Rogue River Itinerary

4-DAY OVERNIGHT TRIP

TRIP AT A GLANCE

Difficulty:
Class II - IV | Family & Beginner Friendly

Length:
40 miles | 3-4 days

Meeting Location:
The Galice Resort 11744 Galice Road Merlin, OR 97532

Meet Time:
9:00am

Getting Here:
We meet at the Galice Resort in Merlin, Oregon. The Resort is located 30 minutes from downtown Grants Pass & 1 hour from Medford, Oregon. Please plan to arrive at Galice Resort or Grants Pass the night before the first day of the trip. Galice Resort is one lodging option the night before your trip, and there are many options in Grants Pass as well.

PLAN
Book your trip

PREPARE
Ready your gear

GO
Enjoy your adventure

Please keep in mind that every trip is different, as the weather, water flow, and group dynamics all influence the trip pace. Start times may vary depending on the day's events. We appreciate your flexibility to compensate for any unforeseen changes to the itinerary.

We are thrilled you have chosen to raft the Rogue River with River Drifters! Below you will find addional information and details about your upcoming rafting trip. Please plan ahead and bring a sense of adventure and discovery to ensure a wonderful trip.

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TRIP DETAILS

CHECK IN

Your trip leader will meet you at Galice Resort at 9:00 a.m., on the first day of your trip, where they will distribute waterproof dry bags, answer any last-minute questions, and help ensure your car is parked in the secure parking area and ready for shuttling if applicable. Following this introduction, you will pack your personal belongings into the dry bag. Once the group is all packed, we will load up into the River Drifters van and drive to the put-in.

Come Prepared

Please arrive to the put-in prepared and ready to pack. Check the weather and traffic ahead of time, so your trip can move as smoothly as possible!

ARRIVAL & PUT-IN

The river put-in for the Wild and Scenic Section of the Rogue River is either Argo Boat Landing or Almeda County Park. Our guides will give a safety talk and provide instructions for the basic paddle strokes you will need for your trip. Then it's time to get on the river!

DAILY ROUTINE

A typical day on the water includes five to eight hours of rafting, a lunch break, side excursions, and wildlife viewing. Evenings are a great time to go hiking, toss the Frisbee, read a book, take a nap, or relax by the river. Keep in mind that every trip is different, as the weather, water flow, campsites, and group dynamics all influence the trip pace and itinerary.

A TYPICAL DAY ON THE RIVER

We'll run rapid after exhilarating rapid, drift through idyllic calms, marvel at the rock formations, watch eagle & osprey as they circle overhead, and on and on. Depending on the day we may visit the historic Rogue River Ranch, now a living museum, or hike up to one of the many side creek waterfalls. Lunch is set up each day around noon, with more than enough delicious food to energize you for the afternoon's whitewater.

AT CAMP

Hors d'oeuvres and beverages will be provided shortly after arrival to camp. You'll set up your tent, go for a hike, or relax by the river until dinner is served. The early evening hours provide time to fish, hike, read a book, enjoy happy hour snacks & beverages, or take a nap.

FINAL DAY & TAKE-OUT

Guests will return any River Drifters issued equipment or gear, change into dry clothes, and salute to a great trip. You have the option to have your personal vehicles shuttled to the take-out (recommended) or there will be a River Drifters van at the take-out to bring you back to the Galice Resort.

If guests are taking the River Drifters shuttle back to Galice Resort, plan to be back at the resort after 5:30pm, as it is a 2-3 hour drive from the take-out at Foster Bar to Galice.

GUIDES

Our guides are experienced and accomplished in outdoor skills, as well as trained in first aid, CPR, and river rescue. They are environmental stewards of the outdoor areas where we work and play, and are knowledgeable about the natural and cultural history of the area. They are fun, interesting people who have a passion for rivers and people. If you have questions about rafting, camping, cooking in the outdoors or anything else, ask and they will be happy to share.

MEALS

All meals, including kid-friendly options, are supplied by River Drifters, and prepared by your guides during the trip. Meals include a wide variety of fresh meats, cheeses, grains, fruits, and vegetables. We also provide plenty of snacks and water throughout the trip. Our online registration gives guests an opportunity to share dietary needs or allergies with us prior to your trip. Registration must be filled out at least one week before your trip so we can do our best to accommodate any needs or restrictions. Please call us with specific questions about meals.

