

California Whitewater Guide School(s) - 2012

When: Sun May 6 – Fri May 11. Call for other possible dates.

Cost: \$595 for 6 days, includes camping and all meals from lunch on first day to lunch on last day

Location: The guide school will take place primarily on the South Fork of the American River, which offers an exceptional learning experience with 21 miles of class 3 whitewater to navigate. The last few days will most likely be spent on the more technical Class 3 Truckee River near Lake Tahoe. On the weekend following the school, there will be an option to join commercial/training trips on more advanced rivers like the exciting North Fork Yuba, the North American River or the Middle American River (depending on water levels).

Guide School emphasis is placed on, river hydrology, navigation, reading whitewater, raft equipment rigging, equipment maintenance and repair, personal rescue equipment & signals, commercial safety put-in talks, camp/kitchen operations, knot tying and the finer points of creating safe, enjoyable river trips. We also try to include some oar boat instruction, rigging and wilderness trip planning. Included in the cost are transportation, PFD, helmets and other on river equipment: camping & river use fees, all meals (special diets accommodated) and a fun healthy atmosphere for a genuine learning experience. This guide school is primarily oriented toward college students and others interested in summer employment as whitewater paddle guides on Class 2-3 Rivers.

Requirements: Participants must be at least 16 yrs to attend, but at least 18 yrs to be considered for employment. They should also be safety conscious, team oriented, hard working, responsible, personable, fit, hardy, good swimmers, ready for a challenge and concerned for the environment. Upon completion of this reputable guide school, students should have the skills to be able to apply for a summer job with Tributary or any other river outfit. However employment is not guaranteed and some may require further instruction and practice. In order to maximize on-river time during the school, certification in First-Aid and C.P.R. are not included, but they are mandatory requirements for employment as a commercial river guide. Participants are highly recommended to obtain their certifications prior to the school.

Equipment: Students will be responsible for providing personal gear. Such as tent, sleeping bag, pad, fleece or wool cloths- river gear will also be needed, such as wet suit (2mm at least), or dry suit (preferably) and river shoes. All necessary equipment can be rented, and upon receipt of a deposit, an equipment list will be forwarded.

About Us: Tributary is a rather unique company and more personal than most. With a large number of permits on wonderful rivers, we can offer a wide diversity of experience. We do expect our guides to be involved in all aspects of the operation, and for the right kind of person, there are good opportunities for advancement. Tributary is an environmentally friendly company who takes pride in providing wilderness whitewater trips with a focus on minimal impact, so participants will partake in this philosophy by recycling, composting, and practicing a no trace style of enjoying the outdoors.

Whitewater Rescue Technician (WRT) Workshop: Basic river rescue is covered during the guide school, and that is adequate for first year guides. However, certification is recommended for continuing guides and trip leaders. Call us for details. This workshop focuses on a full range of state-of-the-art whitewater emergency and rescue procedures not limited to but, including: unwrapping rafts, flipped-raft drills, use of flip lines, and throw bags, swimming in rapids, swimming in and out of eddies, foot-entrapment rescue, swiftwater crossings, line-crossing options, z-pulley and piggyback tensioning systems, hypothermia prevention and treatment, and the skills needed to manage a whitewater emergency. A Rescue 3 Technician or certified instructor will instruct this workshop, and upon completion, students will have a nationally recognized certificate to add to their resume.



A deposit of 50% is required to reserve your space. Full payment is due prior to the school. Some reduced price scholarship plans may be available. Upon receipt of a deposit Tributary will send the participant an informational application which will assist the instructors in customizing the school to fit everybody's needs. Other detailed information will be included.



Tributary
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