



For Over 25 years



HELLS CANYON RAFT

SNAKE RIVER SALMON RIVER

www.hellscanyonraft.com

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McCall, Idaho 83638



Meet Us

The Beginning of a Legacy, Hells Canyon Raft

For over 25 years the Armacost Family has been guiding and sharing the excitement of the two most powerful rivers in this region, the Snake River through Hells Canyon, and the Salmon River of No Return. We haven't diluted ourselves by growing into a huge river company. Hells Canyon Raft focuses on one singular goal; to provide our guests with the best river adventure possible. Personal attention to guest comfort and safety, combined with first class gear, make your river trip with HCR the trip of a lifetime.

We listen to our customers, and customize each trip to the highest guest expectations available. Our trips are meticulously organized, and each aspect is over seen by the owners. We have learned a few lessons over the years, and woven this experience into the fabric of each trip, this local knowledge and experience counts when choosing a river company. Kurt and Heidi are there from the first phone call, to possibly rowing your boat down the river. There is a reason we have one of the highest rates of repeat guests.

We specialize in this river, with over 25 years experience in Hells Canyon. When it comes to your security, which is our greatest concern, this experience counts. We place a strong emphasis on safety, while guiding and teaching you about the river canyons. Our guides are trained in not only river safety but also natural and cultural interpretation. This is what we love to do, and sharing these gifts of nature and beauty with you is our passion.

Dear Guests,

From our home and office on the Canyon Rim, we invite you to join us in one of the most truly magical places on earth. In 1976, my family took our first trip through Hells Canyon. The summer of '77 found us with our own gear, beginning the foundation of a long legacy of guiding and rafting in the Hells Canyon Region.

At 14 years of age, I would follow my dad down the river. He had the guests on his boat, and I would carry the gear. At 18, I started to lead trips down the river. Last time I counted I had logged over 500 trips on the Snake River in Hells Canyon.

Come with us and discover yourself in a place where time stands still. A place so amazing, that just being there changes the way you see things.

We hope to see you on the river,

*Kurt & Heidi Armacost
Hells Canyon Raft*



The HCR Difference

HCR (Hells Canyon Raft) is not your typical river company. With over 25 years experience, we constantly set the high water mark for river trips in the west. With our attention to detail, highly trained guides, and top of the line equipment, you can expect the trip of a lifetime, here's why:

- Your safety is our #1 goal.
- Top of the line equipment, we are constantly upgrading. Self-bailing boats, roomy tents, thick self-inflating pads, freshly laundered sleeping bags, and first class bathroom facilities.
- We love to show you how to fish, and provide all the equipment. There is always a guide ready and willing to keep the kid's lines untangled and in the water.
- Our gear boat travels ahead each day to set up a luxurious river camp. When you arrive at camp, your spacious tents are setup, the bags are packed up, hors d'oeuvres are set out, dinning tables and chairs are ready for dinner. Our amazing river kitchen is ready, and you can settle into camp for the evening.
- Our river fare is one of a kind, you can expect sumptuous, plentiful meals artfully prepared with whole foods, in our river side kitchen. Baked brie, thick rib-eye steaks, fresh marinated Alaskan Salmon, medallions of pork tenderloins with a berry glaze, Deserts baked in our Dutch ovens; pineapple upsidedown cake, cobblers with berries you helped to pick that day, or a double chocolate cake drizzled with chocolate sauce and topped with raspberries, and fresh mint.
- Choose from a variety of river craft: oar boats, paddle boats, or inflatable kayaks.
- Kurt and Heidi oversee all aspects of your trip from the first phone call, planning activities before and after the trip, and potentially rowing you down the river.
- Guide to Guest Ratio of at least 1 guide per 3 or 4 guests.
- You will have privacy when you need it, and camaraderie when you want.
- We even do the dishes...



From the moment I first met your team, I was greeted with a smile, taken care of with great attention to detail, given thorough explanation about procedures and safety, and then told fascinating tales about the river and its magical history. Their generosity and good spirit made all of us feel that we'd made real friends with whom we could be ourselves in comfort and ease.

Karen P. - Greenwich, CT





About the Guides: I'm sure you hear it all the time. But here it is again. The guides made the whole trip what it was. They are like deep flavor in a meal, adding a mood and tone to the whole adventure. They were the colors and the music and the breeze. They were good friends.

