

Tieton River Trip



Trip Summary

AGES: 10 YEARS OLD AND UP

DIFFICULTY: CLASS III+, APPROPRIATE FOR BEGINNERS TO ADVANCED

When most other rivers in the Pacific Northwest are too low for rafting, the Tieton River provides an excellent season finale. The yearly release of water from Rim Rock Lake each September turns the Tieton River into a big wave, class III+ roller coaster. With a steep gradient and guaranteed water, the Tieton trip offers non-stop whitewater action from start to finish!

Meeting Time

Please plan on arriving 10-15 minutes before your scheduled trip time (see your confirmation for trip time). If you are late, you risk missing your trip. Upon arrival, please head to the check-in area to let us know that you've arrived and to complete your paperwork and trip registration. At your designated trip time, your guides will gather the group together for a pre-trip orientation, answering any questions you have about your upcoming adventure.

Meeting Location

All of our Tieton River trips begin and end at our Tieton base camp, located close to the put-in for the run, just west of Yakima, WA. At our private Tieton base, you will find many of the comforts that you may be used to from our White Salmon headquarters. We have a retail store set up with t-shirts and souvenirs and you can still view and purchase photos from your trip.

You can find driving directions to our Tieton base camp by following the link in your confirmation email. We have also included directions to our Tieton base camp as an attachment with your confirmation. Keep the attachment handy - the Tieton is remote and cell service is marginal!

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What to Bring

All you need to bring is a swimsuit, pair of shorts, or something that is not made of cotton to wear underneath a wetsuit. We will provide all other gear needed for the trip: wetsuit, footwear, splash jacket, fleece if needed, personal flotation jacket, and a helmet. If your doctor has given you any personal medications to carry (epi-pens, inhalers, heart medications, etc.), please make sure to bring these with you.

The following items are optional but are useful on your trip:

- Inexpensive pair of sunglasses with some sort of strap to keep them on your head
- Water bottle, with a retaining device to secure it in the raft
- Waterproof sunscreen

Lodging & Camping

The Tieton River is located along highway 12, West of Yakima. We encourage anyone planning to arrive early or leave late to make a weekend adventure out of your trip by camping along the Tieton River. Thanks to the remote location, the area offers many other excellent camping options alongside the river for anyone camping on other evenings. The majority of the sites are first-come-first-serve. Hause Creek, Willows, and Windy Point campgrounds are also all excellent Forest Service campgrounds right on the river (http://bit.ly/tieton_camp).

There are numerous lodging options available in Yakima and near Naches.

If you have any further questions, please give us a call any time!



Directions to Tieton Base Camp

The Tieton is located along highway 12, West of Yakima. Thanks to the remote location, the area offers many excellent camping options alongside the Tieton River. The majority of the sites are first-come-first-serve. There are also several great lodging options. Give us a call for more information.



From Portland/Vancouver:

From Portland (3 hours): Follow I-5 North to exit 68 for highway 12 East. Follow 12 East over White Pass, and past Rim Rock Lake. After you pass the Rim Rock grocery store, continue for a couple of miles until you see small signs for Soup Creek / Snow Park, a larger sign for Rimrock Lake Recreation area and a bridge on the right going over the Tieton. At that intersection take a LEFT TURN onto FS-1305 to the private Wet Planet Camp and look for Wet Planet signs, vehicles, and rafts on the right. The turn-off is between mile marker 167 and 168 on Hwy 12.

NOTE: This is a remote area, and cell phone reception is marginal. We suggest keeping these directions on hand as a backup for any gps or navigational devices.

From Seattle:

Fast route (3 hours): I-90 East, after 105 miles follow I-82 East. Take Exit 31, just before Yakima. Follow 12 WEST, driving through Naches (12 West turns left outside of Naches, make sure you stay on 12 West) and the tiny town of Rim Rock until you see small signs for Soup Creek / Snow Park, a larger sign for Rimrock Lake Recreation area, and a bridge on the left going over the Tieton. At that intersection, take a RIGHT TURN onto FS-1305 to the private Wet Planet Camp and look for Wet Planet signs, vehicles, and rafts on the right. The turn-off is between mile marker 167 and 168 on Hwy 12.

Also from Seattle:

Scenic route (3.5 hours): Take I-5 to I-405. From Renton, take SR-169 heading towards Enumclaw. In Enumclaw, turn left onto SR-410 East (Roosevelt Ave). After about 40 miles it will fork with SR-410 continuing east to the left and highway 123 going south to the right. KEEP RIGHT, following 123. At the end of highway 123, turn left onto highway 12 going east, towards White Pass. Follow 12 East over White Pass and past Rim Rock Lake. After you pass the Rim Rock grocery store, continue for a couple of miles until you see small signs for Soup Creek / Snow Park, a larger sign for Rimrock Lake Recreation area and a bridge on the right going over the Tieton. At that intersection take a LEFT TURN onto FS-1305 to the private Wet Planet Camp and look for Wet Planet signs, vehicles, and rafts on the right. The turn-off is between mile marker 167 and 168 on Hwv 12.