

We are thrilled you have chosen to raft the Clackamas with River Drifters! Please plan ahead and bring a sense of adventure and discovery to ensure a wonderful trip.

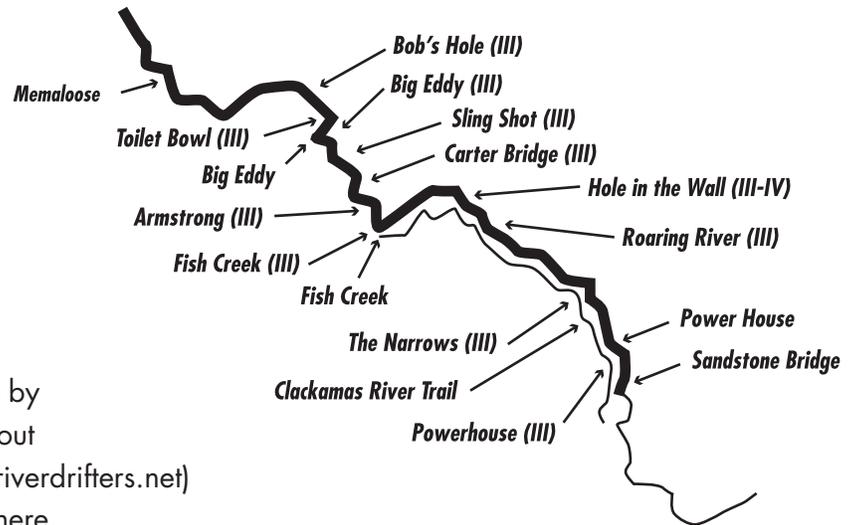
TRIP AT A GLANCE

Difficulty: Class III and IV

Length: 13-17 miles/full day

Meeting Location: Memaloose, OR
(Old weigh station off of Oregon Hwy 224).

Getting Here: Memaloose is about 30 miles by car from the Portland/Vancouver area and about 60 miles from Salem. Please see our website (riverdrifters.net) for a detailed map and directions for getting here.



Schedule

MORNING TRIP

10:00am- Arrive at Memaloose, an old weigh station off Oregon Hwy 224. Change into river clothes, get outfitted with a wetsuit and PDF (River Drifters to provide), use the restroom, etc. Please avoid arriving more than 30 minutes prior to your trip meeting time. If you think you are going to arrive late, please call our office at 1-800-972-0430. Note there is NO cell reception in the Clackamas River canyon.

10:30am- Shuttle departs for the river put-in (Indian Henry Campground).

10:45am- Unload gear. Guides will give a safety talk and provide instructions for the basic paddle strokes you will need for a safe and fun trip. Then, the group will put-in and start rafting!

1:00pm- Stop for a healthy lunch.

3:30pm- Arrive at take-out (Memaloose).

Keep in mind that every trip is different, as the weather, water flow and group dynamics all influence the trip pace.

WHAT TO EXPECT

The Clackamas River offers spectacular world-class whitewater rafting and kayaking, breathtaking scenery and lots of fun, exciting rapids, making it one of the best day trips from Portland for both locals and visitors alike.

Douglas firs tower above the clear blue waters and deep pools of this designated Wild and Scenic River, which originates at Olallie Lake deep in the Cascade Mountains. The Clackamas is well known among anglers for its steelhead, coho salmon and trout fishing. And among the whitewater crowd, this river has long been loved for its numerous, tumbling Class III-IV rapids and year-round accessibility.

From March–June, the spring and early summer snowmelts create high flows, thrilling rapids, and giant wave trains that are exciting for beginning and advanced rafters alike. As the water levels drop through the later summer months (July–Aug), the run becomes tighter and more technical.

All of our trips run the “Upper Clackamas” section, putting in at Indian Henry Campground. You’ll get a small warm-up before running the first major rapid, Powerhouse (Class III+). Then you’ll continue floating swiftly through a basalt canyon, braving numerous rapids, including The Narrows and Roaring River, before stopping for lunch. After lunch, you’ll drop down six more rapids before landing at the take-out at Memaloose.

