

We are thrilled you have chosen to raft the White Salmon River 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 – IV

**Length:** 15 miles/full-day

**Meeting Location:** River Drifters White Salmon River Outpost, 856 Hwy 141, Husum, WA 98623

**Getting Here:** Husum, Washington is just 70 miles by car from the Portland/Vancouver area and about 115 miles from the Tri-Cities area in Eastern Washington. Please see our website ([riverdrifters.net](http://riverdrifters.net)) for a detailed map and directions.

### SCHEDULE

#### 10:00am

Arrive at the River Drifters Office in Husum, Washington. Change into river clothes, get outfitted with a wetsuit, PFD and neoprene booties (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.

#### 10:15am

Shuttle to the river put-in (two miles north of BZ corner) and unload gear. Your guides will give a safety talk and provide instructions for the basic paddle strokes you will need for a fun trip. Then, the group will put-in and start rafting! Keep in mind that every trip is different, as the weather, water flow and group dynamics all influence the trip pace.

#### 1:15pm

Stop mid-way for lunch. Then, head back onto the river for a gorgeous day along the Lower-Lower White Salmon.

#### 4:00pm

Arrive at River Drifters office in Husum. You'll return your River Drifters gear before changing, checking out the trip photos and heading home.



### WHAT TO EXPECT

The White Salmon River offers spectacular world-class whitewater rafting and kayaking, breathtaking scenery, and dramatic basalt cliffs and waterfalls, making it one of the most beautiful and adventurous river day trips in the West. Located just 70 miles from the Portland/Vancouver area in the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area, it's accessible to locals and visitors alike.

Nature lovers will appreciate the clear blue waters of this designated Wild and Scenic River fed by the glaciers of Mt Adams. Salmon are returning to the White Salmon River after 100-year-old Condit Dam was removed in 2011, the largest dam removed in the U.S. at the time. Thrill-seekers will love running the big and numerous rapids and (water-level depending) 10-foot-high Husum Falls, the tallest commercially floatable waterfall in the U.S. Even beginners will embrace this rafting experience, as our knowledgeable guides teach the basic skills and paddle strokes needed to have a fun and memorable trip.

Thanks to a partnership with a local landowner, most of our trips start – water-level depending – about two miles upstream of BZ Corner (the normal commercial put-in) in a deep, craggy canyon. Triple Drop is the first rapid (Class IV) that you'll brave before heading downstream through 10 additional heart-pumping Class III-IV rapids. Water-level depending, your trip could include an electrifying drop (optional) down 10-foot-high Husum Falls, an experience you're guaranteed to remember. The removal of the Condit Dam revealed a spectacular, narrow canyon below what used to be Northwestern Lake. The section of the river from here to the Columbia River – known as the Lower-Lower White Salmon – is constantly changing, offering boaters a rare look into the restoration of a once-dammed river.

### 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 are fun, interesting people who have a passion for rivers and guiding. If you have questions about rafting or the unique features of the White Salmon River, ask and they will be happy to share what they know.

#### Weather

During the summertime, the weather in the Columbia River Gorge 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 glacially fed White Salmon rarely rises above 45°F. Below is a chart of average temperatures and rainfall in the Husum, WA area during the rafting season.

	May	June	July	Aug	Sept
Avg Temp Day	69°F	74°F	82°F	82°F	76°F
Avg Temp Night	45°F	51°F	55°F	54°F	46°F
Rainfall	1.3"	.87"	.28"	.31"	.92"

**Prior to packing for your trip, we recommend that you check the forecast at: [riverdrifters.net/white-salmon](http://riverdrifters.net/white-salmon).**



#### TRECHEROUS TERRAIN

There are a couple of spots along the route that require walking on slippery rocks — both at the river put-in and take-out as well as portaging (when necessary) around Husum Falls, BZ Falls and Steelhead Falls. Our guides will spot you while helping you navigate obstacles.

## GEAR

Your comfort is our top priority. River Drifters provides all necessary rafting 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, neoprene booties and helmets.
- Shuttle to and from the river put-in and take-out.
- Professional, well-trained guides.
- A healthy lunch.

