



# SIERRA MAC RIVER TRIPS



WWW.SIERRAMAC.COM

(209) 591-8027

INFO@SIERRAMAC.COM

## CHERRY CREEK & MAIN TUOLUMNE RIVER COMBO TWO & THREE-DAY TRIPS

CHERRY POWERHOUSE TO MERAL'S POOL  
LOGISTICS AND GEAR

### MEETING TIME:

6:00am unless otherwise specified  
returning about 5:30pm

### MEETING PLACE:

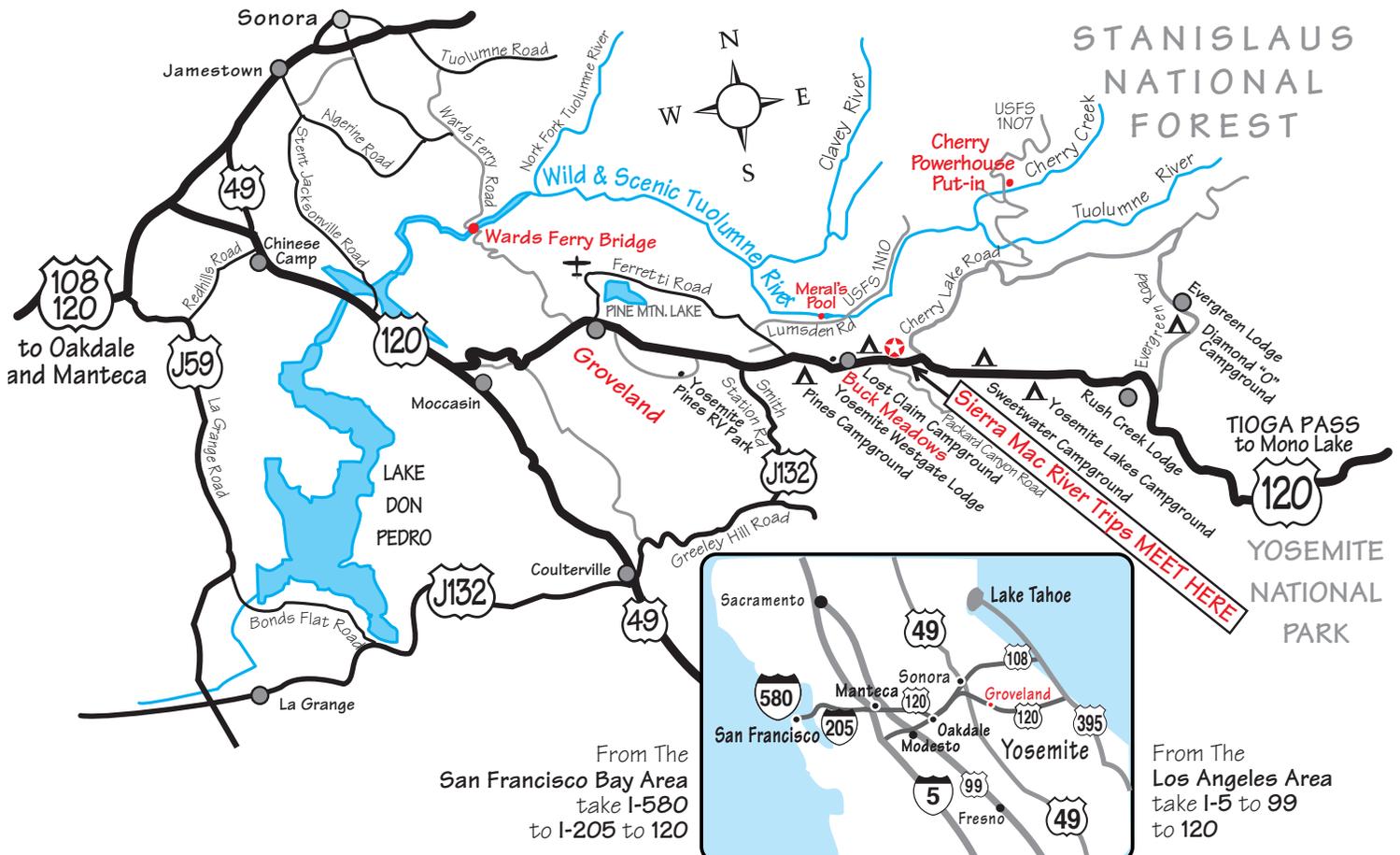
SIERRA MAC RIVER TRIPS HEADQUARTERS  
27890 Highway 120, Colfax Spring, CA 95321

**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.



**W**elcome to Class V, the ultimate challenge in white water rafting! Having pioneered commercial Class V river trips on the Cherry Creek/Upper Tuolumne and the classic Main Tuolumne, we at Sierra Mac are excited to share these thrilling adventures with you. It is important to realize that these trips are intense and demanding passenger participation experiences. A successful Class V run depends on you and your boat team.

### DEPARTURE DAY LOGISTICS

The release schedule from upstream dams dictates our 6 am meeting time. It is imperative that you arrive on time to coincide with the perfect flow needed to successfully navigate this demanding run. At the parking lot, you will be met by your guides and fitted in a wetsuit, helmet and high flotation lifejacket. We will also provide a high calorie but light “power breakfast” after our shuttle van arrives at the Cherry Creek launch point.

