NORTH FORK AMERICAN RIVER
ONE DAY TRIP INFORMATION



Meeting Time:	To Be Determined
Meeting Place:	Weimar Crossroads Exit #131, Weimar, CA
GPS Coordinates:	39.042833, -120.973496
Return Time:	To Be Determined
River Section:	Colfax - Iowa Hill Bridge to Ponderosa Bridge
Difficulty:	Class IV+ suitable for Adventurous beginner to advanced rafter
Age Limit:	Minimum age 14 with previous rafting experience
Season:	April-May

THANK YOU FOR CHOOSING WHITEWATER EXCITEMENT for your river adventure on the North Fork of the American River. The North Fork is a 9.5 mile naturally flowing stretch of river with 12 major, class IV+ rapids that will test your paddling skills. The North Fork runs only in the early spring (typically April-May) with the melting snow from the Sierras. It drops through a very steep gorge between house-sized boulders and over waterfalls that reach eight feet in height. Crystal clear water and rapids that seem endless are the trademark of this technical, challenging river. This is one of the most beautiful rivers in the Sierras and should be attempted only by those with previous rafting experience and who are in good physical condition. Wet suits are a must for this trip and included when you raft with us.

PREVIOUS RAFING EXPERIENCE, GOOD PHYSICAL CONDITION AND SWIMMING ABILITY IS REQUIRED ON ALL NORTH FORK TRIPS.

Meeting Time and Place

The North Fork Trip meets at TBD at the Weimar Crossroads Exit in Weimar, CA. Please be on time as we only wait a short time for late arrivals. (If you are camping the night before your trip, arrival time for camping is 5:30 pm or after. Directions below are NOT to the WWE campground). Please check in with our staff and they will be happy to answer any questions. Once everyone has checked in, we begin your trip with a short shuttle ride to the put-in. Your car keys will be kept in a locked location while rafting.

Directions to Meeting Place

From Sacramento:

- Take Interstate 80 east toward Reno.
- Drive past the town of Roseville and Auburn. 10 miles past the town of Auburn is the town of Weimar.
- Take Weimar Crossroads Exit #131
- Turn right before going back over the freeway.
- Turn right on Canyon Way and immediate right into park and ride lot. Look for the Whitewater Excitement van(s).

From South Lake Tahoe:

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From Reno/North Lake Tahoe:

- Take Interstate 80 west toward Colfax
- About 5 miles west of Colfax take the Weimar Crossroads Exit #131.
- Turn left and cross over the freeway to the stop sign. Be careful not to get back onto the freeway.
- Turn left at stop sign.
- Turn right onto Canyon Way then immediate right into park and ride lot. Look for the Whitewater Excitement van(s).

RUNNING LATE/ LOST CALL 530-642-2546

Example Itinerary

Meet at Weimar Crossroads Exit #131, Weimar, CA. After everyone has arrived and turned in their Assumption of Risk Forms http://whitewaterexcitement.com/about/info-forms/disclaimer-form/ , we will fit and put on wet suits, then we begin the trip with a 15 minute shuttle ride to our put-in. Once arriving at the put-in, our staff will fit you with lifejacket (maximum chest size 56 inches), helmet, paddle, safety talk and paddling instructions. Bathrooms are available at the put-in before we get on the river.

Once on the river, there is a short time to learn all the commands before the action starts. Then you encounter the beginning of the Class IV's, starting with "Slaughter's Sluice" a continuous, technical boulder garden that leads directly into "Chamberlain Falls", a large constricted falls. Several more rapids continue with small breaks between them, until you reach Class IV "Bogus Thunder". Depending on the water level, the boats may pull over and the guides scout the rapid to determine the best line. Once past this steep technical drop, rapids continue until your final Class IV, "Staircase Falls." Scouting may also occur at this rapid. After Staircase, we will stop for lunch, after we get back on the river, you will enjoy 5 miles of scenic class III whitewater until Ponderosa Bridge, which is our takeout. The WWE vans will be waiting to take you back to your vehicle with a cold drink and snack.

What to Wear/Bring

River clothing is very casual and you should expect to get wet!

