



Northeast Whitewater Lodge & Guide Service 207-695-0151

Frequently Asked Questions about Rafting

What If It Rains?

All Northeast Whitewater Rafting trips go rain or shine. There is NO refund and you cannot transfer to another date due to inclement weather. You are going to get wet even on the sunny days!!!

What About the Black Flies and Mosquitoes?

We do have pesky black flies and mosquitoes. The worst time for the bugs is in late May and June. But you never know when they will be out. The best thing is to wear clothing that covers you up. Also bring along some bug spray or we have some at our basecamp that is available for purchase.

When Does The Rafting Season Begin & End?

Our season runs from May – mid October, seven days a week. We run trips on the Kennebec River, Dead River, Penobscot River, Seboomook, and the Canada Falls Sections of Maine's exhilarating White Water Rafting Rivers.

When is the Best Time to Go White Water Rafting?

Spring rafting offers exciting high water levels and flows. The summer months bring warm weather, swimming, and scheduled dam releases offer guaranteed Class III and V whitewater. The beautiful foliage, less people on the river, and warm days make Fall a popular choice to enjoy the splendor of Maine.

Is Lunch Included With Our Trip?

We include a full river lunch with all our full-day whitewater rafting trips. Our lunch is served mid way through the trip. Lunch includes choice of chicken, steak, or a veggie burger, our famous river rice, pasta salad, bread & butter, brownies, and iced tea or hot chocolate. Please let our staff know of any food allergies!

Will There Be Enough Water for My Trip?

Our highest water levels are usually in May and June, due to spring runoff. But we are lucky that all our rivers are dam controlled. This gives us guaranteed daily scheduled water flows on all our

whitewater rivers in Maine throughout our entire season. So you are guaranteed to get WET and have FUN!!!!

How Cold is the Water?

Water temperatures vary throughout the season. The temperature in May is between 40-50 F, in June 50-60 F, and will warm up to above 70 F in July & August. Depending on the weather, they can stay warm into September.

Will I Need a Wetsuit?

Wetsuits are required in early Spring & Fall. Northeast Whitewater Rafting requires that you wear a wetsuit on the river until June 15 and anytime after September 15. If you don't have your own wetsuit equipment, we rent full wetsuit (3mm farmer johns & 3mm tops), booties, and paddling jackets for \$25 per person or individual sets for \$10 per piece. All sizes from extra small to extra large are available.

Can I Bring My Own Gear?

If you have your own wetsuit and footwear you may wear it, as long as it meets Northeast Whitewater Rafting and State of Maine standards. You must wear our PFD's during all Northeast Whitewater Rafting trips. Helmets are required on all trips and if you have your own whitewater helmet you may wear it on the river.

What Should I Wear for White Water Rafting?

We recommend a bathing suit, sneakers or river sandals, sunglasses (with a strap especially for prescription glasses); contacts are fine, synthetic long underwear (i.e., Under Armor™, Polypropylene™ & Capilene™). DO NOT wear cotton or cotton blend clothing! Also, consider a warm hat, and wool socks during the spring and fall. And, don't forget a towel and a change of clothes for the end of the day!

What Should I Bring With Me to the River?

We recommend that you do not bring valuables to the river or on your trip. Our vehicles are left unattended during the day and Northeast Whitewater Rafting does not take responsibility for ANYTHING left in our vehicles. Disposable cameras, bug spray, sunglasses, eye glass retainers (Chums), and sunscreen are available for purchase and can be secured to you, the raft, or put into the Guide's drybag. If you have required medication you can also bring that along and put that into the Guide's drybag. Make sure that you lock all your valuables in your car and we have a safe place for your car keys.

Do I Need to Have White Water Rafting Experience?

Experience is not necessary. However, minimum ages do apply for each river (beginning at 8 years). There is NO maximum age limit. Having normal health is advised and expected. Even non-swimmers are welcome (we use full floatation US Coast Guard approved Type V vests). There will be 6-8 guests per raft, and your Registered Maine Guide will be with you at all times. We offer a detailed safety orientation before all whitewater rafting and kayaking trips to maximize your safety and fun!!!!

What Does Northeast Whitewater Rafting Provide?

Northeast Whitewater Rafting provides everything you need to go white water rafting; paddles, type V PFDs, helmets (required on all Northeast Whitewater Rafting trips), wetsuits (available for rental), state of the art self-bailing rafts, Registered Maine Guides, a full river lunch, all transportation, a photo slideshow of the days adventure, and a wet and wild ride!!!!

How Long Are River Trips?

This varies depending on the river and the flow for the day. But the average distance is between 8 and 15 miles. This is approximately 3-6 hours on the river for full-day trips.

What Time Are the Trips Done?

This varies depending on the activity, group size, water flow, and other factors beyond our control. On our full-day trips we usually arrive back at our basecamp between 3:30pm and 5pm.

Additional Information:

You may want to bring extra cash for wetsuit rentals, t-shirts, hats, fleece jackets, sunglasses, eye glass retainers (chums), pictures & videos of your trip, disposable cameras, bug spray, sunscreen, and, of course, your Guide's gratuity, which is always appreciated but never expected.

Alcohol consumption and illegal drug use is prohibited prior to and during all Northeast Whitewater Rafting trips. We reserve the right to refuse any customer that we suspect to be under the influence of alcohol or any illegal drug and that customer will NOT receive a refund.