Heidi K. - Houston, TX

Guides

You won't find better trained, willing, and capable staff than we have here at HCR. The guides who work with us are true river professionals with an average age of 30 years old. We don't think of this as a job, but more a lifestyle. We maintain a guide to guest ratio of 1 to 3 or 4, on all multiday trips. You will be well taken care of. They will captivate you with their knowledge of River Lore, comfortably transport you through some of the largest whitewater in the Northwest, and act as minstrels, gourmet chefs, and fishing guides. In other words we will not just act as caretakers, but facilitate your experience, making your adventure all that you want it to be.



Worry free camping...

If you've never run a river or camped outdoors before you are like many of our guests. Relax. This is safari style camping at its best. Large 4-man tents are set for 1 or 2 guest, thick self inflating pads, freshly laundered sleeping bags, camp chairs, and dinning tables make your outdoor experience easy and comfortable. The best part is you won't lift a finger unless you want to. We set up and take down everything, even the tents.



There are dream trips, getaways, pampered trips, adventure, educational, hands-on, gastronomic, and probably a whole bunch more kinds of trips. But how many trips can boast all of these dimensions, and all without having to worry about your safety, comfort and whether your hair looks okay. Our trip with you guys fulfilled all of this and more. And NO MOSQUITOS!!!!!!

Denene P. - Middlebury, VT

What length of trip is best for you?

Our most popular trips are either 3 or 5 days. Although ask anyone who has been with us before and they will all say it is never long enough. All trips begin in Cambridge, Idaho, where we meet you the night before we launch. Once we leave the launch site there are only two points where a road meets the river and we can take out. The first is Pittsburg Landing, which is 34 miles downstream. All three-day trips take out here, as well as 4-day trips during July, August, and September. The second take out point is Hellar Bar, which is 79 miles from the launch. All 5 and 6 day trips plus 4-day trips during May and June take out here. During May and June the river flow is higher and faster which allows us to do the entire 81 miles in 4 days. Call us, we will help you decide which trip is best for you.



Snake River Through Hells Canyon

"The Deepest Gorge in North America"

3-6 days

34-81 miles, MAY- OCTOBER

Minimum AGE: 7, class III/IV

Where the Snake River heads North and forms the border between Idaho and Oregon, it forms Hells Canyon, The Deepest Gorge in North America.

Nez Pearce Indian legend claims "Coyote dug Hells Canyon with a big stick to protect their ancestors in Oregon's Blue mountains from the Seven Devils across the gorge in what is now Idaho." Our raft trips through Hells Canyon are journeys through a land rich in myth and geologic wonder.

The country is amazing. Rugged rock walls and grassy slopes rise from the water, as you delve into the surging whitewater while it pulses through Hells Canyon. Where boulders and rockslides have rolled into the river, we find the biggest rapids in the Pacific Northwest.

Between rapids, the Snake River follows a scenic path: there we encounter Rocky Mountain Bighorn Sheep, mountain goats, deer, and elk. Kick back and look toward the horizon to spot a circling eagle or hawk. The hiking is spectacular, with trails located on both sides of the river and up several side creeks. Fantastic swimming in the 72 degree water, excellent trout and bass fishing, and maybe even a 10' white Sturgeon. Idyllic campsites under the stars at night, and breathtaking vistas make this a river voyage you will never forget..



Incredible, breathtaking, the most magical place on earth. I wasn't sure how this vacation would stack up to others, but after spending 6 days in that canyon it was without a doubt the best vacation of my life. If you are thinking about taking this trip do it. Whether you love being outdoors or love air conditioning and email like myself you will love this trip. Thanks everyone for great food, fun, family, and friends.

Peter W. - San Mateo, CA

Salmon River Canyons

Idaho's "River of No Return"

4 and 5 days

**62-73 miles, JULY – SEPTEMBER,
Minimum AGE 5, class III**

The Main Salmon River boasts the longest remaining free flowing river system in the lower 48 states. An Ideal Family Vacation, the "Lower Salmon" offers huge white sand beaches, perfect for throwing the Frisbee, beach volleyball, a paddle boat water slide, or just lounging in the shade. The rapids are exciting, yet family friendly. The warm crystal clear water is perfect for swimming. Jump off the raft and float through a calm section or try your hand at an inflatable kayak. Double kayaks allow younger kids to ride with a parent through calmer water.