- ☐ Bathing suit/trunks, light-weight, quick drying top (rash guard works well), light weight windbreaker for cool mornings, sweatshirt for cool evenings
- ☐ River sandals (strap on the back) or old tennis shoes work great **(NO FLIP FLOPS OR BARE FEET ALLOWED)**
- ☐ Hat (optional under helmet)
- ☐ Sunglasses (suggest retaining device so they don't end up in the river)
- ☐ Waterproof sunscreen and lip protection
- ☐ Bottle of water (drinks provided at lunch and end of the trip)
- ☐ Inexpensive waterproof camera
- ☐ Dry clothes for trip home (to be left in your car).

Wet suits are required due to the temperature of the water. **These are provided to you free of charge from Whitewater Excitement.** Our wetsuits fit those up to 6'4" and/or 260 pounds. Other recommendations in times of cool weather: neoprene/wetsuit booties, wool socks, beanie, wool/polypro long sleeve shirt, rain/windbreaker and gloves. We do not recommend wearing cotton in cool weather as it stays wet and can keep you chilled.

Additional Helpful Trip Planning Information

Trip Payment
Prior to 30 days before your trip a 50% deposit is due to secure your reservation with the balance due 30 days prior to your trip. If booking within 30 days or your trip, full payment is required.

What We Should Know
Please let us know if you have any medical issues or special dietary needs or restrictions that we will need to consider in preparing for your trip.

Cameras/Electronic Devices
We do not recommend that you bring anything in the raft that you do not want to lose in the river! We take no responsibility for cameras, phones, sunglasses, etc... that end up in the river. If you would like to bring a camera, we suggest a disposable waterproof and/or panoramic camera.

Gratuities
Your guides will make every effort to see that your trip is safe, enjoyable and exciting. We are often asked if guests should tip their guides and how much. While not mandatory, if you feel your guide did a great job in giving your group a safe and exciting time, then a tip would be greatly appreciated. Tipping is entirely at your discretion, but here are some helpful suggestions: 1/2 Day Trips - $3-$5 per person; 1 Day Trips - $5-$10 per person; 2 Day Trips $10-$20 per person.

Weather

Our area can experience extreme changes in weather especially in the months of April, May and June, so please check the weather (www.weather.com) for Weimar, CA prior to your trip.

Average Area Air and Water Temperatures

	Air (Day) °F	Air (Night) °F	Water Temp. °F
April	58-62	38-42	55
May	75-79	50-54	60
June	80-86	54-60	63

Accommodations

Whitewater Excitement has the most beautiful, private, riverside campground on the South Fork of the American River, complete with flush toilets, free hot showers, electricity in the bathrooms, volleyball court, horseshoe pits and camp hosts on site. Camping is $14.00 adults/$10.00 youth per person, per night and requires a reservation. Two nights of camping is included in our 2 day trips. Our facilities are tent camping. You can bring your own equipment or see our rental options below.

Camping at the WWE Campground is GROUP camping. We have 5 main camp areas. We arrange groups by size to share the camp areas. Please feel free to make new friends. Each camping area has tables, fire pits and water. Campfires are allowed 99.9% of the time, but please be aware that we can have our fire permit pulled at a moments notice in extremely dry years.

Check-in time for our campground is any time after 5:30 pm the night before your trip. Upon arriving at the WWE Camp Area, please check-in with either our camp hosts or check the WWE Camp assignment board in front of our camp store for your assigned area. Our camp hosts are available until 10:00 pm to help you find your camping area.

Quiet Time is after 10:00 pm. Please turn music down low, or off and keep noise to a minimum for the enjoyment of everyone else camping with us. Many of our guests will be waking early for rafting the next morning.

WWE has a small camp store that is typically stocked with t-shirts, sweatshirts, sunglasses, Chums, waterproof cameras, sunscreen, ice, firewood, personal hygiene items and drinks in case you forgot something from home. We also have a larger grocery store close by.

