



Parent Guide  
Family Camp  
2018

Dear Leaders and Parents:

Welcome to Superhero Training Camp 2018. We are eager to have you and your Family at Camp Kern this summer.

This Document is a guide for camp parents, and participants of our superhero training camp, it should assist you in preparing your youth for the beginning of many camp memories! Our goal is that you and your family have a great experience as candidates of our superhero training camp. This camp is not focused on Scouting advancement but rather creating great memories as a family while training to be a superhero. Our superhero training team will offer activities that achieve the aim of Scouting in a fun, family based outdoor program. Character building, citizenship training, and personal fitness are the goals of the Scouting movement. Requirements completed, or adventure loops earned is not our primary function of family camp. . . we hope your family has fun, develops confidence in the outdoors, gains some knowledge from the various program areas, and appreciates our natural environment . . . the great outdoors!

As you complete your preparations for camp, let us know if we can be of service. Please contact the Council Office at 661-325-9036 ext. 106 for Donovan or 661-477-4846 for Debbie.

See you at Camp Kern as we prepare to train for greatness.

Sincerely,

Donivan Crawford  
Camp Director

Debbie Spohn  
Program Director



## Who can Attend?

ANYONE!! Superhero training camp is open to families with at least one registered family member of the BSA, so bring the whole family for a fun filled weekend of adventure in the beautiful lakeside camp grounds of Camp Kern.

## Dates and times?

Friday, August 31<sup>st</sup> at 4pm, to Monday, September 3<sup>rd</sup> at 10am.

## Camp Theme

Our theme for this family camping activity will be Superhero Training Camp, where you and your family will learn all the necessary skills to be a real-life superhero.

## Individual Registration fees

There is a \$60 per person registration/activity fee payable online or in office. This fee will include all meals Saturday-Monday morning, Housing (tent or cabin with bed frame), and superhero training.

## Supervision

ALL children are to be under the supervision of an adult, always.

## Star Barge

One of the most popular activities we have at Camp Kern is our Star Barge. Take the barge out onto the middle of, Huntington lake to lie down, gaze at the stars, and learn all about the sky above. Constellations, planets, stars, you get to learn all about astronomy, right in the middle of the great outdoors.

## Firearms/Archery Equipment

No personal firearms or archery equipment will be allowed in camp. We will provide everything needed for shooting sports. Scouts carrying a pocketknife must have a current Whittling Chip card. Any camper under the age of 18 will need a shooting sports release form signed by a legal parent/guardian (available on the council website,) with 4 copies. No release form means no shooting, no exceptions.

## Hiking

One of our exciting opportunities is hiking. Because of the need for adult supervision, each family will need to provide adults to accompany their youth.

Hikers will need to bring a light backpack or day pack to carry the essentials, a water bottle, hat, sunscreen, and appropriate shoes/boots. (See packing list for more information.)

## Cycling

The camp has a number of mountain bikes that are available to be checked out at camp. All families must know and follow the BSA and US Forest Service rules, which includes wearing a helmet, staying on trails, and traveling at safe speeds. Due to safety concerns, there are no bikes allowed to be ridden in camp. There are however a vast number of trails in the surrounding area, for all different skillsets. The smallest mountain bikes we provide have 26-inch rims, therefore younger/smaller family members may not be able to properly use them. You may however, bring your own mountain bike as long as you abide by the camp guidelines as stated above.

## Spending Money

Camp Kern operates a full-service trading post with souvenirs, candy, soft drinks, and handicraft items to serve the needs of the campers. Activities like shooting sports and the arts and craft area will require the purchase of materials. It will be \$5 for every 40 rounds of rifle ammunition and \$10 for every twenty-five rounds of shotgun ammunition. There will also be a selection of craft items for purchase anywhere from \$4-\$20

## Dining Hall

The food service is provided by qualified personnel. We eat cafeteria style in our dining hall. We ask that you Clean up after yourself after each meal. Campers who have dietary restrictions may request substitutes by notifying the Council Office prior to arrival at camp. For those with severe dietary restrictions, the kitchen will be available for food preparation by a supervising adult.

