



# SIERRA MAC

## RIVER TRIPS



WWW.SIERRAMAC.COM

(209) 591-8027

INFO@SIERRAMAC.COM

### MAIN TUOLUMNE RIVER ONE-DAY TRIPS

18 MILES • MERAL'S POOL TO WARD'S FERRY  
LOGISTICS AND GEAR

**MEETING TIME:**

8:30 am unless otherwise specified  
returning to Colfax Spring about 5:30pm

**MEETING PLACE:**

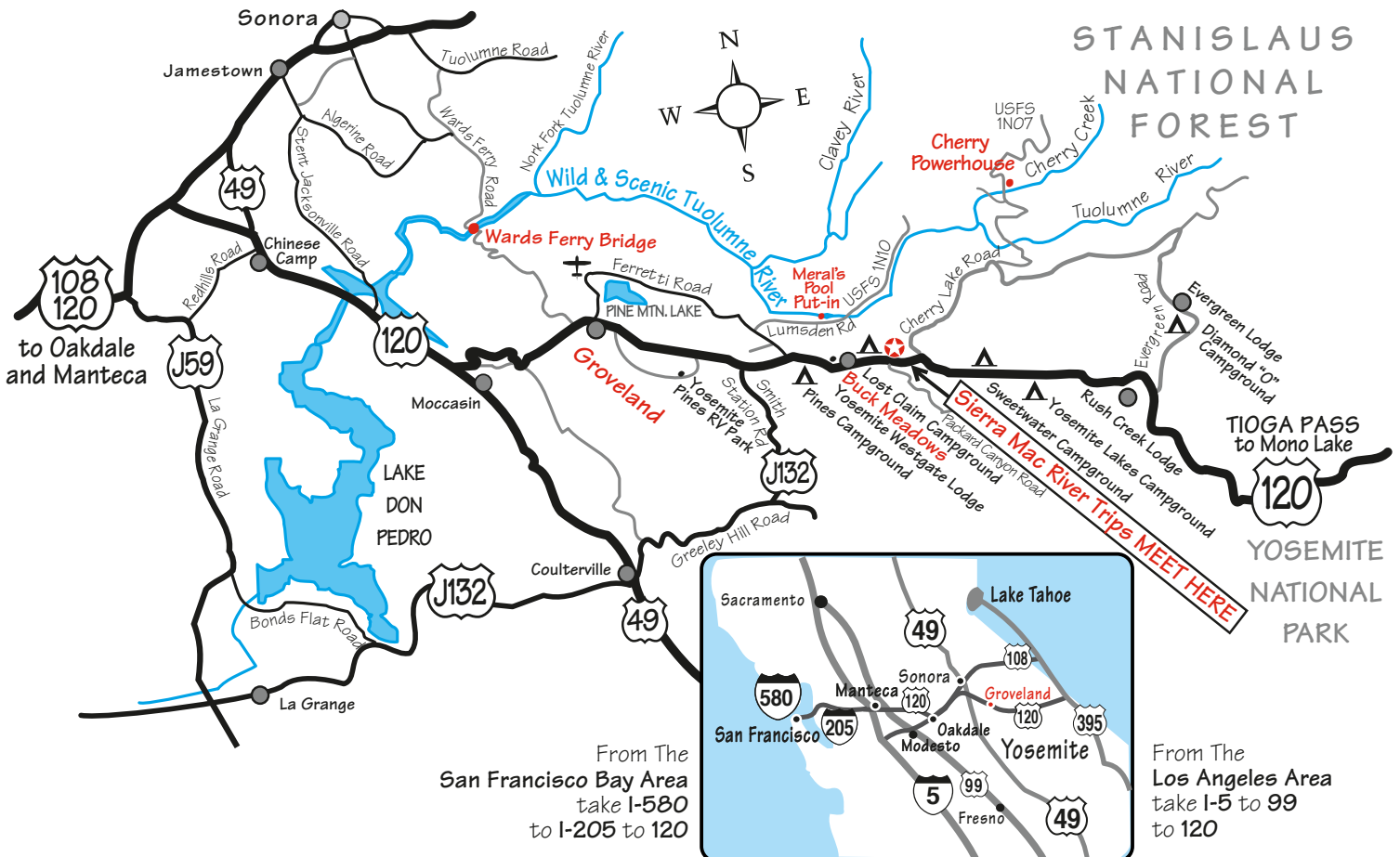
SIERRA MAC RIVER TRIPS HEADQUARTERS  
27890 Highway 120, Colfax Spring, CA 95321

**GETTING THERE:** We meet in the parking lot of **Sierra Mac Headquarters at 27890 Highway 120**, 13 miles east of the town of Groveland. If coming from the west, after you pass Buck Meadows look for the Vista Point/Rim of the World overlook on your left, followed by Packard Canyon Road on your right. We are just beyond on the north (left) side of the road. If you are coming from the Yosemite area, we are about 1/2 mile beyond the Cherry Lake Road. Pay attention--our place comes up quickly!