### 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.
- 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 an 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?*

The White Salmon full-day trip is appropriate for most kids age 8 and older. A child's maturity level and weight would be a greater factor than their age. Please call us to discuss your situation.

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

- March–May: Only children age 12 and older
- May–August: Only children age 8 and older

### *Do you have lodging recommendations?*

#### **We recommend the following:**

- Skamania Lodge, Stevenson, WA, 800-221-7117
- Shilo Inn, Hood River, OR, 541-308-1000
- Hood River Inn Best Western, Hood River, OR, 800-828-7873

#### **Do you have camping recommendations?**

- Peterson Prairie Campground: 800-280-2267
- Memaloose State Park: 800-452-5687
- Home Valley Campground: 509-427-3980
- Viento State Park: 800-551-6949

### *Do you have dining recommendations?*

We highly recommend the following lunch and dinner spots, all of which are family-friendly. You can also check out the Mt. Adams Chamber of Commerce for more ideas ([mtadamschamber.com](http://mtadamschamber.com)).

- Everybody's Brewing, White Salmon, WA, (509) 637-2774
- Pioneer Pizza, White Salmon, WA, (509) 493-0028
- Solstice Wood Fired Café, Hood River, OR, (541) 436-0800
- Pfriem Family Brewers, Hood River, OR, (541) 321-0490

You can also ask your guide for suggestions for restaurants and must-see sites on your drive 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 Our White Salmon Outpost**

- From Portland/Vancouver area:** 1.5 hours
- From Tri-Cities:** 2.5 hours
- From Seattle:** 4 hours, 20 minutes

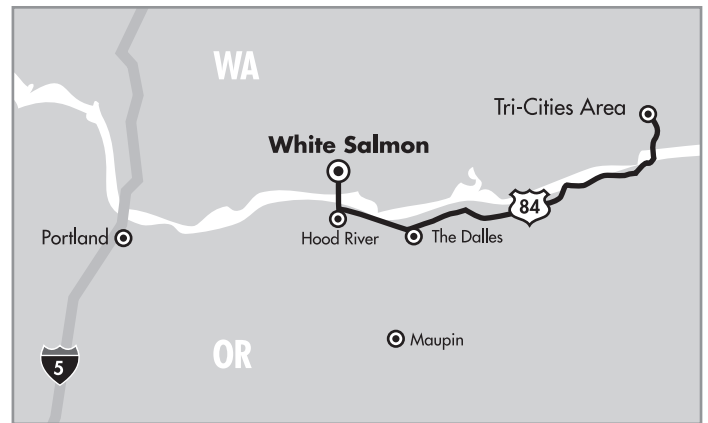


#### Driving Directions from the Portland/Vancouver Area

Take I-84 E toward The Dalles. Take exit 64 for White Salmon and turn left at the light to cross the Hood River toll bridge (\$1 toll). Once across the bridge, turn left at the light and drive 1.2 miles on WA-14 W. Just before the White Salmon bridge, turn right onto Alt. WA-141 N. At the stop sign, turn left onto WA-141 N and travel 4 miles. Look for the River Drifters Outpost and a big red barn on the right-hand side of the road. Note: If you ever cross the White Salmon River, you've gone too far.

#### Alternate Route from the Vancouver Area

Take WA-14 E toward Camas. Cross the White Salmon River and turn left onto Alt. WA-141 N. At the stop sign, turn left onto WA-141 N and travel 4 miles. Look for the River Drifters Outpost and a big red barn on the right-hand side of the road. Note: If you cross the White Salmon River, you've gone too far.



#### Driving Directions From the Tri-Cities Area

Drive south on I-82 toward Umatilla/Hermiston. Take WA-14 W toward White Salmon/Vancouver. Drive about 115 miles. About 1 mile after driving through Bingen, turn right onto Alt. WA-141 N. At the stop sign, turn left onto WA-141 N and travel 4 miles. Look for the River Drifters Outpost and a big red barn on the right-hand side of the road. Note: If you ever cross the White Salmon River, you've gone too far.

#### Driving Directions From Seattle

Travel South on I-5 toward Portland. Then follow the directions from the Portland/Vancouver Area.