Please arrive ready to go with your river attire on – under-wetsuit garments and shoes.

We recommend leaving a hide-a-key on your vehicle while on the river. We have never had a problem with theft or break-ins but please take normal precautions.

### TRAINING SEMINAR

After arriving at the river and having breakfast, you will go through an intensive whitewater field course which includes training in swiftwater swimming, boat navigation, paddling techniques, and safety procedures. If, in our opinion (or yours), you are not ready for this rigorous experience following the training seminar, you will be asked to return with the shuttle van. We do everything we can before the trip to screen potential paddlers and give them a clear picture of what this unique trip entails, but occasionally we do need to send people back. (In this case you will receive a 50% refund.)

### TYPICAL SCHEDULE

We are usually on the river by 8am and finish the run with a delicious celebratory lunch around 1:30pm. High energy snacks and drinks are provided throughout the day. You are back at your car around 2:30pm. If you are on an overnight trip, your personal gear will meet you at the lunch spot and you will proceed to your campsite from there.

### WHAT TO WEAR

Wetsuit and splash jacket (*provided by SMRT*)  
Nylon shorts and swimsuit (*under wetsuit*)  
T-shirt (*non-cotton, quick-dry*)  
Wetsuit socks or wool socks  
Athletic shoes that are lace-up (no slip-on or thongs)  
Glasses (*with security strap*)

### ADDITIONAL COOL WEATHER CLOTHING

Wool, silk and synthetic layer (*to wear under wetsuit*)  
Wool or neoprene socks  
Wool or neoprene gloves  
Wool or fleece hat

### WHAT TO BRING

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

### SANITATION/HYGIENE

Bathrooms are located at the meeting place in Colfax Spring 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.

### 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.

### GRATUITIES

We are often asked if tipping is appropriate. Tips are certainly appreciated by our guides. Tips normally range from 7% to 10% 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.



## OVERNIGHT TRIPS

### *Cherry Creek/Upper Tuolumne and Main Tuolumne*

Pack light and compact. Each person will receive a 3.8 cubic foot dry bag for storing his or her belongings—about the size of a 30-gallon plastic trash bag.

### WARM WEATHER RIVER ATTIRE

Wetsuit and splash jacket (*if needed provided by SMRT*)

Shorts and/or swimsuit (*under wetsuit*)

T-shirt

Tennis shoes or closed toe river shoes with good tread

Ball cap

Sunglasses (*with security cord*)

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 layers under wetsuit

Wetsuit and splash jacket (*if needed provided by SMRT*)

Wool or neoprene socks

Tennis shoes or wetsuit booties

Wool or neoprene gloves

Wool or fleece hat

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.

### CAMPING ATTIRE

Comfortable clothing

Underwear

Extra tennis shoes or sandals

Socks

Sweater or other warmie

Windbreaker

**CAMPING GEAR** (*Rentals available and should be paid for online through Xola with credit card*)

Sleeping bag

Air or foam mattress

Tarp

Tent (*optional*)

### PERSONAL GEAR

Small towel

Toiletries

Flashlight and batteries (*one for each person - pack separately to prevent turning on in bag*)

Extra plastic zip-lock bags

### DAY ITEMS

Water bottle

Sun block, lip balm, medications

(*packed in a plastic zip-lock bag*)

Camera (*waterproof models or GoPro strongly advised*)

### OPTIONAL

Rain jacket and pants

Fishing license and gear (*hard shell case*)

Snorkel mask

Bike gloves to protect hands while paddling

Small day pack or fanny pack

Reading material

Journal and pens

Cards or games

### BYOB ALCOHOL

Historically we have provided some beer and wine for our guests, however Forest Service and insurance regulations now prohibit us from providing any alcohol. We want you all to have your beverages of choice. We are able to pack in our containers, your liquid supplies such as beer in cans or wine in bottles. Consumption of alcohol is not permitted until arrival at camp. We will supply some sodas and always have water and a sports drink mix (Gatorade) on hand. Please bring your favorite beverages if you have preferences.

### CAMPFIRES

You are welcome to sit around and enjoy the fires built in the commissary area. Fires elsewhere are prohibited, and extreme caution with matches is imperative. No fires are permitted during fire closure seasons.



### AREA INFORMATION

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

#### LODGING

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

#### 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 <i>RV park and camping, showers</i>	209-962-8615
Yosemite Lakes/Thousand Trails <i>RVs, camping, pool, phone, showers and store</i>	877-570-2267
Yosemite Pines RV Park & Campground <i>RV rental, camping, pool, phone, showers and store</i>	209-962-7690

#### 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)

#### 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 <i>fresh seasonal California cuisine</i>	209 962-4000
Iron Door Bar & Grill, Groveland	209-962-6244
Mountain Sage, Groveland <i>café, nursery, outdoor gear</i>	209-962-7455
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

#### ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Yosemite National Park <i>www.nps.gov/yose</i>	209-372-0200
Yosemite Chamber of Commerce <i>www.groveland.org</i>	800-449-9120
Tuolumne County Visitors Bureau <i>www.yosemitegoldcountry.org</i>	209-533-4420

