

# MARIAH WILDERNESS EXPEDITIONS

## Merced River One-Day Trip

**Class III-IV--Intermediate: Medium Intensity Whitewater--18 Miles**

**WELCOME TO MARIAH WILDERNESS EXPEDITIONS!**  
We're excited about providing for you an outstanding rafting adventure!

### TRIP HIGHLIGHTS

- **Exhilarating Whitewater** and perfect for the adventuresome first-time rafter as well as a great step-up for experienced paddlers
- Beautiful free-flowing river offers us an exciting, adrenaline-rush whitewater ride
- Eighteen miles of rafting with many Class II, III and IV fun rapids
- Sierra canyon filled with springtime wildflowers, green rolling hills, warm sunlight
- Time to savor the remote wilderness canyon as we paddle through peaceful stretches
- A delightful riverside lunch as we relax and enjoy the quiet of the canyon
- Exciting wildlife and spectacular mountain vistas to savor and enjoy
- A very full day of fun, relaxation and excitement in a beautiful Sierra Nevada river canyon flowing out of Yosemite National Park



### MEETING TIME AND PLACE

- **9 A.M.** the morning of your trip, **meet us at "The Sandpit"**—a large turnout on **Highway 140, 24.5 miles east of Mariposa** on the right side of the main road into Yosemite National Park.

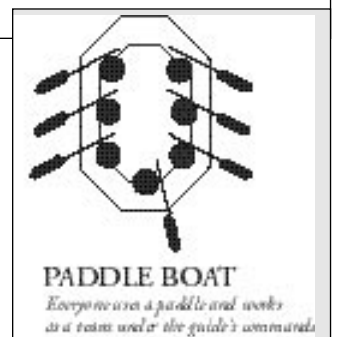
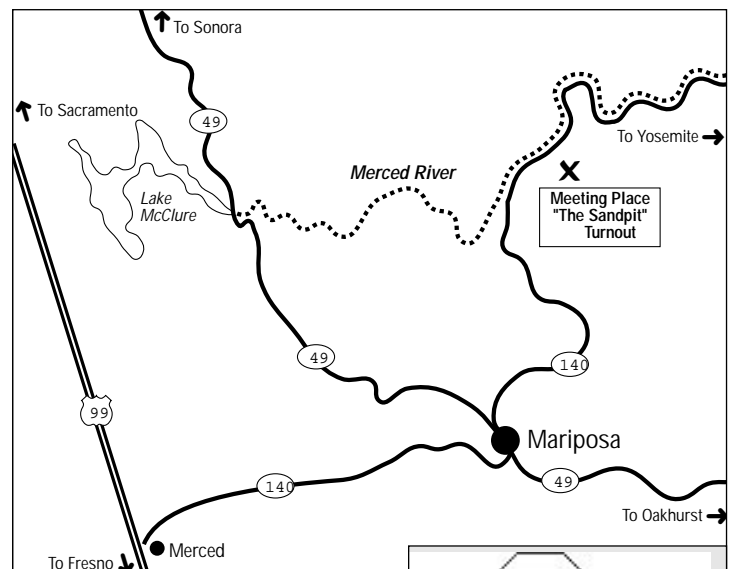
### DIRECTIONS

Take **Hwy. 140 East** from Merced to **Mariposa**. Continue 24.5 miles east of the intersection of Hwys 140 & 49 on Hwy 140 to the **"Sandpit" Turnout**. You will go through Midpines (7 miles), pass the Bryceburg Visitors Center (at 12 miles), and the Cedar Lodge Hotel (at 23 miles). Look for the turnout on the right side at mile 24.5. If you reach the Foresta Road Bridge or El Portal, you've gone too far!

### TRIP ITINERARY

**Get ready for a great day on the river!** We board our river van promptly at 9 A.M. and head for the river about 10 minutes away. Enroute your guides will present orientation and safety information. At the river launching site you will receive your river gear including a paddle, helmet and life jacket, and any reserved wetsuits. We will launch our boats, practice paddling skills, and head for the excitement and fun of Nightmare and Ned's Gulch rapids!