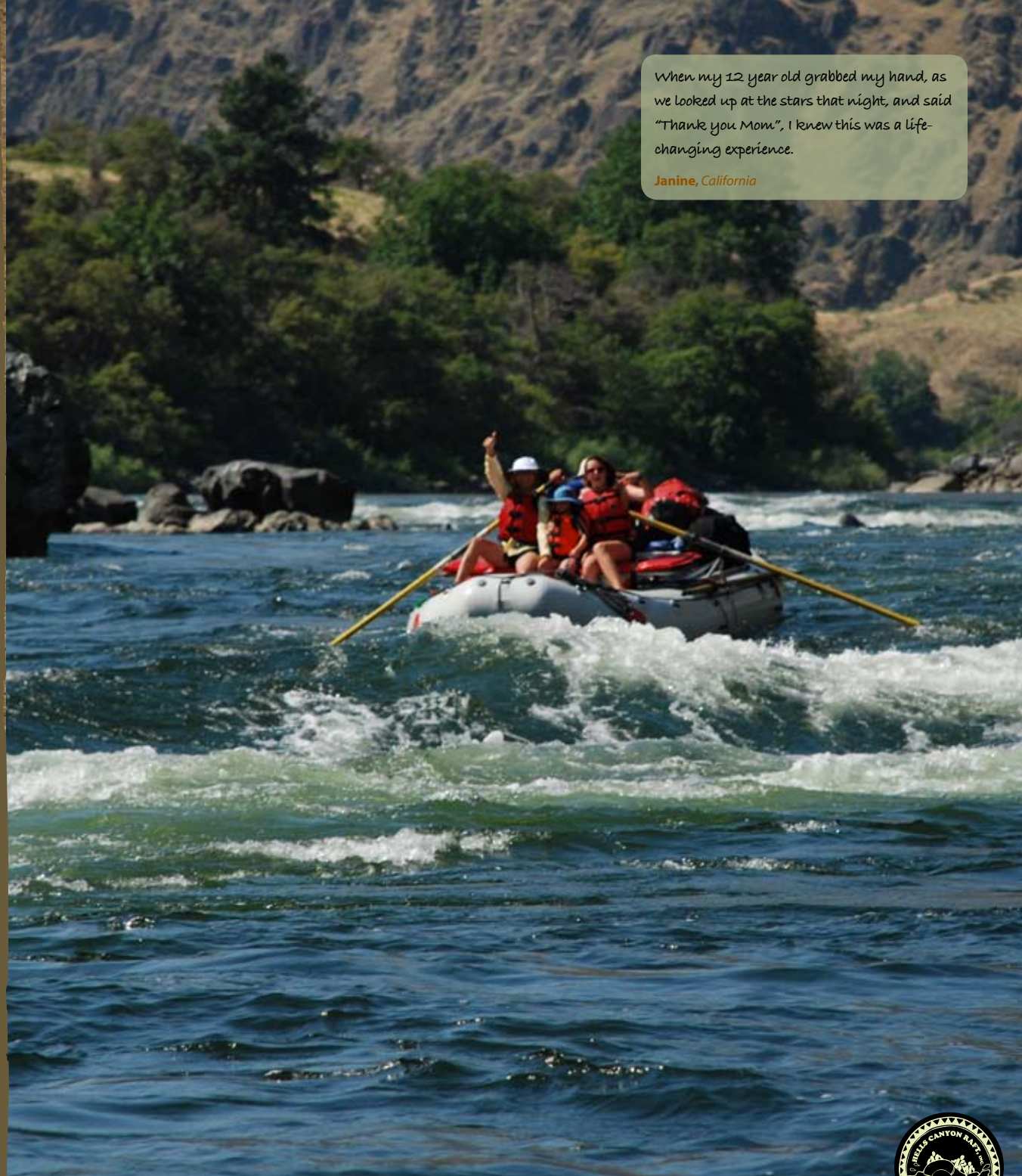
The Canyon narrows in places forming the "Salmon River Canyons", where most of the rapids are held. After the canyons it opens into wide angle views of massive columnar basalt formation with grassy hillsides. Each day we take time to explore a Native American home site, or a 19th century Chinese mining camp.

