



Whitewater Rafting All Gay Weekend

July 9-11

South/Middle Fork of the American River, 2-day Combo Trip
Class III-IV (V!): Beginning-Intermediate Intensity Whitewater - 29 miles
Trip Leader: Klaus Gerhart (LAGoodGuy@gmail.com)

Great Outdoors, LA is joining Mariah Wilderness Expeditions again this year for 2 days of Whitewater Rafting on the American River during their all-gay weekend. This 2-day trip (South/Middle Fork Combo) includes 29 miles of river, 2 nights camping and 5 meals. It is perfect for fit and adventurous beginners and intermediate rafters. Warm up (or cool down) on the South Fork and get your thrills on the Middle Fork with the Class V 'Tunnel Chute'! We only have room for 6 GO members, so sign-up quick to reserve your spot. There'll be no cancellations on this trip, but your reservation is fully transferrable (we'll work it out!) And, of course, I'll facilitate carpooling.

Campsite:

We'll be camping at Mariah's 20-acre riverside campground in the Oak Tree Camp Area! This spacious campground offers comfort and privacy and is one of the largest and most beautiful camps on the river. Amenities: Camp Store, Evening Slide Show, Hot Showers, Flush Toilets, Ping-Pong, Horseshoes, Volleyball, Fishing, Frisbee .. and did I mention that this was an ALL-GAY WEEKEND?!

Food:

Delicious, hearty meals are cooked by our guides with the help of food managers and are served under their covered dining area. Wine from several local

award-winning wineries, beer, cold drinks, and water are available in camp. Enjoy outdoor camaraderie while sipping your refreshing beverage in their new wine and beverage garden. Enjoy their Coffee Corner in the morning.

The River:

Perfect for adventurous and fit first-timers or intermediate rafters, the Middle Fork of the American River flows through a stunning and remote wilderness canyon, 2,000 feet deep with tall, sheer faced rock walls and lush pine forests. The Middle Fork is well-known for the famous Tunnel Chute rapids -- 100+ yards of foam and froth followed immediately by the 30-yard tunnel our boats float through. This rapid was created when gold miners blasted through rock to change the flow of the river. We position our boats at the top of the Chute and paddle a few forward strokes which gives us the momentum we need to enter the current. Then the current and gradient take us on a thrilling ride!

Equipment:

Mariah uses high-quality professional river equipment; Coast Guard approved life jackets and full safety and emergency gear. On most of our trips we use paddle boats with six rafters plus your guide. Mariah has a 100% excellent safety record.

Our Itinerary:

Friday after 5:00pm - Arrive, check-in and join us for some wine. (Have dinner before you arrive or bring something that doesn't require cooking.)

Saturday: Breakfast at 8:00am* and then gather for orientation and safety information. Head for the river where you will receive your paddle and life jacket. We launch our boats, practice paddling skills with our guides and head for some easy rapids to get us started feeling confident and ready for the day. We stop mid-day for a delicious deli lunch along the river and then run some fun Class III rapids like Hospital Bar and Satan's Cesspool. We return to camp with time to enjoy the peace of the canyon over dinner, slide show and campfire.

Sunday: Breakfast at 7:00am* and then shuttle to the Middle Fork ready for the Tunnel Chute and lots more fun and challenging rapids. We return to camp at the end of the day, ready to head home with fond farewells about 5pm, relaxed and full of memories from a great river trip experience.

*Come dressed & ready for the river each morning. You may bring a jacket or sweatshirt to wear on the way to put-in the second day. On cool days we'll have a dry bag in each boat for extra wool or fleece tops.

Please Note: If you do not receive a confirmation for this trip from the trip leader, your registration may not have been received or the trip may be at capacity, and therefore your space is not reserved. Call the trip leader to verify your reservation within a week or two of sending it. Please do not 'show-up' on any Great Outdoors outing without first being in touch with the trip leader(s).

What to bring for On-River:

Quick-dry shorts/swimsuit, sunscreen & t-shirt for sun protection, tennis shoes or water shoes (no thongs or sandals), hat or visor, sunglasses WITH CHUMS.

