



# Winding Waters®

## RIVER EXPEDITIONS

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JOSEPH, OREGON

### WWRE PACKING LIST

#### PERSONAL ITEMS

- Water Bottle\*** (with locking carabiner\*\*)
- Sun Glasses**
- Eyeglass Holders (e.g. Croakies)**
- Sun Block** (in ziplock bag)
- Chapstick with SPF**
- Biodegradable Camp Soap**
- Moisturizing Lotion
- Toiletries
- Small Camp Towel
- Personal Meds\*\*\* (Parents see note below)
- Camera (waterproof or in a waterproof case)
- Flashlight/**Headlamp**
- Pillow
- Sleeping Bag
- Cotton Sheet (for hot summer nights)\*\*\*\*
- Backup Prescription Eye Glasses/extra contacts
- Liquor/Beer/Wine (order beer & wine through us if you like)
- A Good Book
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Set of Car Key (for shuttle for 3 day Hells Canyon Trip guests)

#### CLOTHING

- Fleece/Insulated Jacket
- Rain Suit (top & bottom)
- Long Pants
- Long Sleeve Shirts (quick dry suggested)
- Hiking Shorts (quick dry suggested)

- Short Sleeve Shirts (quick dry suggested)
- River dress/Dinner shirt (for evenings in camp)\*\*\*\*\*
- River Sandals (Sandals you can get wet. Guide choice = Chacos)
- Low-key Hiking Shoes (like tennis shoes)
- Socks
- Swimming Wear
- Sun Hat & Warm Knit Hat

#### ITEMS TO CONSIDER

- Playful River Dress Up Outfit
- Gloves for Paddling (for kayak or paddle raft)
- Neoprene socks (shoulder season rafting)
- Camping Hammock
- Swimming Goggles/Snorkel mask (NO flippers)
- Binoculars
- Star Gazing Guide/App
- Playing Cards/Favorite Group Game
- Musical Instrument – give us a heads up so we can bring a dry bag – you need a hard case. Bring at own risk.

#### ITEMS BEST LEFT AT HOME

- Electronics (computer, iPad)  
See note about phone below
- Expensive jewelry
- Expensive eyewear (bring your old glasses and plenty of contact lenses)

### Winding Waters River Expeditions

204 East Wallowa Avenue

Joseph, OR 97846

877.426.7238 \* [www.WindingWatersRafting.com](http://www.WindingWatersRafting.com)

## A Few Helpful Notes on our Packing List:

*Please note that many guests leave saying they packed way too much stuff.*

**ITEMS IN BOLD:** These items are carried in our Boathouse Shop & available for purchase for our Hells Canyon & Grande Ronde guests prior to your trip.

**TIME OF YEAR:** This packing list is our general one for summer trips. Use your common sense when thinking about weather & warm gear. Check our "[Water & Weather](#)" page on our website for a weather forecast for your trip. Guests on our early & late season trips (April-mid-June & mid-Sept through November) will want additional warm layers. Shoulder season guests should plan on having dedicated on-river clothes & camp clothes. We have wet suits available for guests to borrow & neoprene socks (Hydro-socks) are a nice item to keep your feet warm.

**WARM ITEMS:** Bringing a warm jacket & a warm knit hat on summer rafting trip sounds overkill, but please do so. We are in a dry climate & the late evenings & early mornings before the sun hits camp can be chilly. A warm knit hat & jacket can be your best friends during these times.

**QUANTITIES:** We do not add quantities of items like shirts & shorts as our trip lengths vary. If you are someone who can wear the same thing 2 days in a row, then pack accordingly for the length of your trip. However, if you need new clothes every day, then follow that code for packing.

**CAMERA:** Many guests (& us guides) use our phones anymore for our cameras for both video & still photos. A tip for helping your batteries last the trip is to turn your phone to "Airplane Mode" so it's not wasting battery looking for service (there is no service on any of our rivers). Also, you can keep your phone generally safe from water in a ziplock bag or shop for a waterproof case.

**\*Water Bottles:** We recommend vacuum water bottles as they keep liquids cold or hot for up to 24 hours. Especially during July & August, guests can keep water cold without the hot summer sun warming it up. These water bottles are generally more expensive, but well worth the investment. Also, water bottles with a loop in the lid are recommended so carabiners can be attached.

**\*Carabiners:** why the locking carabiners on water bottles? The locking carabiner is a safety precaution. When rafting through rapids, we need to have items locked into the boats so they don't go floating away. The locking

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carabiners allow you to lock your water bottle to the boat in a safe way. Non-locking carabiners can be easily pushed back and inadvertently “hook” you on the short leg, shirt, etc. if you have an “out of boat” experience.

**\*\*Personal Medical Kit- PARENTS:** Please bring personal medications for your kids like Children’s Advil, etc.. We do not bring these in our medical kits as the liquids do not stand up to an entire summer of heat on the river.

**\*\*\*Cotton Sheet:** The cotton sheet is a nice option to bring during the summer. It can be a refreshing cover when climbing into your sleeping bag when you first go to bed is too warm. During the night as the temperature drops, it’s nice to then climb into your sleeping bag.

**\*\*\*\*River Dress/Dress Shirt:** In the evenings in camp, it’s very comfortable to slip on a dress or a nice shirt to relax in.

## **A Few Guest Comments about the Packing List:**

*“Though it is listed, I didn’t fully appreciate the rain gear items, thinking I’d be wet from the river so rain gear was redundant...glad I packed it.”*

*“For early season rafting it would be a good idea to suggest bringing a wet suit. I know you have extras, but I was very glad I made a last-minute decision to bring mine.”*

*“Your packing list is excellent. We packed everything on the list and we found ourselves well prepared.”*

## **Frequently Asked Questions about the Packing List:**

Q: *Do we really need rain gear?*

A: YES. The weather in the Pacific Northwest can shift easily. “If you bring your rain gear, it won’t rain” is what we always say. Please be sure to pack your rain gear in your day dry bag, not in your large gear bag that will be inaccessible to you during the day.

Q: *What is the purpose of the gloves & what kind do you recommend?*

A: The gloves are for paddling inflatable kayaks, the paddle raft, and stand up paddle boards. We recommend fingerless gloves, like bike gloves. They are quick dry & work great.

Q: *Do you have waterproof camera cases we can borrow?*

A: Yes, we have a few large Pelican dry cases for SLP cameras with a single lens. Please inquire & reserve as they get snatched up fast.

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