TRIP DETAILS

GUIDES

Our guides are accomplished in outdoor skills, trained in first aid, CPR and river rescue, and knowledgeable about the natural and cultural history of the area. They will teach you the basic skills and paddle strokes needed to have a fun, safe and memorable trip. Our guides are fun, interesting people who have a passion for rivers and guiding. If you have questions about rafting or the unique features of the Clackamas River, ask and they will be happy to share what they know.

WEATHER

During the summertime, the weather in Western Oregon is very warm and mostly dry. However, you must be prepared for rain and wind in every season. It’s also important to note that the temperature of the Clackamas River rarely rises above 55°F. Below is a chart of average temperatures and rainfall in the Estacada, OR area during the rafting season.

	May	June	July	Aug	Sept
Avg Temp Day	67°F	73°F	80°F	81°F	75°F
Avg Temp Night	46°F	50°F	53°F	53°F	49°F
Rainfall	4.06"	2.87"	.94"	.91"	2.09"

Prior to packing for your trip, we recommend that you check the forecast at: riverdrifters.net/clackamas/.



GEAR

Your safety and comfort is our top priority. River Drifters provides all necessary rafting and safety gear, and makes sure that you have professional, experienced and well-trained guides. If you have any questions about the gear list, please call our office at 1-800-972-0430.

RIVER DRIFTERS PROVIDES:

- Rafting gear.
- 2-3 mil "farmer John"-style wetsuits, splash jackets, PFDs and helmets.
- Shuttle to and from the river put-in and take-out.
- Professional, well-trained guides.

GUESTS ARE EXPECTED TO BRING THE FOLLOWING:

- A pair of quick-drying shorts and t-shirt (wool or synthetic are best. Do NOT wear cotton), or a bathing suit to wear under wetsuit.
- Long-sleeved synthetic shirt or fleece (NO cotton) for extra warmth when outdoor temperatures are colder than 80°F.
- Waterproof sunscreen
- Hat for sun protection
- Old pair of tennis shoes, neoprene booties with soles or sandals (closed-toed, such as Keen, are recommended).
- Sunglasses and/or prescription eyeglasses or contacts.
- Sunglass strap for both sunglasses and prescription eyeglasses (we sell these in our shop).
- Change of clothes for drive home.

OPTIONAL

- Bike gloves to protect hands while paddling.
- Waterproof camera.
- Small daypack.
- Personal snacks.
- Personal water bottle.

Gear Check

- Wear clothing that you don't mind getting wet and dirty.
- As there is no cell service on the river, we encourage guests to leave their cell phones and smartphones in their cars to avoid water damage or loss.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Is tipping appropriate?

Our guides work very hard throughout the season to ensure that guests have a safe and enjoyable trip. As such, tips are very much appreciated by our guides. Tips normally range from 10% of the trip cost. How much you tip should depend on your satisfaction with your trip and your financial means. Most people tip the lead guide, who will split the money equally among the crew.

Is this trip appropriate for kids?

To ensure everyone's safety, we ask that families follow our recommendations for bringing children on the Clackamas River:

- March–May: Only children age 12 and older
- May–August: Only children age 6 and older

Do you have lodging recommendations?

We recommend the following:

- The Resort at the Mountain, Welches, OR, 800-669-7666
- Sandy Inn Best Western, Sandy, OR, 503-668-7100
- Red Fox Motel, Estacada, OR, 503-630-4243
- Timberline Lodge, Government Camp, OR, (503) 272-3311

Do you have camping recommendations?

As you drive along the Clackamas River along HYW 224 you will pass a number of great camping areas: Memaloose, Lazy Bend, Carter Bridge, Armstrong, Fish Creek and Roaring River. Most sites have drinking water, fire pits and restrooms.

Do you have dining recommendations?

We highly recommend the following lunch and dinner spots.

- Harmony Baking Company, Estacada, OR, (503) 630-6857
- Fearless Brewing Co., Estacada, OR, (503) 630-2337
- Sparky's Pizza, Estacada, OR, (503) 630-5522

You can also ask your guide for other suggestions for restaurants and must-see sites on your ride home.