We stop around midday for a hearty lunch on the riverbank, enjoy the peace of the remote canyon, and then continue the day's run with more big rapids like Split Rock and Corner Pocket. Our shuttle vehicle will greet us at take-out with cold beverages for the ride back to your cars. You will be ready to head home by around 5-6 P.M., relaxed and filled with memories from a great river trip experience!



## PLACES TO STAY THE NIGHT BEFORE YOUR TRIP

### MARIPOSA LODGING

- Miners Inn (209) 742-7777
- Mariposa Lodge (209) 966-3607
- Yosemite Bug Hostel (209) 966-6666  
www.yosemitebug.com
- Mariposa Visitor's Bureau (800) 208-2434
- Mariposa B&B Association (209) 742-7666

### CAMPING

- Midpines/Yosemite KOA (209) 966-2201
- Indian Flat RV Park (209) 379-2339.
- Yosemite Trail Camp (877) 384-2900
- Yosemite National Park (800)436-7275

### CLOSE TO YOSEMITE VALLEY, EL PORTAL & OUR MEETING PLACE

- Cedar Lodge (800) 321-5261
  - Yosemite View Lodge (800) 321-5261
- Both lodges: www.yosemite-rooms.com
- Yosemite Park Information (209)372-1000

Reservations for Yosemite National Park accommodations need to be made well in advance of your trip. Entrance to the Park is about \$20 per car for a 7-day stay.

### DIRECTIONS TO OUR MEETING SITE FROM YOSEMITE

From the **Park Entrance on Hwy 140**, travel west along the river through El Portal, about 6 miles. Continue 1 mile past the Foresta Bridge on the **west side of El Portal**. Look for the large "**Sandpit**" turnout on the left side of the road. If you reach the Cedar Lodge Hotel, you've gone 1.5 miles too far!

## WHAT TO WEAR

### FOR ON-RIVER

- Shorts (quick drying)/swimsuit
- T-shirt for sun protection
- Tennis shoes--no thongs or sandals
- Hat or visor
- Sunscreen, sunglasses & chums

### FOR COOL WEATHER FROM MAY TO MID-JUNE ADD

- Wet suit/booties - INCLUDED IN TRIP  
Call office to reserve your size
- Wool/polypro socks, hat, gloves
- Wool or fleece shirt/sweater
- Windbreaker or light rain jacke

### COME DRESSED & READY FOR THE RIVER

- You may bring a jacket or sweatshirt to wear on the way to put-in
- On cool days we'll have a dry bag in each boat for that extra wool or fleece top
- We'll have your reserved wetsuit with us; wear it over your shorts/polypro

## PHOTOS & TIPS

At the end of the day, you will have the chance to view and purchase photos of your paddle boat running the Merced—a wonderful reminder of your exciting day with Mariah Wilderness Expeditions on the river.

We are frequently asked if it is customary to tip the guides. Our guides' goal is to provide you with a fun and safe river trip. The guides do not expect a tip. However, they enjoy a token of your appreciation for a job especially well-done. A popular gesture seems to be for each crew to present their guide with around \$10 per rafter at the end of your one-day trip.

## FOR YOUR SAFETY

Mariah Wilderness Expeditions has an excellent record of providing safe and fun river adventures. While most of our trips are not strenuous, they can be a dramatic change in routine and do involve some risk. We take many safety precautions and ask you to respond to our safety requirements:

- It is your responsibility to select a river trip appropriate to your abilities and physical condition. Please call to discuss any concerns that you may have.
- Please consult your doctor and discuss with us in advance any medical conditions that would restrict your full participation.
- Our life jackets will fit a maximum chest size of 52 inches and weight of 280 lbs.
- You will be required to sign an assumption of risk and liability release before your trip begins.

## CANCELLATION & REFUND POLICY

Due to our limited trip sizes, we turn away others once your reservation has been submitted. If you must cancel your trip, please notify us as soon as possible. Upon receipt of written notice 31 days or more prior to your launch date, you will receive a full refund less your per person deposit. Any cancellation made within 30 days of the trip will not be eligible for a refund. You may, however, substitute another person without penalty.

We reserve the right to cancel a trip due to weather, water conditions, or other good cause beyond our control. Should this occur, your trip fees will be fully credited towards another trip. All refunds and credits shall be limited to amounts actually paid to Mariah Wilderness Expeditions.



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