Driving time from the Bay Area is about 3 1/2 hours; from Manteca, about 1 1/2 hours; from Los Angeles, about 7 hours; and from Yosemite's northwest entrance gate (Big Oak Flat), about 25 minutes. We can also arrange local pickups at the Pine Mountain Lake Airport for travelers arriving by private plane.

**PLEASE NOTE**

- If you will NOT be available by phone before your trip, contact our office at **209-591-8027** within 48 hours of meeting time to reconfirm logistics.
- Be on time or you may forfeit your trip! If you are late, call us ASAP at the above number. **Cell phone coverage is spotty and unreliable along Highway 120.** If you need to contact us you may have to **stop and call where you have a signal.**



From The San Francisco Bay Area take I-580 to I-205 to 120

From The Los Angeles Area take I-5 to 99 to 120

Since 1965, Sierra Mac has outfitted whitewater rafting trips for thousands of people between the ages of 5 and 75. Our expert guides are dedicated to your enjoyment of this remarkable environment. Thank you for your business!

### DEPARTURE DAY LOGISTICS

Our guide and shuttle bus will meet you at the Colfax Spring Parking Area at 8:30am the morning of your trip. Take normal security precautions such as stowing your valuables, locking doors, and closing windows. We also recommend using a hide-a-key instead of bringing your keys with you on the river.

Come dressed in river attire and ready to go! Wetsuits, if needed, will be provided by Sierra Mac and distributed later at the river. Items that you wish to access during the day will be placed in a communal dry bag on your raft.

Don't forget to eat breakfast!

### TYPICAL ITINERARY *(subject to change)*

- 8:30am** Meet guide, secure your vehicle and take your seat in our shuttle bus. Toilet/changing facilities are available at our meeting spot in Colfax Spring and at the river launch site.
- 9:00am** All aboard for the river! Bus departs for the 40 minute ride down to the launch site.
- 9:40am** Arrive at Meral's Pool launch site and meet the other guides. Listen to a river safety talk and go through some paddling drills.
- 10:30am** On the river and having fun!
- 1:00pm** Enjoy a delicious lunch provided by Sierra Mac served at a scenic riverside site.
- 2:00pm** An afternoon of paddling exciting whitewater through the wild and scenic river canyon.
- 4:00pm** Takeout - trip ends at Ward's Ferry Bridge
- 4:30pm** Board our buses for the ride to parking area
- 5:30pm** Back at your car in Colfax Spring

### WEATHER

During the summer you can expect hot days and warm nights. Spring and fall weather is generally mild but rain showers can occur at any time. During shoulder seasons, please bring suitable rain gear.

### SANITATION/HYGIENE

Bathrooms are located at the meeting place at the Casa Loma Store and at the Meral's Pool launch site. On the river, we carry portable toilet systems for use during the day and at camp. Our guides will instruct you in appropriate procedures that minimize our impact on the river canyon and maximize your personal hygiene.

### WHAT TO WEAR

#### WARM WEATHER RIVER ATTIRE

Shorts and/or swimsuit  
T-shirt  
Athletic shoes that are lace-up (no slip-on or thongs)  
Ball cap  
Sunglasses *(with security strap)*  
Passengers with extreme sun sensitivity may wish to wear quick-dry long pants and long-sleeved shirts.

#### COOL WEATHER RIVER ATTIRE

Wool, silk or synthetic layer under wetsuit  
Wetsuit and splash jacket *(if needed provided by SMRT)*  
Wool or neoprene socks  
Tennis shoes or wetsuit booties  
Sunglasses *(with security cord)*  
Wool hat or ball cap  
For warmth, layering wool or synthetic performance garments under a wetsuit and splash jacket is best. Avoid wearing sweats or cotton clothes of any kind on the raft—they never dry out and keep you cold.

### WHAT TO BRING

Water bottle  
Sun block, lip balm, medications  
*(packed in a plastic zip-lock bag)*  
Camera *(waterproof models or GoPro strongly advised)*

### GRATUITIES

We are often asked if tipping is appropriate. Tips are certainly appreciated by our guides. Tips normally range from 10% to 20% of the trip cost. Whether and how much you tip should depend on your satisfaction with the trip, your feelings towards tipping and your financial means. At the end of the trip guests usually give their tip to the lead guide, who will split it equally among the crew.

