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KINGS RIVER TRIP DETAILS

Welcome to ZEPHYR WHITEWATER EXPEDITIONS and the KINGS RIVER! Please read all of the enclosed information and make sure that you are clear on what is included in your trip, and how to get to our Base Camp. Below you will find detailed driving instructions, along with a general map. Feel free to call our office with any questions about your trip.

MEETING PLACE

- All trips meet at the ZEPHYR WHITEWATER BASE CAMP. Maps and driving directions are included in this pdf file. **Make sure you gas up prior to leaving the Fresno area.**

MEETING TIMES

- **½ Day Trips meet at 11:30 AM.** Please arrive no earlier than 10:30 AM and no later than 11:30 AM. Lunch is not included, but feel free to bring along your own and eat in our base-camp prior to boarding the bus for the 45-minute ride to put-in. We have shaded picnic areas for your convenience, and drinking water.
- **1-Day Trips meet at 8:30 AM**
- **2-Day Trips meet at 8:30 AM**

ADD-ONS

Add prior-night camping and breakfast for \$20.00/person. This upgrades your trip to our former "Full Service" trip. Arrive between 5:00 PM and 10:30 PM the night prior, camp with us next to the river at our private campground, and enjoy a full breakfast the next morning.

MEALS and CAMPING - WHAT'S INCLUDED IN MY TRIP

- ½-Day Trips: no meals or camping. No Add-On option available.
- 1-Day Trips: 1 meal (lunch on the river), no camping. With Add-On, include prior-night camping and breakfast.
- 2-Day Trips: 4 meals (lunch day 1 through lunch day 2) and 1 night camping (the night of your trip). With Add-On, include prior-night camping and breakfast day 1

IMPORTANT

DRIVING TIME FROM FRESNO or KINGSBURG TO OUR BASE CAMP IS ABOUT 2 HOURS. FOLLOW OUR DRIVING INSTRUCTIONS AND DO NOT RELY on GPS OR ON-LINE MAPPING. YOU MUST ARRIVE ON TIME. SORRY, BUT THERE ARE NO REFUNDS FOR LATE ARRIVALS OR MISSED TRIPS.

ABOUT OUR CAMP

Our beautiful, private, five-acre base camp boasts sandy beaches for camping, fresh mountain spring drinking water, a volleyball court, horseshoes, and flush toilets. Picnic tables and BBQ's dot the camp for those of you camping before your trip and wanting to cook your own dinner that night.

MOTELS

If you do not Add-On prior-night camping/breakfast, there are plenty of motels in the Fresno area. If you do stay in Fresno, don't forget it will take you 1-1/2 to 2 hours driving time to reach our base camp. Meeting time is 8:30 AM.

WET SUITS

For spring trips (through mid-late June), wetsuits are a must. During the spring, the water can be high and cold and we want you to be comfortable. Wetsuits are provided at no charge. NOTE: We no longer provide booties, as our self-bailing rafts keep your feet out of the water most of the time. You should bring along tennis shoes or river sandals or water socks to wear on the river. A nylon swimsuit (or other thin-material suit) should be worn underneath your wetsuit.

CARS

Your cars are accessible when you are in camp. Since we do not need to carry gear on the rafts, you can bring

along that extra large tent, sleeping cot, guitar, etc. No radios or portable TVs, pets or firearms please!

WHAT TO BRING

- For on the river: Shorts/swimsuit, t-shirt or long-sleeve shirt (for sun protection) – Tennis shoes/river sandals (no flip-flops, please). Sunglasses with tie-on – Hat/visor with tie-on – Camera – Sunscreen – Light windbreaker – Wetsuit (we provide). A pair of nylon swim trunks or bathing suit is great to wear under your wetsuit. **Please bring a water bottle with you on the raft.**
- For camp: Dry shoes and socks – Sweater or jacket – Sleeping bag – Ground cloth, pad or air mattress – Comfortable clothes for camp – Towel – Toiletries & medications – Flashlight and/or camp lantern.
- Optional: Clean set of clothes to leave in your car for the drive home – Fishing gear with license – Tent – Books, games – Rain gear – Extra beer, wine or soft drinks (see meals section).

ITEMS FOR COOL WEATHER OR DURING HIGH WATER

In cooler weather, wool, polypropylene or capilene will keep you warm even when wet (when choosing your cool weather clothing, make sure the fabrics contain no cotton). Polypro or wool long underwear – Wool or polypro sweater/jacket – Wool or pile pants – Wool hat, gloves – Tent, rain gear.

WEATHER

During summer months, you can expect hot days (often reaching into the 90s) and warm nights (usually in the 60s) Spring and fall weather is usually excellent (daytime temperatures range from the 60s to the 80s). Rain showers can occasionally occur, however. Feel free to call us for the latest weather forecast.