On this idyllic family trip, you can expect your first class guide to play freeze tag with the kids on the beach, prepare gourmet meals, and guide you safely through the whitewater. Our program for kids will keep them entertained and amazed. They might even learn about geology or the Nez Perce Indian tribe.

Falling asleep under the stars, listening to the rivers lullaby, and splashing through the whitewater, will help you discover something about what makes life enjoyable. Connect with your family, or in some way rediscover a bit of yourself. You are certain to meet friends that will be remembered for a lifetime. By the end of the trip everyone will be planning and plotting their next river vacation.

When my 12 year old grabbed my hand, as we looked up at the stars that night, and said "Thank you Mom", I knew this was a life-changing experience.

Janine, California



Who Goes on a River Trip?

We design our trips to be comfortable and accessible to most everyone, regardless of experience. We have taken people as young as 5 and as old as 90. People come from all over the world. We get a mix of singles, families, couples, and friends. Generally, kids should be 5 years old for the Salmon and 7 for the Snake. Some guests have never been on a river trip or camping, while others are experienced campers. As a rule, anyone who likes to have fun and relax will love a river trip.

Family Vacations

A river trip provides a truly captivating experience for kids and families. Discounted rates for youth 18 and younger make this trip especially attractive for families. From catching their first fish to learning how to kayak, or having a s'more around the campfire. If you travel as a family, you'll find the perfect balance of enjoying many activities together while also enjoying some time apart. Our guides will take the children fishing or for hikes while the parents spend some well deserved time alone. There is never a lack of activities for the entire family.

Group Charter

We are specialist in creating the perfect adventure for your group. An entire trip can be chartered with 12 or more guests. Lodge options, and group discounts are available. Call or email for more information.

Corporate Charters

Join HCR on a one-of-a-kind adventure with your organization. This is a cost effective venue, and also has greater and longer lasting results. By surmounting the volatile nature of the wilderness you'll develop communication, enhance trust, and provide the ideal environment for collaborating ideas and concepts. Plus, it's incredibly FUN. We can put together employee rewards or incentives, company meetings, or facilitate teambuilding workshops. All in all, this can be a powerful multifaceted tool when used for your business meeting or retreat.

Paddles and Saddles

Fall and Spring trips are cool with incredible wild flowers, and warm days. After a three day river trip, horseback to the top for a breathtaking view of Hells Canyon (the deepest gorge in North America.) Many options are available including overnight stays in cabins, camping at high mountain lakes, or lodges in the area. Call or email to discuss the details.

Hell Canyon Sportsman's Trips

Starting in mid-September you can fish for Steelhead Trout, or bird hunt for Chukar Partridge all day long. We take 4 days to cover 32 miles, and the trip is limited to 6 guests. Feel free to bring your bird dogs. Expert guides show you where the fish are. The supply boatman moves our deluxe fall camp daily. If this sounds like you give us a call.

Private River Trips

Why not have the trip all to yourself. A honeymoon, your immediate family, or if you are just private people, we'll help you travel exactly how you want. With our knowledge and expertise in Hells Canyon, the sky is the limit. All you have to do is ask.



Thank you for a life changing experience down the Snake River. Our family bonded like never before. The ease of this outdoor adventure made us enjoy each other tremendously. We have been on many vacations with 5-star experiences, however this 4-day trip easily soared to the top. We will see you again.

Loren R. - Seattle, WA



What's on the menu.....