**AREA INFORMATION**

See our blog at for more information: <https://www.sierramac.com/yosemite-rafting-blog/>

**LODGING**

Rush Creek Lodge 209-379-2373  
*New lodge and resort* [www.yosemitegoldvacations.com](http://www.yosemitegoldvacations.com)  
 Yosemite Westgate Lodge 209-962-5281  
*modern, restaurant* [www.yosemitewestgate.com](http://www.yosemitewestgate.com)  
 Yosemite Ridge Resort 800-706-3009  
*cabins for 4 to 8, restaurant* [www.yosemiteridge.com](http://www.yosemiteridge.com)  
 Hotel Charlotte 209-962-6455  
*small historic hotel, restaurant* [www.hotelcharlotte.com](http://www.hotelcharlotte.com)  
 Groveland Hotel 800-273-3314  
*historic inn, restaurant, bar* [www.groveland.com](http://www.groveland.com)  
 Evergreen Lodge 209-379-2606  
*rustic lodge, restaurant, bar* [www.evergreenlodge.com](http://www.evergreenlodge.com)  
 Lillaskog B&B 209-962-1818  
*best views of the Sierras* [www.lillaskogyosemite.com](http://www.lillaskogyosemite.com)  
 Blackberry Inn 209-962-4663  
*bed and breakfast* [www.blackberry-inn.com](http://www.blackberry-inn.com)  
 Yosemite Rose 866-962-6548  
*bed and breakfast* [www.yosemiterose.com](http://www.yosemiterose.com)  
 Tesla Ready Air B&B  
*best option for groups* [www.airbnb.com/rooms/8880620](http://www.airbnb.com/rooms/8880620)  
 Yosemite National Park 888-413-8869, 877-444-6777  
*lodging reservations in the Park* [www.travelyosemite.com](http://www.travelyosemite.com)

**RESTAURANTS & SERVICES**

Buck Meadows Bar & Restaurant 209-962-5181  
 Buck Meadows General Store & Gas 209-962-7690  
 Cocina Michoacana, Groveland 209-962-6651  
 Fork & Love, Groveland 209-962-1912  
 Groveland Hotel 209 962-4000  
*fresh seasonal California cuisine*  
 Iron Door Bar & Grill, Groveland 209-962-6244  
 Mountain Sage, Groveland 209-962-7455  
*café, nursery, outdoor gear*  
 Priest Station, Big Oak Flat 209-962-1888  
 Two Guys Pizza, Groveland 209-962-4897  
 Tangled Heart Bakery, La Casa Loma 209-962-8904

**OTHER NEARBY ATTRACTIONS**

Yosemite National Park  
 Tioga Pass on Highway 120  
 Hetch Hetchy Reservoir  
 Columbia State Historic Park  
 Railtown State Historic Park, Jamestown  
 Calaveras Big Trees State Park

**VACATION HOME RENTALS**

[www.airbnb.com/s/Groveland--CA/all](http://www.airbnb.com/s/Groveland--CA/all)  
[www.vrbo.com/vacation-rentals/usa/california/gold-country-high-sierra/yosemite/groveland](http://www.vrbo.com/vacation-rentals/usa/california/gold-country-high-sierra/yosemite/groveland)

**CAMPING**

Pine Mountain Lake Campground 209-962-8615  
*RV park and camping, showers*  
 Yosemite Lakes/Thousand Trails 877-570-2267  
*RVs, camping, pool, phone, showers and store*  
 Yosemite Pines RV Park & Campground 209-962-7690  
*RV rental, camping, pool, phone, showers and store*

**U.S. FOREST SERVICE CAMPGROUNDS:**

East of Groveland, on Highway 120 in the Buck Meadows area near the meeting place, are U.S. Forest Service campgrounds *Pines, Lost Claim and Sweetwater*.  
 Information 209-379-2258

Reservations and information at:  
[www.americanll.com/groveland-ranger-district](http://www.americanll.com/groveland-ranger-district)

**ADDITIONAL RESOURCES**

Yosemite National Park 209-372-0200  
*[www.nps.gov/yose](http://www.nps.gov/yose)*  
 Yosemite Chamber of Commerce 800-449-9120  
*[www.groveland.org](http://www.groveland.org)*  
 Tuolumne County Visitors Bureau 209-533-4420  
*[www.yosemitegoldcountry.org](http://www.yosemitegoldcountry.org)*

