

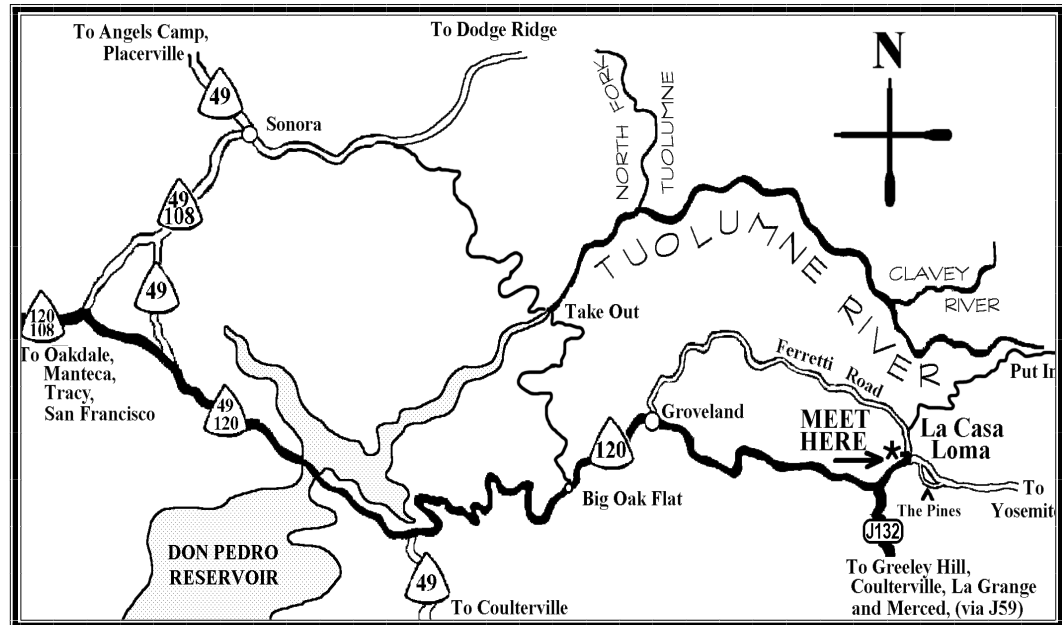
Welcome!

The Tuolumne is born high in the Sierra Nevada in Yosemite National Park. From 13,000 foot Mount Lyell to its confluence with the San Joaquin, the river flows through some of the most spectacular scenery in California. In September of 1984, 89 miles of this wilderness were protected under the National Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, preserving the unique and beautiful area for future generations to enjoy. For many years, the word "Tuolumne" has been synonymous with outstanding whitewater, and the river has justly deserved this association. Recently, however, the outstanding fishing, the exquisite scenery, the beautiful side creeks and canyons, the solitude, and the peacefulness of the canyon have all become recognized as the Tuolumne's equally important assets.

The emphasis of our 1 day trips is whitewater. In the 18 miles from Lumsden to Ward's Ferry we will run over 14 major rapids rated Class IV or better, and several others rated Class III and III+. The action is nearly non-stop and we recommend that you don't plan to be too active the day after your trip; you will most likely be exhausted.

Meeting Time and Place:

All trip members will **meet at 8:30 am on the morning of the trip** at La Casa Loma Espresso Deli, 7½ miles east of Groveland on Highway 120 (24000 Casa Loma Road, Groveland). Stay on Highway 120 through Groveland and go 7½ miles to Ferretti Road. Turn left on Ferretti and immediately left again to the Deli. (If you will be late, please call our office at 209/962-7873). Vehicles may be left here during the trip. ARTA will provide a shuttle to the river and back; arrival time back at La Casa Loma should be around 6:00pm.