Sample Menu

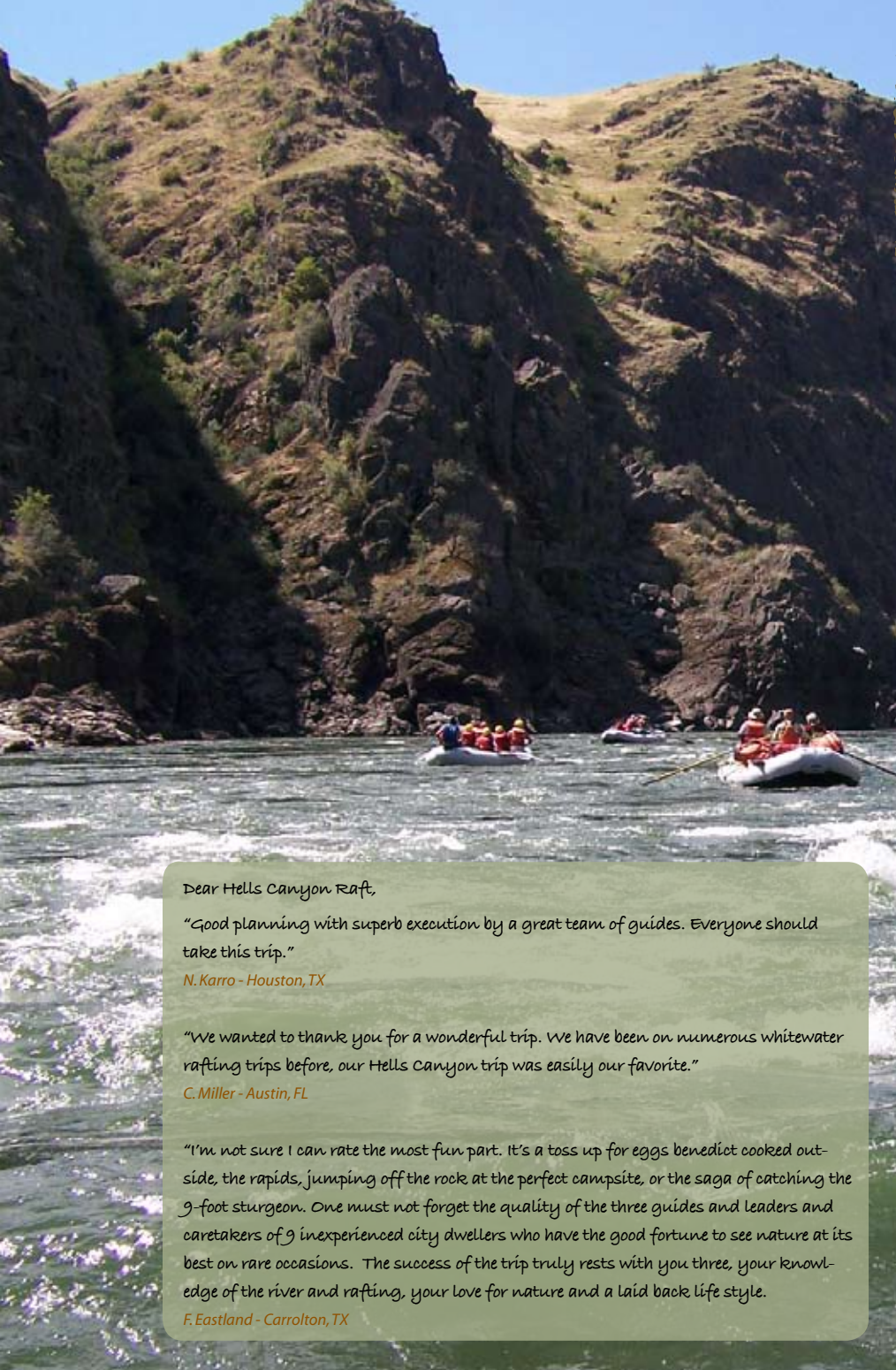
Breakfast:

- **Eggs Benedict** with fresh fruit, coffee, tea, and juice.
- **Blueberry pancakes** with real maple syrup, & thick cut bacon.

Dinner:

- **Grilled Alaskan Salmon**, Ceasar Salad, steamed baby asparagus, fresh hot Dutch oven foccacia bread, and wild berry and peach cobbler.
- **BBQ thick cut rib steaks**, grilled vegetable kabobs, garlic mashed potatoes, baby mixed greens with candied pecans, and black forest cake drizzled with chocolate ganache topped with raspberries and a fresh mint sprig.





Dear Hells Canyon Raft,

"Good planning with superb execution by a great team of guides. Everyone should take this trip."

N. Karro - Houston, TX

"We wanted to thank you for a wonderful trip. We have been on numerous whitewater rafting trips before, our Hells Canyon trip was easily our favorite."

C. Miller - Austin, FL

"I'm not sure I can rate the most fun part. It's a toss up for eggs benedict cooked outside, the rapids, jumping off the rock at the perfect campsite, or the saga of catching the 9-foot sturgeon. One must not forget the quality of the three guides and leaders and caretakers of 9 inexperienced city dwellers who have the good fortune to see nature at its best on rare occasions. The success of the trip truly rests with you three, your knowledge of the river and rafting, your love for nature and a laid back life style."