Dietary Restrictions

We can accomodate most allergies and dietary restrictions including Gluten Free, Vegetarian, and Vegan diets. All guests **must** fill out registration at least one week prior, in order for us to provide accomodations.

LEAVE NO TRACE

River Drifters practices Leave No Trace ethics, meaning we pack out all trash (including food scraps) and use only biodegradable soap for washing dishes. We expect our guests to help us adhere to Leave No Trace practices by ensuring no trash or food scraps are discarded into or along the river or left behind at camp. If you have any questions about personal sanitation, please don't hesitate to ask your guide or give our office a call.

RIVER TOILETS

An approved portable toilet is included in our equipment and carried with us on all trips. If the portable toilet is needed during a trip, our guides will ensure it is set up in a private location and discuss its use and the "key" system with guests.

FISHING

Fishing on the Rogue River can be good depending on the season. We will gladly carry any personal fishing gear you want to bring on the gear raft. Oregon requires you to have a fishing license if you intend to fish during your trip and please check Oregon Fisheries and Wildlife rules and regulations for fishing on the Rogue River. You may purchase the fishing license online at www.myodfw.com. Anglers may land trout, salmon, and steelhead. It may be necessary in many cases to release the catch.

WILDLIFE VIEWING

The Rogue River and surrounding forests are wild, diverse ecosystems and home to many different plant and animal species, including black bears, river otters, eagles, osprey, turtles, salmon and steelhead, mergansers, deer, and much more. Oftentimes, we are fortunate enough to see a variety of wildlife on our rafting trips. Guests are welcome to bring along field guide books and small binoculars or spotting scope to enhance your wildlife viewing.

PREPARING & PACKING

WEATHER

The Rogue is a coastal river with mild weather almost year-round. However, you must be prepared for rain and wind in every season. Below is a chart of average temperatures and rainfall in Southern Oregon during the rafting season. Please check the weather forecast prior to your trip!

	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST	SEPT
AVG. DAY	70 °F	77 °F	89 °F	90 °F	80 °F
AVG. NIGHT	46 °F	53 °F	59°F	55 °F	50 °F
RAINFALL	3”	1.8”	0.3”	0.6”	1.3”

GEAR

Your comfort is our top priority. River Drifters handles all trip logistics, provides all necessary camping provisions and rafting gear, and makes sure that you have professional, experienced, and well-trained guides. Please read through and adhere to our packing recommendations as it improves your comfort while on the river and at camp. If you have any questions about the gear list, please call our office at 1-800-972-0430.

WETSUITS & SPLASH JACKETS

Wetsuits and splash jackets are recommended for spring and fall trips, and for guests spending time in inflatable kayaks. The wetsuits are 2-3ml “farmer John” style, which is combined with a splash jacket to provide full- body coverage. Wetsuits and/or splash jackets are suggested when the air temperature is 75°F or cooler, however children and individuals who get cold easily may want these additional layers when the air temperature is forecasted to be between 75°F to 80°F. Wetsuits and splash jackets are provided by River Drifters and our guides will issue out this gear on cooler weather trips or upon request.

DRY BAGS

When you meet your guides at Galice Resort on the morning of the first day, you will receive a dry bag for all personal items. When fully packed, the dry bag measures about 16 inches in diameter and 33 inches in height (roughly the size of a garbage bag). ALL your personal items, including a sleeping bag, must fit inside this one bag (tents and sleeping pads can be separate). We highly recommend bringing stuff sacks, large zip lock bags, or divider bags to organize your belongings within the dry bag. These dry bags will NOT be accessible during the day. We have separate, small “day” dry bags guests can carry on the paddle raft for items such as sunscreen, rain gear, camera, snacks, warm layers, etc.

The Layering System

The layering system allows you to add or remove layers of clothing to stay comfortable in response to changes inweather and conditions

Base Layer: Long underwear (tops and bottoms) made of either wool or synthetic materials, such as polyester, wick moisture away from the skin & are quick to dry. Long underwear is an essential first layer for both the river & camp.