TRAVEL INSURANCE

Should you care to consider travel insurance, we have included contact information below. This insurance may cover loss of baggage and/or trip cancellation should you have to cancel your trip within our non-refundable time limit. For low-cost travelers insurance, call 800-937-1387 or 925-932-1387 (Monday thru Friday, 8:30 AM – 5:00 PM PST)

GENERAL CANCELLATION POLICY

Please understand that when we initially accept your reservations, we MAY BE turning others away from your trip date, and if you cancel from a fully booked trip, the following will apply: If you cancel 60 days or more before your trip, you will receive a full refund. If you cancel 30-59 days before your trips, you will receive a 50% refund, and if either you or we can fill your canceled spaces, you will receive a 100% refund. If you cancel 30 days or less prior to your trip, no refund will be given unless you or we can refill your cancelled spaces, in which case you will receive a 100% refund less a \$25 per person cancellation fee. CREDIT CARD CANCELLATIONS will be refunded less a 3% fee that was charged to us when we initially ran your card.

DIRECTIONS TO ZEPHYR WHITEWATER BASE CAMP ON THE KINGS RIVER

ZEPHYR BASE CAMP is located on the banks of the mighty Kings River, approximately 63 miles east of Fresno. Travel time from the Fresno area is about 2 hours. You will be traveling around the entire northern edge of Pine Flat Lake (on what seems like an endlessly windy road). Stay on all paved roads and cross all bridges until you reach the Kings River Bridge. Cross the bridge and stay on the paved road for another 1/8 mile, and you will see our base camp

Follow directions from one of the next three sections depending on where you are coming from.

COMING FROM THE NORTH (From Sacramento/Stockton area) ON FREEWAY 99

Stay on Highway 99 through the main part of Fresno. Just about one mile past the Belmont Ave exit, take the Highway 180/Kings Canyon Exit. This exit will take you over Highway 99 and you will then be heading EAST towards the mountains. Stay on the 180 Freeway about 12 miles to **ACADEMY AVE. TURN LEFT ON ACADEMY AVE** and proceed one long block to **BELMONT AVE.** Turn right onto Belmont Ave (heading east). Now follow directions under 'EVERYONE' below.

COMING FROM THE SOUTH (Los Angeles) ON FREEWAY 99

As you approach the town of **KINGSBURG**, take the **18th AVE EXIT** exit (also signed as **Road 12, 18th Ave Exit**). Turn right onto **18th Ave** (18th Avenue turns into Mendocino Ave after a few blocks) and head EAST, following the signs to **SANGER**, which is 14 miles away. Heading north on **Mendocino**, go through Kingsburg and into Parlier. Go approximately nine miles on Mendocino until you hit **ADAMS AVENUE.** Turn left (west) on Adams and drive ½ mile to

ACADEMY AVENUE. Turn right on Academy and you are again heading North towards the town of Sanger. Continue traveling through Sanger until you come to the stop sign at **BELMONT AVENUE**, which will be about 1.5 miles out of Sanger. Turn right onto Belmont Ave (heading east). Now follow directions under "EVERYONE" below.

COMING FROM THE COAST ON HIGHWAY 41

Heading North on Highway 41, continue north through Fresno and you will merge onto the 180 FREEWAY heading EAST towards Kings Canyon and the mountains. Once you have merged onto the 180 FREEWAY and are heading EAST, **continue approximately 12 miles to ACADEMY AVE. TURN LEFT ON ACADEMY AVE** and proceed one long block to **BELMONT AVE. Turn right onto Belmont Ave** (heading east) and now follow directions under "EVERYONE" below.

EVERYONE

- **At the BELMONT and ACADEMY Avenue intersection in Sanger**, set your trip odometer to zero. You have a 1.5 hour drive ahead.
- Proceed East on Belmont, which eventually turns into Trimmer Springs Road. Stay on Trimmer Springs and match your trip odometer with the following checkpoints:
- At approximately **13 miles**, you will pass the tiny community of **Piedra**.
- The community of Trimmer (no services) will be at mile **25.6**.
- At mile **30.7**, you will pass Sycamore Campground (Permanently Closed).
- Big Creek bridge is at mile **33.3**.
- **Stay on Trimmer Springs Road (a good paved road), and CROSS ALL BRIDGES all the way to our Base Camp!**
- **The last cell phone reception** is at cell phone point, which is the highest hill you will climb before our Base Camp. There is a small sign that says "Cell Site".
- You will be getting close when you pass a power station on your right (brightly lit at night).
- At mile **42**, you will pass Kirch Flat Campground (good campground) and immediately past Kirch Flat, you will cross the Kings River bridge. For late arrivals (after 11:00 pm), you should consider camping here and meeting us in the morning so as not to disturb our guests in camp.
- Once across the bridge, stay on the paved road and go 1/8 mile upstream to our Base Camp. The sign says **ZEPHYR RIVER EXPEDITIONS BASE CAMP**. You will also see our blue busses and our parking area..
- As you approach our Base Camp, there will be a large marked parking area on your right, with a sign that reads "**ZEPHYR BASE CAMP**". This is where your vehicles will be left for the duration of your trip. *Please do not drive down the smaller dirt road into the actual camping area.*
- **TO UNLOAD YOUR GEAR**, go 100 yards past our main parking area, and there is a small turnout on your left. There are steps leading down into our main camping area from this turnout, and this is the best place to unload your car. After your gear has been unloaded, please drive back to the main parking area to park your car for the duration of the trip. Up until 10:30 p.m., this turnout spot is lighted.
- **QUIET TIME: Quiet time starts at 10:30 pm. Please respect other campers on your river trip and respect our quiet hours.**