F. Eastland - Carrollton, TX

River Time...

A Typical Day on the River

First Light

Wake to the smell of good coffee, enjoy some solitude, and listen to the birds start the day. Fresh fruit and yogurt, available. Early risers can grab a quick bite, go for a short hike, or fish.

The rising sun gently warms the canyon.

Breakfast

What's on today's Menu:

Signature favorites like sourdough pancakes, eggs benedict, or fresh pan-fried trout. Thick cut bacon, with farm fresh eggs, fruit, and coffee will keep your energy level up for the day.

Midmorning

Pack up your gear. The guides come around to take down your tents. Get ready for some whitewater, fishing, and kayaking. The gear boat leaves for the next camp.

We shove off and the adventure begins. Choose between an oar boat, paddle boat, or kayak depending on your thrill and skill level.

Take a short hike to some pictographs and an ancient camp site, or explore an abandoned homestead.

Lunch

A nice midday stop along the riverbank features deli sandwiches, fresh fruit, homemade cookies, chips, and drinks

Maybe fish a little while the guides prepare lunch, or lounge in the sun.

Shove off for more world class whitewater, spectacular scenery and adventure. Time to catch a sturgeon.

Camp

When you arrive camp is all set... Relax and get comfortable... you've earned it. Take a short hike or catch some fish. Team-up for a game of horseshoes, or just relax, with an ice cold drink.

Hors d'oeuvres

Before dinner enjoy tasty treats such as baked brie with red grapes, Norwegian Jarlsberg with crustinis, and dry aged salami, or smoked oysters crackers and aged cheddar.

Dinner

We like to start with whole foods, and combine them in a sumptuous healthy way. Will tonight be thick cut rib eyes, or fresh Alaskan salmon? Sautéed veggies, fresh baked breads, and save room for our famous Dutch oven deserts.

Evenings

Relax around the fire, or kick back and watch the multitude of stars appear. Relive the experiences of the day. Take time to have a game of cards with your family. Drift off to sleep with the sound of the river's lullaby serenading your dreams of tomorrow's adventures.





The HCR Fleet...

Rapids should be respected, not feared. That's why we offer different styles of craft. Throughout the trip you are invited to choose your level of activity, and try all the different boats. Secure handholds, life jackets, and plenty of advance preparation ensure a fun experience. All boats are self-bailing, which means you never touch a bail bucket, unless it's for a water fight.

Oar Rafts

The most stable and comfortable place to kick back, relax and fish. Take pictures and enjoy the scenery, 16'-18' in length, controlled by your guide, with two large oars. All you need to do is hold on.



Paddle Boats

Participate in the action; teamwork and fun are key elements of paddle rafting. Each person is armed with a paddle in hand, and coached by the guide, who helps to navigate the rapids.



Inflatable Kayaks

Even with no prior experience, our one or two person watercraft will allow you to enjoy the thrill of river kayaking within minutes of putting on your life jacket. There are sections of the river that are difficult for the more experienced, and easy stretches for the more timid, or kids. When you are ready, return back to an oar boat, stretch out in the sun and relax.



Supply Boat

Each day our supply boat packs up the camp gear, river bags, and extra ice chests and moves down the river ahead of us. This allows for uncluttered guest boats, and longer days on the river. At the end of the day when you arrive in camp, your tent is pitched, and the camp is ready to move into for the evening.

HCR- Thank you for the great trip. I never thought I would try all the different boats, but I did and loved every one. Thank you for making it easy for me, pushing me into trying it, and making it a safe experience."

Renee P. - Ashland, OR



1 and 2-day Salmon River Trips

1 Day-Whitewater

Riggins Area, June-Sept.

20 miles

Minimum Age: 5-7,

Class-III

9AM – 4PM MST

This full day getaway has fun playful rapids, and is perfect for everyone, especially families, groups, and adults. First-timers can relax and enjoy the ride on a raft, or for more excitement hop into an inflatable kayak. A gourmet river-side lunch is provided as well as snacks and beverages.

Trip Highlights:

- Fantastic, Exciting Rapids
- Easy Access from McCall, 45 minutes away,
- Easy Access from the Spokane, or Lewiston area
- Professional, fun guides
- First class river hospitality
- Inflatable Kayaks, and Paddle boats available.

