

California Whitewater Guide School(s) - 2010

When: Sun May 16 – Fri May 21 and Sun June 6 – Fri June 11

Cost: \$595 for 6 days, includes camping and all meals from lunch on first day to lunch on last day

Location: The guide school will take place primarily on the South Fork of the American River, which offers an exceptional learning experience with 21 miles of class 3 whitewater to navigate. The last few days will most likely be spent on the more technical Class 3 Truckee River near Lake Tahoe. On the weekend following the school, there will be an option to join commercial/training trips on more advanced rivers like the exciting North Fork Yuba, the North American River or the Middle American River (depending on water levels).

Guide School emphasis is placed on, river hydrology, navigation, reading whitewater, raft equipment rigging, equipment maintenance and repair, personal rescue equipment & signals, commercial safety put-in talks, camp/kitchen operations, knot tying and the finer points of creating safe, enjoyable river trips. We also try to include some oar boat instruction, rigging and wilderness trip planning. Included in the cost are transportation, PFD, helmets and other on river equipment: camping & river use fees, all meals (special diets accommodated) and a fun healthy atmosphere for a genuine learning experience.

This Guide School is primarily oriented toward college students and others interested in summer employment as whitewater paddle guides on Class 2-3 rivers. Exceptional graduates may have the opportunity to guide more advanced whitewater in their first season. Participants should be safety conscious, team oriented, hard working, responsible, personable, fit, hardy, ready for a challenge and concerned for the environment. The majority of the instruction will be in paddleboats, but students will also have the opportunity to experience oar raft handling skills. Upon completion of this reputable school, students will be prepared to apply for summer jobs with Tributary or any other river outfit. In order to maximize on-river time during the school, certification in First-Aid and C.P.R. are not included, but they are mandatory requirements for commercial river guides. Participants are highly recommended to obtain their certifications prior to the school.

Equipment: Students will be responsible for providing personal gear. Such as tent, sleeping bag, pad, fleece or wool cloths- river gear will also be needed, such as wet suit (2mm at least), or dry suit (preferably) and river shoes. All necessary equipment can be rented, and upon receipt of a deposit, an equipment list will be forwarded.

About Us: Tributary is a rather unique company and more personal than most. With a large number of permits on wonderful rivers, we can offer a wide diversity of experience. We do expect our guides to be involved in all aspects of the operation, and for the right kind of person, there are good opportunities for advancement. Tributary is an environmentally friendly company who takes pride in providing wilderness whitewater trips with a focus on minimal impact, so participants will partake in this philosophy by recycling, composting, and practicing a no trace style of enjoying the outdoors.

Whitewater Rescue Technician (WRT) Workshop: Basic river rescue is covered during the guide school, and that is adequate for first year guides. However, certification is recommended for continuing guides and trip leaders. Call us for details. This workshop focuses on a full range of state-of-the-art whitewater emergency and rescue procedures not limited to but, including: unwrapping rafts, flipped-raft drills, use of flip lines, and throw bags, swimming in rapids, swimming in and out of eddies, foot-entrapment rescue, swiftwater crossings, line-crossing options, z-pulley and piggyback tensioning systems, hypothermia prevention and treatment, and the skills needed to manage a whitewater emergency. A certified Rescue 3 Technician will instruct this workshop, and upon completion, students will have a manual and a nationally recognized certificate to add to their resume.



A deposit of 50% is required to reserve your space. Some reduced price scholarship plans may be available. Full payment is due prior to the school. Upon receipt of a deposit Tributary will send the participant an informational application which will assist the instructors in customizing the school to fit everybody's needs. Other detailed information will be included.



Tributary
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