Directions:

Take I-80 or I-5 to Sacramento. Continue east about 36 miles on Hwy 50 toward Placerville to the Ponderosa Rd exit at Shingle Springs. Turn left over the freeway and right at the stop onto North Shingle Road. Drive about 11 miles to Hwy 49, where Lotus Road dead ends. North Shingle Road becomes Lotus Road at about 4.5 miles. Turn left onto Hwy 49 and drive 2 miles to the Mariah sign at 6500 Hwy 49 on left side of the road. Drive in, check-in and find us. [MAP](#)

About Mariah:

Mariah has been offering high quality, safe and exciting rafting trips for over 28 years. We have seven great California rivers to choose from. They provide enough variety for rafters of all ages and experience, and each river is beautiful and scenic. The American River is classic California rafting, and its three forks are all different. The South Fork is great for families and first time rafters as well as for the more experienced paddler. The Middle Fork is more challenging with its famous Tunnel Chute Rapid. The North Fork is snow fed and is a popular early-season river for the more adventurous rafter.

[Visit their website for additional information.](#)

International Scale of River Difficulty:

CLASS I - Easy-Beginner: Moving water with small waves and no obstacles.

CLASS II - Easy-Beginner: Moderately moving water with gentle waves. Obstacles such as rocks are easy to maneuver through and around, mild gradient.

CLASS III - Beginner-Intermediate: Moderate whitewater, exciting but not difficult. Obstacles such as rocks and changes in river gradients are easy to maneuver through and around.

CLASS IV - Intermediate-Advanced: High volume whitewater that requires technical maneuvering; helmets are often required.

CLASS V - Advanced-Expert: Maximum intensity whitewater. The river bed is extremely obstructed and expert navigating is required.

CLASS VI - Unrunnable (except in the movies).



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Make check payable to **Great Outdoors** and mail to:
Klaus Gerhart, 427 S Serrano Ave, Los Angeles, CA 90020
Phone: 323-493-0104

Name (*please print*) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

GO Member # _____ Chapter: _____

Phone #: _____ E-mail: _____

Emergency contact: _____

Relationship: _____ Phone #: _____

Medical Insurance Carrier: _____

Group/Policy # _____

Physician: _____

Physician's Phone #: _____

I am carpooling with _____

I need a ride? Yes or No I Can offer a ride? Yes or No

I can be ready
to leave by:

I'm planning
to leave around:

Registration Fee

Member \$345

Non-member - ADD \$15

Or join Great Outdoors Or
for \$25, and get the
member rates and \$25
newsletter for a whole
year!

Total Enclosed _____

Please note: There are no
cancellations unless approved on a
per-case-basis by the primary trip
leader.

For trip leader's use

Date: _____

Check#: _____

Amount: _____

WAIVER OF LIABILITY, MEDICAL RELEASE AND ASSIGNMENT

I am aware that my participation in this GREAT OUTDOORS Inc. trip may include potentially hazardous activities, and I am voluntarily participating in these activities with the knowledge and understanding that I will use my best judgment to avoid injury to others and myself. I agree to follow the directions of the trip leader and abide by the rules of the facility I am using. I hereby release GREAT OUTDOORS Inc. including its officers, trail or trip leaders, agents or other persons working with GREAT OUTDOORS Inc. from any liability for injuries, physical or mental, which I may suffer by reason of participation in these activities.

I recognize in waiving this liability that I assume sole responsibility for my actions and cannot blame any injuries or losses on any other persons connected with GREAT OUTDOORS Inc. Our registration & cancellation deadline is one week prior to the first day of each outing. I hereby agree to assume full financial responsibility for any bills incurred by me for medical treatment as a result of my participation this GREAT OUTDOORS Inc. activity. In the event that I am unable to consent to medical care, I hereby authorize the trip leader to consent to emergency medical treatment for me, including hospitalizations and surgery, as may be determined under the circumstances.

Health problems/allergies: It is the responsibility of participants to carry on their person a record of significant allergies, medications, and medical history in the event of a medical emergency.

Signature _____ Date _____