2 Day-Whitewater/Beach Camping Trip

Salmon River, June – September

40 miles

Minimum age 5-7,

Class III

This 40 mile adventure adds a new dimension to our white-water adventure, like camping along the Salmon River, on a beautiful white sand beach, enjoying a steak dinner, Idaho garlic mashed potatoes, a baby green salad, and Dutch oven desert, maybe even a s'more around the campfire.

Trip Highlights:

- All inclusive from first day lunch to last day lunch, including personal camping equipment
- Fun class II and III whitewater
- Inflatable kayaks
- Amazing safari style camping,
- Let our Professional guides take care of all the work while you relax

Next is to Thank you to you and your team for making this adventure come to life! Just a little about me and my boys (17 and 9 years old)...camping for me is sleeping with the windows open and hearing the birds! I am a resort vacationer but enjoy the water immensely but camping?? Never! With that said however the fact that I said to my entire family every day "this was my favorite day" is a tribute to all of you. Truly every day was my favorite day for very different reasons. Sleeping literally outside with the stars WOW!

Lisa, Illinois



How to Start Planning, It's as easy as 1, 2, 3...

1. Call (800) 523-6502 anytime. We are happy to answer specific questions about all rafting and trip options.
2. Reserve your trip online at www.hellscanyonraft.com, there you may find specific answers to your questions. Space is limited, so make your reservations early.
3. After your reservation is made, you will receive a confirmation package including a packing list, directions and release forms.



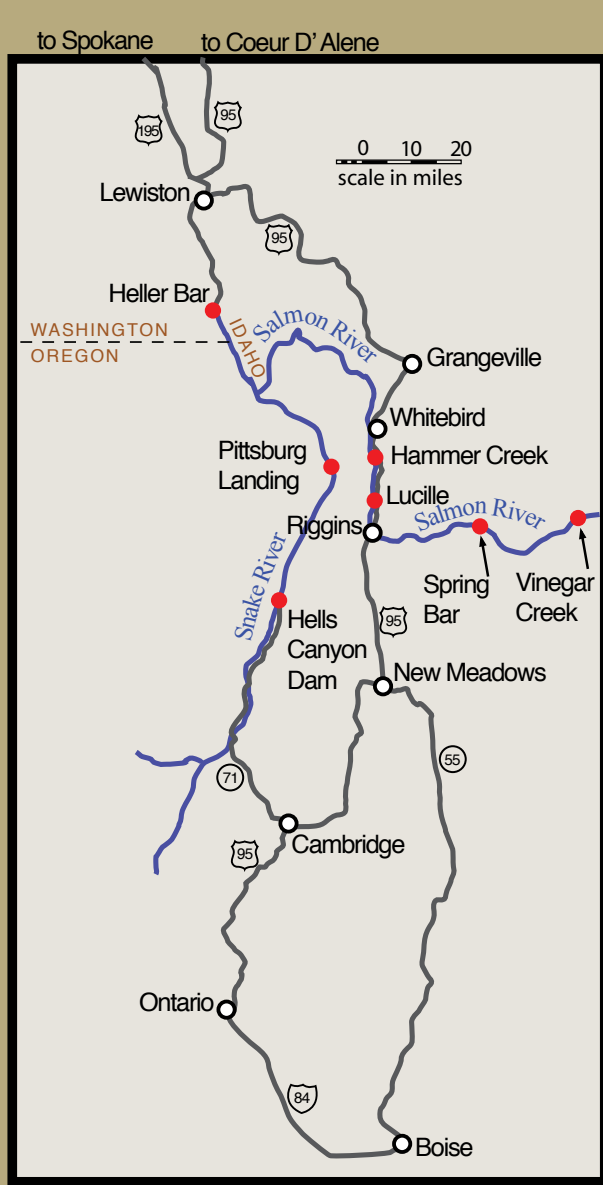


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Hells Canyon Raft, Inc. is proud to be an Equal Opportunity recreation service provider under permit from the U.S. Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management. We operate under special use permits from the Cottonwood Resource area of the BLM; and Payette Umatilla, and the Hells Canyon National Recreation area, Wallowa Whitman National Forest. All our operations are on a non-discriminatory basis.

Hells Canyon Raft, Inc. is bonded and fully licensed by the states of Idaho and Oregon. We are members of America Outdoors, Idaho Outfitters and Guides Association