

# Kayak Assistant Volunteer

Whiskeytown National Recreation Area

National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

Volunteers-In-Parks Program



*The primary duty is to aid and assist a Lead Kayak Ranger with visitor program kayaking tour activities.*

*The tours offers visitors to Whiskeytown a different recreational opportunity and the chance to explore quiet coves, spot wildlife and enjoy the cool waters of the lake and nearby creeks.*

**Job Title** - Kayak Assistant

**Location** - Whiskeytown National Recreation Area

**Hours** - 3 1/2 - 5 hours per week (includes 2 hour staffing of kayak reservation line).

**Duties** - Volunteers will assist the Lead Kayak Ranger in unloading and loading kayaks from kayak shed and carrying the kayaks to and from the water. Volunteers will assist visitors in operation of kayaks and assist in keeping the kayak tour group together on the water. The volunteer will keep in close communication with the Lead Kayak Ranger as to direction of travel of the group and any other needs or safety concerns. Volunteers are required to staff the kayak phone reservation line at least a couple of times during the course of the season.

**Knowledge/Skills Desired** - Ability to operate a single or tandem kayak. Volunteers are required to know how to swim, and be in good physical condition. Volunteer should be able to lift and carry kayaks. Volunteers will be required to attend water safety and kayak orientation and training prior to serving as a Kayak Assistant. Volunteers are required to have Basic CPR and first aid. Volunteers should also have the willingness to learn about the vast resources in Whiskeytown and the National Parks and enjoy working with the public. Since experience, rather than monetary compensation, is the primary reward for volunteer service at Whiskeytown, one of our fundamental concerns is to match each volunteer's activities to his or her abilities and desired work experience. It is also important for potential volunteers to remember that the VIP program is intended to provide the assistance that is needed by the park operation. For these reasons, all VIP applications will be reviewed to select for capabilities and desired experience and the kinds of services that will benefit the park's interpretive operation.

**Uniform** - Volunteers will wear an appropriate swim short or suit. A light T-shirt, hat and sunglasses is recommended. Wear appropriate shoes for water and short distance walking. Volunteers should also bring and use sunscreen and plenty of water to drink.

**Benefits** - You will have the opportunity to learn more about National Parks than you ever imagined. Sometimes you will be the first and only contact visitors from all over the world will have within the National Park Service. You'll meet fellow volunteers at training and social events and have opportunities to participate in special activities and events.