Suggested camping equipment to bring

- ☐ Tent and ground cloth
- ☐ Sleeping bag, pad and pillow
- ☐ Lawn/camp chairs
- ☐ Camp clothes (dry shoes, long pants, shorts, shirt, sweatshirt and/or light jacket)
- ☐ Flashlight, lantern, insect repellant
- ☐ Personal Hygiene items (towel, toothbrush and paste, soap, shampoo, etc.)
- ☐ Food and drinks, if not provided
- ☐ Campfire wood (we have limited supply in our camp store)

Please do not bring pets, fireworks, high-pressure water guns or firearms. Due to the great risk of injury, we do not allow high-pressure water guns on our trips. We suggest you leave your valuables at home.

Rental Options at Whitewater Excitement Campground (In addition to camping cost)

- 2-Person Dome Tent $15.00 one night; $25.00 two nights
- 4-Person Dome Tent $30.00 one night; $50.00 two nights
- Cabin Tent (includes 4 padded cots) $60.00 one night; $100.00 two nights
- Deluxe Cabin Tent (includes queen size bed, sheets, pillows and comforter) $70.00 one night; $130.00 two nights
- Sleeping bag with liner and pad $15.00 one night; $25.00 two nights

Not into camping….. Here are a few good options in the area

Lodging

Located off Highway 80		
Holiday Inn - Auburn	530-887-8787	http://www.auburnhi.com/ (ask for WWE discount)
Best Western - Auburn	530-885-8611	
Powers Mansion Inn B & B	530-885-1166	http://www.powersmansioninn.com/
Sierra Sun Cloud Inn B & B	530-637-1083	http://sierrasuncloudinn.com/

Restaurants

Joe Caribe	530-823-5333	http://www.joe-caribe.com/
Sizzler	530-823-6773	https://www.sizzler.com/
Black Bear Diner	530-888-8432	http://blackbeardiner.com/
Ikeda's	530-885-4243	http://www.ikedas.com/

Another great resource is our Insider's Guide to the American River http://www.american-river-rafting-guide.com/

Important Information

Responsibility

All river trips involve some risk and we recognize that accidents and injuries can occur. We assume no responsibility for injury, damage, or loss of your belongings. All participants will be required to sign an Assumption of Risk/Liability Release Form before the trip. Any minor, not being accompanied by their parent, must have this form signed by their parent prior to their trip.
Release Forms available at http://whitewaterexcitement.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/02/Assumption-of-Risk-Form.pdf
Completed Assumption of Risk forms are turned into our staff at the time of your rafting trips.

The river is not a place for drugs or alcohol. Drugs and/or alcohol are not allowed before or during your rafting trip. We reserve the right to refuse service to anyone under the influence of such substances and to anyone we feel will jeopardize his or her personal safety or the safety of others on the trip. There are no refunds or credits given for this reason.

Cancellation Policy

If you must cancel your reservation with us, all but a $25.00 per person cancellation fee will be refunded to you, provided that we receive written notice of your cancellation in our office at least 31 days prior to your trip date. For cancellations made 30 days or less, the entire trip fees are non-refundable, in which case we encourage you to find substitutes for the cancelled space(s). NO trip date changes may be made within 30 days or your booked trip.

Often our trips fill up and we have a limited number of guests we can take down on any one trip, while holding your space we are turning others away. Whitewater Excitement also incurs substantial expenses prior to the trip departure.

We reserve the right to cancel or modify a trip due to weather, water conditions, insufficient reservations or other circumstances beyond our control. In such cases we are only responsible for the trip fees paid to us. Guides and other on-river staff employed by Whitewater Excitement are not authorized to make or promise trip refunds or credits. Such determinations can only be made by the WWE Office Staff.
Trip Travel Insurance is strongly suggested to cover such cancellations. Policy information can be found at www.travelinsure.com/select7 Trips depart rain or shine.

Medical
Please advise us if anyone in your group has allergies, special dietary needs or restrictions, or medical conditions that we should be aware of. Women who are pregnant should NOT participate in whitewater rafting activities. Participants with heart conditions should consult with their physician prior to signing up for any rafting trip, especially our class 4 trips.

Any questions, concerns or comments please call 1-800-750-2386 or email fun@whitewaterexcitement.com