Transportation:

There is no public transportation available to Groveland. You can fly into San Francisco, Oakland or Sacramento, all of which are about 3 hours from Groveland. Driving time from the Bay Area is about 3 to 4 hours through Livermore, Tracy, Manteca, and Oakdale; from Los Angeles it is about 6 to 7 hours, through Merced, Snelling, La Grange, Coulterville, and Greeley Hill (you will bypass Groveland and join Highway 120, 1 mile west of La Casa Loma). A good map helps.

Accommodations/Camping:

The Groveland Hotel (962-4000) and the Hotel Charlotte (962-6455) are both in "downtown" Groveland across the street from the historic Iron Door Saloon. The modest Westgate Motel (962-5281) is 3 miles east of La Casa Loma. There are numerous "first-come, first-served" Forest Service campgrounds in the area; The Pines is a mile east of La Casa Loma, (turn at the Forest Service Headquarters sign). Camping in Yosemite National Park (1 hour away) can be reserved at www.recreation.gov or by calling 877-444-6777.

Included:

1 day Tuolumne trips include shuttle from the meeting place to the river and back, lunch and snacks, the use of the lifejackets, helmets, wetsuits, and rafting equipment for the day, and guide service throughout the trip. Gratuities for your guide are not included and are always appreciated when given in recognition of outstanding service.



Personal Equipment List

During the summer, you will need:

- Sandals with heel strap (Chacos, Keen, etc.) or old tennis shoes

NO SLIP-ONS OR FLIP-FLOPS!

- Swimsuit or shorts (nylon quick-drying are best)
- Long-sleeved cotton or dry-tech style synthetic top for sun protection
- Hat for under helmet (baseball style or visor works best)
- Sunglasses with strap, (maybe not your best pair)
- Sunblock, lip balm
- Water bottle (an empty Gatorade bottle is fine)
- Lightweight fleece or polypropylene top if you get cold easily
- Waterproof camera, (optional)

During the spring high water period (April, May and early June) you will also need:

- Polypropylene pile or synthetic fleece pullover or jacket ("polartec", "polarfleece", etc. NOT COTTON) (required)
- Second pair of shorts for over wetsuit
- Fleece cap, gloves, and socks, wetsuit booties (optional)

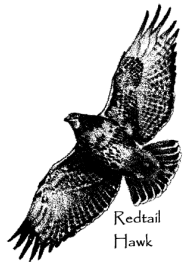
Being Prepared:

It is usually warm and sunny in the Sierra during the heart of the summer so you won't need much for a day on the Tuolumne. You will be getting wet and the water is cold (60°) so things that dry quickly work best. Also, it is a long day on the river, so don't forget a water bottle and if you get cold easily, a lightweight fleece top is handy (we'll pack it in a community dry bag).

During the high water period, (as late as July 1st), the Tuolumne is full with snowmelt and quite cold. If needed, ARTA will provide wetsuits and waterproof splash jackets for each guest, (you will still need to bring your own synthetic fleece insulation layer - not cotton). A non-bulky swimsuit or pair of shorts should be worn underneath; another pair of shorts on the outside will add a little friction between you and the raft and help keep you on board. Our wetsuits are 3mm "farmer-john" style (like overalls) and are designed for paddling; you are welcome to bring your own if you prefer.

Water Levels and Trip Lengths:

The Tuolumne is a wild river with wide fluctuations in flow. High water conditions last for one to seven weeks and peak around the first of June. During the high water period, the river is a solid Class IV+ to Class V river and everyone should be in good physical condition and ready for a challenging day on the river. All one-day trips are long and arduous and include two formidable shuttles, an intricate warm-up session, 18 miles of challenging river, at least one extended scout, and only a short stop for lunch. All guests should anticipate and be ready for a full day. As the season progresses we conduct 2 and 3 day trips which are less rushed and allow more time to enjoy the beauty and solitude of the canyon.



Insurance:

We strongly recommend that you purchase short-term travel insurance prior to your trip. Contact USI Travel Insurance Services (www.travelinsure.com or 800-937-1387) for more information.