Middle Layer: Fleece, which is also made of synthetic materials, or a heavyweight wool shirt or sweater both make an excellent middle layer in wet and/or cool weather. Both are great insulators and are quick to dry.

Outer Layer: We recommend that guests bring a rain jacket and pants, even if there is absolutely no rain being forecasted. That's because rain gear makes a great windbreaker and insulator in cooler weather and at night. Coated nylon or breathable fabrics (like Gore-Tex) are best. We will provide you with a splash jacket for on-river protection from wind and cold water.

IN-DEPTH RESOURCES:

"What to Wear White Water Rafting"

"How to Pack and Prepare for Multi-Day Rafting"

GEAR CHECK

- Air temperature and weather on a multi-day trip can change dramatically between day and night as well as vary from day to day. Therefore, the clothing you pack and wear should be able to accommodate for these fluctuations in conditions and weather.
- Loose, quick-drying, durable, & non-cotton clothing is ideal for river trips. Cotton should not be worn on the river because it's slow to dry and will lower your body temperature. (There is a wide range of affordable shirts and pants made of synthetic materials.)
- Wear clothing that you don't mind getting wet or dirty.

PACKING LIST

ON THE RIVER

- T-Shirts/ Tank Top
- Shorts
- Swimsuit
- Long sleeve sunshirt
- Watershoes
- Hat
- Sunglasses with strap
- Water bottle with carabiner or strap
- Rain jacket & rain pants
- Personal medications
- Suncreen
- Chapstick

AT CAMP

- Shirts
- Pants
- Shorts
- Camp shoes
- Socks
- Underwear
- Beanie
- Puffy jacket or wind breaker
- Personal toiletries
- Feminine hygiene products
- Headlamp & spare batteries
- Camp pillow
- Small towel
- Sleeping Bag, pad, and tent

OPTIONAL

- Fishing gear and fishing license
- Book
- Journal & pen
- Cards, dice, or small games
- Binoculars
- Insect repellent
- Dramamine
- Personal snacks
- Personal alcohol

Spring/ Fall Trip Recommended:

- Synthetic base layers (tops & bottoms
- Extra beanie
- Extra fleece jacket
- Extra wool socks

Please understand we have limited space available while on an overnight trip. Each guest will recieve one large drybag for their belongings, which will offer plenty of space!

We highly recommend using suitcase packing cubes or ziplock bags to oraginzie your belongings. This will make packing easier, and allow you to maximize space in your dry bag.

Gear Rentals

Tents, sleeping bags, and sleeping pads are included on our Rogue River trips. Please reach out to our office staff to give us a count of what gear you will need to rent through us. Otherwise we will assume you are providing your own

Riverdrifters Provides

- All rafting gear*
- Camping gear
- Large drybags (~16" diameter x 33" tall) and small personal day bags
- Camp chairs

*splash gear will be provided based on temperature and conditions; helmets are optional but always available by request

Personal Responsibility & Accountability

Is it of utmost importance to us at River Drifters to provide a safe, enjoyable, and memorable rafting experience for our guests. To help us offer the best rafting experience possible we ask our guests to practice personal responsibility and accountability. This includes planning and preparing ahead of time for your trip, knowing the weather forecast and conditons, being aware of our cancellation and "no show" policies, arriving on time to our meeting location, bringing the necessary clothing and gear with you, and being courteous to fellow rafters, wildlife, and the natural environments we visit. River Drifters staff is available and happy to assist you in getting ready for your rafting trip on the Rogue River.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

CAN I BRING ALCOHOL?

River Drifters does not furnish or give away alcohol of any kind during our trips. If desired, you may bring your own alcohol in non-glass containers and we will transport it to camp for you. Please drink in moderation. Note, we do not allow alcohol on any youth trips.

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%-15% 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. There is no ATM on site, please bring cash for tipping. Most of our guides will also have VENMO for accepting tips.

IS THIS TRIP APPROPRIATE FOR KIDS?

A Rogue River multi-day trip is perfect for the whole family. We allow kids as young as 8 years old to join Rogue River multi-day rafting trips. A child's maturity level should also be considered when deciding if this trip is appropriate for your child(ren). Please call us to discuss your situation.

