

Trip Logistics and Itinerary

5 days, 4 nights Wine & Food on the Snake River in Hells Canyon

Trip Starts: Minam, OR

Trip Ends: Minam, OR

Put-in: Hell's Canyon Dam, OR

Take-out: Heller Bar, WA (23 miles south of Asotin, WA)

Trip length: 79 miles

Class III-IV rapids

Each Trip varies slightly with size of group, interests of guests, etc. This is a "typical" trip itinerary that will vary.

Day before Launch:

Stop at Minam on your way to your motel in Wallowa or Enterprise to pick up your dry bag and go over the morning itinerary.

Day 1:

If staying in Wallowa at the Mingo Motel we will pick you up at 6:15 am. If staying in Enterprise we will pick you up at the Ponderosa Motel in our shuttle van at 6:45 am. Travel to Hells Canyon Dam Launch site (3hr drive from Minam) with a bathroom break at the Hells Canyon Overlook. Meet your guides, go over basic safety talk, and load into rafts between 10 and 11 am. Lunch will be served riverside. Enjoy awe inspiring geology, spot wildlife. Run some of the biggest whitewater of the trip, first up Wild Sheep Rapid. Stop to scout Granite Rapid and view Nez Perce pictographs. Arrive in camp between 3-4pm. Evening camp time: swim, hike, play games, relax! Approximately 6pm: Wine and Hor D'oevres presented by Chef Andrae and the featured Winery. Approximately 7 pm dinner presented by chef Andrae Bopp.

Day 2:

Coffee is ready by 6 am. Leisurely breakfast between 7 and 8 am. Pack up camp and send the gear boat downstream. Launch on the river by 10 am. Visit the historic McGaffee Cabin. Today's fun rapids will include Bernard, Waterspout, and Rush Creek. Arrive at camp between 3 and 4 pm to enjoy another evening riverside. Each evening will be a similar routine to the first.

Day 3:

Repeat morning routine of coffee, breakfast, camp breakdown. Today we get to hike to Suicide Point and view Bonneville Flood deposits from a view point, stop at the historic Kirkwood Ranch, see ancient Mt Mazama Ash, run more rapids and enjoy another great day in Hells Canyon. Today we get to pass Somer's Creek where Grant's great, great grandparents lived during the late 1800's until the early 1940's. Arrive at camp between 3 and 4 pm for another great evening.

Day 4:

Morning routine followed by another day of fun whitewater. Today we get to pass Dry Creek one of the places Grant's parents lived and worked in Hells Canyon, take a historic side hike to Deep Creek to see ancient Nez Perce pictographs, remnants of Chinese miner's building and of course a story. View Dug Bar, the historic crossing point for the Wallowa band of Nez Perce. Arrive at camp between 3 & 4 pm for another evening of merriment and insanely good food from chef Andrae Bopp.

Day 5:

Morning routine followed by a hike to the remains of the Imnaha motel and copper mill site. Embark on rafts until we reach the mouth of the Salmon River where we will strap the rafts together and motor out to Heller Bar. Lunch will be served on the raft or riverside today. Arrive at Heller Bar between 1 and 2 pm. We will shuttle everyone back to Minam (2.5 hour drive) or if you had your vehicle shuttled to Heller Bar, you can begin your travels.

Shuttle Logistics:

Transportation from Minam to the put-in and from the take-out to Minam are included in your trip cost. If you would like your car shuttled to the take out near Heller Bar (23 miles south of Asotin, WA) you will need to arrange that before the trip begins and cost is \$165 per vehicle. Otherwise we will shuttle you back to Minam where your vehicle awaits.