your departure flights after 1 p.m.**

Trip Cost

\$1799 per person
\$200 single supplement, subject to availability
10% discount for children ages 7-12

Prices are based on double occupancy in our canyon view rooms. Upgrades to our river view rooms are available at the rate of \$20-\$40 per room per night. Upgrades are subject to availability.

What's Included

- 7 Nights, 6 days including: 2 nights at the riverside Little Salmon Lodge, 4 nights beach camping, and 5 days of Class II-IV whitewater rafting
- All meals and non-alcoholic beverages
- Transportation to/from Boise, Idaho
- All river, camping and fishing equipment
- Professional & experienced adventure guides

What's Not Included

- Airfare to/from Boise, Idaho
- Applicable taxes
- Fishing licenses (if interested in fishing)
- Optional gratuities

Tippling is not required, but is generally customary if you feel your guides have worked hard and provided you with a wonderful experience. While any amount is appreciated, a gratuity of \$100-200 per guest would be considered an appropriate range (much as 15-20% would be an appropriate range for a waiter or waitress). Most of this would go to the river guides, and a small amount such as maybe \$10 per night could go to the lodge staff. You can choose to tip the river and lodge staff directly, or give your gratuity to one of our owners or managers and we will ensure it is distributed appropriately.

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 while maximizing your enjoyment of the trip. In more than 31 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 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 from river ecology to the human history of canyon inhabitants.

Service: Our owners have extremely high expectations of themselves and our staff. We differentiate ourselves by 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, our service is driven by sharing our passion for the outdoors with people who may be out of their element. 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 true 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 highlights and most memorable parts of our trips is our amazing food. People are in awe of what we can create in the middle of the wilderness. Dutch-oven cooking, fresh baked desserts, lots of variety and often a bit too much food! With advanced notice, we are able to accommodate any special dietary requests to ensure your full enjoyment of our meals. A sample of what you may enjoy on your journey may include:

Breakfast: Made-to-order omelets, banana walnut pancakes, home-made "Egg McMuffins," fresh fruit salad and only the finest gourmet coffee - we are coffee snobs!

Lunch: New York Style Deli spread, smoked salmon and bagels, chicken salad on fresh croissants, taco salad; all with a selection of fresh fruit, veggies and dip, chips and home-baked cookies.

Dinner: Lime-dill salmon grilled to perfection with sautéed garlic asparagus, juicy steaks with giant Idaho potatoes and all the trimmings, chicken pesto fettuccine with roasted red peppers, freshly baked breads and fresh green salads.

Dessert: Pineapple upside-down cake, fresh picked blackberry cobbler, fudge brownies, strawberry shortcake or even a birthday cake - all baked fresh on the river.

Getting Here

You should plan to arrive into the Boise airport no later than 4 p.m. Our Northwest Voyageurs shuttle driver will pick you up at the airport and drive to the Little Salmon Lodge, approximately 3 hours.

What to Bring

In July and August, the weather on our rivers in Idaho is typically warm and beautiful with only a slight chance of precipitation. Average highs are in the 90s and average lows in the high 50s to 60s. We do have a week or two that can be considerably hotter with daytime highs exceeding 100F.

In normal summer conditions, we recommend quick dry shorts or bathing suits, cotton t-shirts, a long sleeve cotton shirt and long light weight pants for sun protection, hat and sunglasses for sun protection. **IMPORTANT:** Cotton clothing IS RECOMMENDED for very hot weather and it stays wet and helps cool your body temperature. However, cotton is not recommended for cooler weather so you should bring some non-cotton layers even in the summer and be prepared for cooler weather. Our detailed packing list includes gear for rare cool summer weather. Even though we hope to never use it, it is very important to bring along.

In the raft and kayak, you should wear shoes that will not fall off your feet and that you don't mind getting and staying wet. River sandals with heel straps (for instance Teva or Chaco sandals) are ideal, as are water shoes like those made by Keen. Tennis shoes work, but will get wet and tend to stay wet throughout the day.

Lastly, in camp you will want to have dry shoes to change into. Some people prefer tennis shoes, some sandals. Each day in camp we will have

opportunities to do some short hikes. Tennis shoes or sandals are typically fine for our short hikes, but some people may prefer to bring light weight hiking shoes or boots for longer hikes.

How to Pack

We supply each person with one large overnight bag. For items you may need during the day, we supply one medium sized bag for two people to share. Your overnight bag has plenty of room for your sleeping bag and one good sized duffle bag for your personal items. (Note, you can not typically fit suitcases in this bag.) This bag should be packed knowing that you will not have access to it until you arrive at that evening's camp.

Your second bag is a day bag which you will have access to during the day. This smaller bag 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.

Fishing

The Salmon River features excellent fishing opportunities beginning in July. Opportunities are available to fish from the bank during lunch and in camp. You can often fish from our boats during the day. You may bring your own fishing tackle or use several sets of gear provided to be shared by the group. In order to fish, you must obtain a valid Idaho fishing license which can be obtained online prior to the trip or at our lodge the night before.

Fly fishing recommended gear:

- 5-6 weight fly rod
- 5-6 weight floating line w/ medium to fast sinking tip-Bass flies: Varies. Try purple, green and white poppers. Streamer patterns.
- Trout flies: Caddis patterns, midges.

Spinning Gear recommended:

- Average sized trout rod with light tackle, or ultralight rod
- 2-4 pound test line
- Lures: Spinners, mepps, spoons, jigs

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

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 families know that they should be very clear with us the urgency of the message.

Payment and Cancellation Policy

Northwest Voyageurs requires a non-refundable \$400 deposit 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 and the University of Houston Alumni Association **STRONGLY** recommend 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. Once your reservation is confirmed, the University of Houston Alumni Association will forward you additional information on purchasing travel insurance.

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:

Gear & Equipment List

- Sleeping Bag (if you bring your own)
- Flashlight or headlamp
- Waterproof camera & film (disposable waterproof cameras available in our shop)*
- 2 - 1 litre water bottles*, refillable during the day
- Light-weight duffel bag for clothes – used to put into our dry bags
- Several zip lock type bags for personal items

Clothing and personal items

- 2-3 short-sleeve t-shirts*
- 1 Long-sleeve t-shirts or old dress shirts (for sun protection)
- 1-2 Pair quick dry shorts
- Bathing suit
- 2-3 Pairs of socks
- Personal undergarments
- 1 Warm top (non-cotton such as fleece)
- 1 Pair lightweight pants for evening
- Sunglasses with retainer straps *
- Plenty of waterproof sunscreen *
- Lip balm/chapstick with sun protection
- Towel, bio-degradable camp soap, lotion and personal toiletry items
- Floppy hat, baseball hat, or visor for sun protection*
- Good quality rain jacket and pants (we can provide splash jackets and pants if needed – more important in spring and fall than in summer)
- Sandals with heel strap or water shoes
- Walking shoes for in camp and short hikes

Optional Items to Bring

- Fishing license
- Fishing rod and tackle
- Lightweight hiking boots

- Camera or camcorder
- Musical instrument
- Alcoholic beverages* - no glass beer bottles please. At our lodge, we offer a great selection of canned beer, including a variety of microbrews, as well as a nice selection of wine which may be brought on the trip.

Northwest Voyageurs Provides

- Life jackets
- Tents
- Thick sleeping pads
- Sleeping bag and camp pillow
- Camp chairs and tables
- Dry bags for your personal gear
- Camera boxes
- First Aid supplies
- All cooking equipment and meals
- Ice and mixers for alcohol (please request any specific mixers)

Please Do Not Bring

- Radios (personal headphones or iPod OK)
- Valuables
- Pets
- Firearms

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