HOW DO WE ARRANGE TO HAVE OUR VEHICLE SHUTTLED TO THE TAKE-OUT?

River Drifters partners with a shuttle company in Southern Oregon to shuttle guest vehicles to the take- out at Foster Bar. River Drifters will arrange the shuttle for you but please note, guests must request a shuttle at least one week prior to the trip date.

Please call our office at 800-972-0430 to request the shuttle and we will collect shuttle payment as well as vehicle information. On the first day of the trip at Galice, our guides will provide instructions for where to leave your vehicle keys for the shuttle driver.

DO YOU HAVE ANY LODGING RECOMMENDATIONS?

- Redwood Motel (Grant's Pass) | 888-535-8824
- Weasku Inn (Grant's Pass) | 541-471-8000
- The Galice Resort (our Meeting Spot) | 541-476-3818
- Rogue Regency (Medford) | 800-535-5805

We recommend staying in Grants Pass or at the Galice Resort the night before the trip starts.

DO YOU HAVE ANY CAMPING RECOMMENDATIONS?

- Almeda County Park (Merlin) | 541- 474- 5285 (reservable sites)

ARE THERE ANY STORES OR MARKETS TO GET LAST-MINUTE SNACKS OR ITEMS?

In Merlin there is the Riffle Café, a Shell Gas Station, and the Lil Pantry Market & Deli. In Grants Pass there are several large grocery stores including Fred Meyers, Safeway, & Albertsons, as well as Sportsman's Warehouse for any last-minute camping gear needs.

WHERE IS THE NEAREST AIRPORT?

The Rogue Valley International-Medford Airport is the nearest airport located in Medford, Oregon and is served by commercial airlines. It is a 50-minute drive from the Medford airport to the Galice.

WHAT ARE SOME NEARBY ATTRACTIONS?

Southern Oregon offers countless natural attractions for an unforgettable road trip or vacation before or after your Rogue River rafting adventure. The Foster Bar take-out is just 35 miles from the Oregon Coast, and having your vehicle shuttled there makes for a scenic drive through the Siskiyou and Coast Mountains to Highway 101. From the coast, you can head two hours south to California's Redwoods National Park. From Grants Pass, it's a two-hour drive to Crater Lake National Park or 2–3 hours to the Klamath Basin National Wildlife Refuge, a top birding destination. The possibilities are endless—ask us for more recommendations!

LAST MINUTE DETAILS...

1. FILL OUT WAIVERS AND REGISTRATION

In order to provide you with the best trip possible we need some information from you. Please check your email to fill out your personal waiver and registration. Each guest must have a signed waiver prior to launching on the water. We must know all dietary restrictions and allergies 7 days prior to your launch date to give our staff time to shop and properly prepare for your Rogue Trip.

2. SET UP CAR SHUTTLES

At the take-out guests will have two options for shuttles:

Guests can ride back in a group shuttle to the Galice Resort, where you met our staff at the start of your trip. This option is included in the trip price, and will be the default, unless other arrangements are made through our office staff.

OR

Guests can pay an additional fee to have their personal car shuttled to the take-out. To set up a car shuttle you will need to contact our office staff.
All car shuttles must be arranged 7 days prior to your trip.

3. PURCHASE TRAVEL INSURANCE AND KNOW OUR CANCELLATION POLICY

We highly recommend purchasing travel insurance for your Rogue River adventure. Travel insurance will cover your trip against unforseen circumstances that prevent you from attending your trip. There are several travel insurance options. Do your research and pick the best option for your trip. Some options we recommend are Travel Guard Insurance or Allianz Travel Insurance.

You can review our cancellation policy here

4. DOUBLE CHECK YOUR PACKING LIST

Please review our suggested packing list and make sure you have everything you need for your trip. Check the weather and pack accordingly. Please contact our office to rent any camping gear you will need for the trip. All camping gear rentals must be arranged 7 days prior to your trip.

5. KNOW WHEN AND WHERE TO MEET US

MEETING LOCATION: THE GALICE RESORT, 11744 GALICE ROAD MERLIN, OR 97532

MEET TIME: 9:00AM