

SOUTH FORK AMERICAN/NORTH FORK AMERICAN RIVER COMBO

Class: 3-4, 22 or 39 mile trips in 2-4 days, April-June (depending on snow pack)

Location: Meeting in Coloma, off HWY 49 between Placerville & Auburn, and ending east of Auburn.

The combo trip of the **South Fork American** and **North Fork American** is ideal rafting trip for those wanting to warm up on some Class 3 rapids before stepping up to more exciting Class 4 action on the 2nd or 3rd day.

The South Fork American River is an exciting, fun Class 3 run, with memorable rapids like Bouncing Rock, Satan's Cesspool and Hospital Bar. The river flows through the green and gold foothills of California's Gold Rush Country and has served as an introduction to river rafting for countless beginners and continues to lure veterans back year after year. The **North Fork American River** is a great Class 4 run of 9 miles, in a near wilderness and scenic canyon. The itinerary for the 2 day combo follows.

On the first morning, we meet you after breakfast at our camp in Coloma/Lotus. Our guides will give an orientation talk and paddling instruction and everybody is fitted with life jackets. There are a few miles of Class 2 action before we enter the 'Gorge'. **Lunch** is taken on the river and usually consists of a deli-style spread with a selection of breads, meats, cheeses, tomatoes, avocados, lettuce, sprouts, chips and salsa, fresh fruit, cookies and vegetables with dip. After tackling the exciting Class 3 rapids like Bouncing Rock, Satan's Cesspool and Hospital Bar, we take-out at Folsom reservoir where cold drinks are served and we transport you back to camp, usually by 5:00 pm

In the evening, while the guides prepare dinner, clients can set-up their camp, swim, play volleyball. Professional photographers film at several of the major rapids and we have a set up in camp to view the action of the day. Ask your guide for a coupon and **order your South Fork American River photos before you leave Coloma** as they are not available online. Dinner is served in camp in the early evening. Appetizers of vegetables, dip, cheese and crackers are served, followed by barbecued chicken or tri-tip steak, baked potatoes, corn, mixed salad, stir-fried vegetables and garlic bread. Leave room for our delicious desserts.

Next morning, we travel to the **North Fork American River**. Personal gear is packed while the guides prepare breakfast which may be continental style or scrambled eggs with hash browns and fresh fruit, pastries, muffins and beverages. We caravan to Auburn and from there we transport you to the put-in near Colfax. The action starts quickly with 'Slaughter's Sluice' less than ½ mile from put-in. The most difficult 'Chamberlain Falls' rapid is encountered next, and more great Class 4 action continues with 'Tongue & Groove', 'Zig-Zag', 'Achilles' Heel', 'Bogus Thunder', 'Grand Slalom' and a series of three river wide ledges called 'Staircase'. Some Class 3 rapids follow and then there is a welcome break until the take-out. **Lunch** is served on the river and there maybe a ¼ mile hike up Indian Creek to a picturesque waterfall. Photographs of the North Fork American are available online.

For trips of 3-4 days, you can include another 11 miles on the South Fork "Chili Bar" run, or 17 miles of Class 4 action on the **Middle Fork American River**.

Distances/Times for travel:

45 mins/31 miles E of Roseville, 43 mins/32 miles E of Folsom,
1 hr/53 miles E. of Sacramento, 1.75 hrs/98 miles N. of Stockton,
1.5 hrs/82 miles SW of Truckee, <2 hrs/114 miles SW. of Reno,
1.75 hrs/72 miles W of S. Lake Tahoe
2 hrs/115 miles SE of Chico,
2.25 hrs/134 miles NE of San Francisco



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