## Campsites and Sleeping

Most families will be provided with platform tents in their campsites. Each tent sleeps two people with room for two cots. Some families will be issued cabins. The cabins will have bed frames but no mattresses. In either case a bed roll or a sleeping

mat is recommended. There are fire rings at each camp site. Keeping the rules to safe scouting in mind and following all US forest service guidelines, we invite you to burn safely. Firewood is in abundance and will be provided.

## Showers

Hot, single-stall showers are available for scouts, leaders, and family. Children must be supervised in some manner while using the shower facilities. We strictly adhere to the BSA National Policy and Youth Protection for shower time. Shower shoes are recommended.

## Washing Machines

We are a family-oriented camp and completely understand that there are certain incidences that may arise where a family may need to wash clothing or bedding. There is a washer and drier on site and laundry soap as well as fabric softener is available for purchase in the trading post.

## Weather

Our camp staff maintains current BSA Hazardous Weather Training to make sure our camp is safe in the event of inclement weather. **BE PREPARED!** Please check the Personal Equipment List for any necessary items.

## Uniforms

Scouters may choose to wear the official Scout uniform to dinner each evening. Camp T-shirts will be available for purchase in the Trading Post for casual wear. Hats are recommended. Closed toed shoes must be worn at all times. No open-toed shoes, no flip flops! The only exceptions are shower shoes and footwear for the Water Front.

## A Scout is Clean

Please encourage your family to put trash in its proper place. Keeping our camp clean and bear free is EVERYONE'S responsibility!



## Tobacco Use

All facilities and events of the Southern Sierra Council are smoke free. This policy complies with the national policy of tobacco use in Scouting. The ONLY location that is not smoke free is the table on the north side of the dining hall. Please refrain from smoking in/around buildings or in view of the Scouts.

## Alcohol/Illegal Drugs

It is strictly against BSA policy to possess alcoholic beverages and/or illegal drugs on a BSA property. Those unwilling to abide by this policy will be asked to leave the property immediately.

## Liquid and LP Fueled Appliances/Fireworks

Adults may have liquid fuel or LP approved lanterns. Youth are not permitted to operate this equipment. Liquid fuel must not be stored in the campsite. If you have liquid fuel for a lantern, it must be stored in the camp fuel shed which is kept locked. No open flames or highly flammable material are allowed in tents. Liquid fuel should never be used around open flames or as a fire starter. NO fireworks are permitted in camp. Please turn in any empty fuel containers to the Camp Ranger.

## Food in Tents

Food stuff should not be stored in tents, as this attracts wildlife. There are bear boxes located throughout camp, and "smellables" may be locked in the dining hall overnight.

## SUGGESTED LIST OF EQUIPMENT FOR SCOUTS AND ADULTS

### Pack Equipment:

Lanterns (adults only)  
First Aid Kit  
Flag (optional)

### Personal Scout Equipment

Annual Medical Health Record Parts A & B  
2-3 pair of underwear and socks  
Extra clothes for regular wear (shorts and t-shirts)  
Shoes for rugged wear (two pair is a good idea)  
Sweatshirt or jacket (nights drop to mid-40s)  
Raincoat or Poncho  
Sleeping bag or sheets and blanket for bedroll  
Backpack or Day Pack  
Air mattress or foam pad  
Pillow  
Flashlight (with extra batteries)  
Toiletries (soap, toothpaste & toothbrush, insect repellent, sun block, chapstick, towel)  
Swimsuit and water shoes (optional)  
Duffel bag/backpack/suitcase  
Canteen/water bottle  
Spending money  
Compass (optional)

Please be sure that all items are marked with personal ID. Camp Kern and/or adult volunteers will not be responsible for lost items.

Items to leave at home: Pocket video games, sheath knives, jewelry, matches, fireworks, firearms and ammunition.

## Family Camp FAQ's

When do I need to arrive at camp?

Check-in will begin on Friday, August 31<sup>st</sup> between 4pm and 9pm. There will also be check-in on Saturday morning between 9am and 12pm as you have the option of arriving between 8am and 11am rather.

What is Check-In?