Have other questions? Please feel free to contact our office at 1-800-972-0430. Once on the river, our experienced and knowledgeable guides will be happy to answer any questions you have. We welcome suggestions about how we can make your next experience on the river and even better one.

Fine Print: Start times may vary depending on water flows and the day's events. We appreciate your flexibility to compensate for any unforeseen changes to the itinerary.

River Drifters reserves the right to re-schedule and/or cancel a trip due to unfavorable water levels, weather and/or an inadequate number of participants.

DRIVING DIRECTIONS

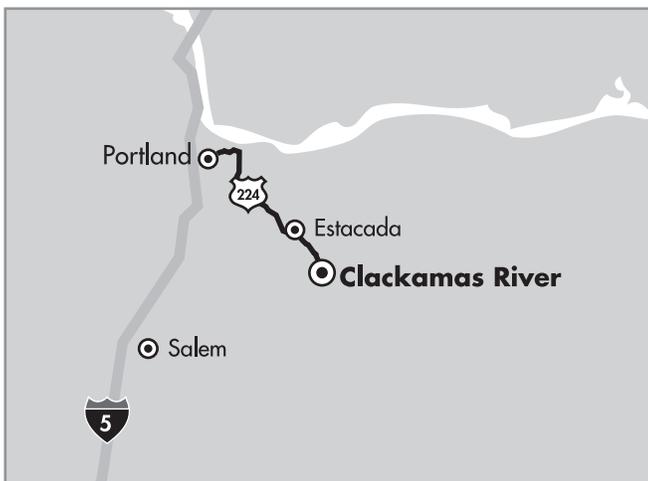
If lost or running late, please call
1.800.972.0430

Approximate travel times to the meeting location

From Portland/Vancouver area: 45 minutes

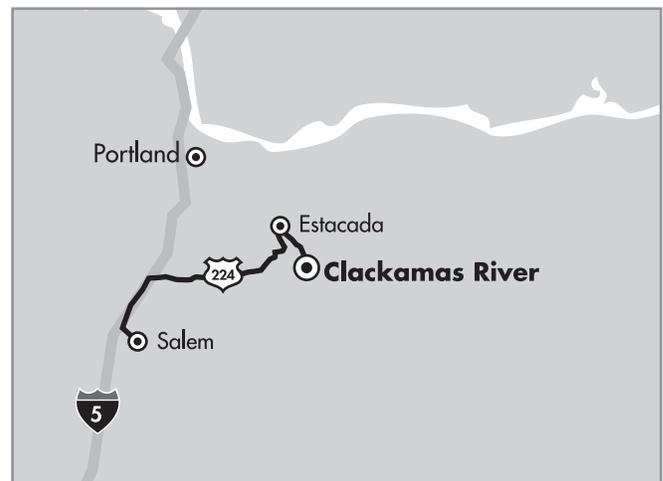
From Salem: 1 hour, 15 minutes

From The Resort at the Mountain: 45 minutes



DRIVING DIRECTIONS FROM THE PORTLAND/ VANCOUVER AREA

Take I-84 E to I-205 S. Take exit 12A from I-205 S to merge onto OR-224 E toward Clackamas. Drive through Estacada and continue toward the North Fork Reservoir. Go about 10 miles to the reservoir and start looking for a large parking area on the left-hand side of the road. (It will be clearly marked as Memaloose.) A River Drifters van will be parked there and your guides will be there to greet you.



DRIVING DIRECTIONS FROM SALEM

Take I-5 N for about 30 miles. Take exit 288 for I-205 toward I-84/The Dalles/Seattle. Continue onto I-205 N. Take exit 10 for State Route 213 S toward Oregon City/Molalla. Merge onto OR-213 S. Take Redland Rd, which turns into OR-224 E. Drive through Estacada and continue toward the North Fork Reservoir. Go about 10 miles to the reservoir and start looking for a large parking area on the left-hand side of the road. (It will be clearly marked as Memaloose.) A River Drifters van will be parked there and your guides will be there to greet you.