It is important that an adult come to the check-in headquarters upon arrival at camp. You will be given your campsite assignment, schedules, etc. as well as you and your family, having a health screening/review. Depending on your arrival time, families may also be able to complete a swim check. A simple 4 lap assessment determines the capability of the camper. i.e. Non-swimmers are not allowed near the water and a swimmer that completes the 4 laps is able to take a kayak to the middle of the lake (with proper supervision of course.)

What meals are provided?

Saturday – 3 meals, Sunday-- 3 meals, Monday -- Breakfast

What activities will be offered

Shooting Sports – Archery, BB's, Rifle, Shotgun (small cost for ammunition)

Water Activities – Swimming, Canoeing, kayaking, Sailing, Rowing, Paddle boarding

Handicrafts- (small cost for supplies)

Hiking

Ecology Conservation

Mountain Biking

Worship while at camp

A camp-wide Interfaith Worship Service will be provided Sunday morning. The activity will be noted on your schedule. Your family may participate with a portion of the service if you choose.

What do we bring to camp?

Annual Medical Health Record Parts A & B, personal clothing for daytime and sleeping, personal hygiene items, raingear (just in case)

I have another question.....

Please email Donivan Crawford at [donivan.crawford@scouting.org](mailto:donivan.crawford@scouting.org) or Debbie Spohn at [debbiespohn@att.net](mailto:debbiespohn@att.net). Or Christy Schleibaum at [Christy.schleibaum@scouting.org](mailto:Christy.schleibaum@scouting.org) or 661-325-9036





## Travel Directions

The simplest route from Southern California runs north on Highway 99. Once in the city of Fresno, take exit 131 to merge onto CA 41 N towards Yosemite. Use the right 2 lanes to take exit 128A to merge onto CA 180 E towards Kings Canyon and then keep left at the fork following the signs for CA 168 E/Clovis/Huntington Lake. Follow CA 168 East for about 30 minutes through the town of Prather, taking the first exit from the traffic circle.

From Northern California, drive South on Highway 99 towards Madera. Take exit 155 for W. Cleveland Ave / Ave. 15 ½ and turn left following the signs for Millerton Lake. In ¼ mile, turn right to stay on W. Cleveland Ave. After 1.7 miles there is a dog-leg to the right and the road changes to Tozer St. Make a left turn shortly after this onto CA 145 N/ E. Yosemite Ave. A few miles after crossing CA 41, turn right on Road 206 at the "T." Upon crossing the San Joaquin River, turn left on N. Friant Rd. After passing the Indian Casino, turn left at the "T" onto Auberry Road. Take the second exit from the traffic circle in Prather, for CA 168 E./Table Mountain.

From Prather, continue East on CA 168. After a few minutes go left at the only stop sign on CA 168 to continue, on CA 168 E. You will drive up the four-lane road and through the community of Shaver Lake. After passing the dam of Shaver Lake you are about 20 minutes away. Once you see the China Peak Ski Resort sign, you are almost there. Continue for about 3 minutes. After crossing a bridge with a view of a power plant, CA 168 ends. Continue, on Huntington Lake Road. After passing the Rancheria Marina in a little more than a ¼ mile, turn left into the Boy Scout parking area (the fire station is to the right). If you pass the U.S. Post Office and Lakeshore resort you have gone about a quarter mile too far. The staff will be there to welcome you to the parking area and help get your luggage loaded onto the barge beginning.

## Arrival and Parking

Parking passes will be issued to vehicles that will be parking in the BSA parking lot, as available. In cases of high camper attendance, parking spaces may be limited. In cases such as these, any excess cars will be relocated to an overflow and will be charged a daily parking fee. Barge loading will be done under the direction of our staff and according to available space. Camp Kern will do all it can to get everyone to camp in a swift manner. Each barge is filled with campers and equipment to maximize each trip across the lake. The parking lot used by Camp Kern is owned by the National Forest Service who has leased the rights to Rancheria Marina. As a result, Camp Kern contracts with Rancheria Marina for use of half of the parking lot during the camping season. Rancheria Marina charges a parking fee of \$5.00 per vehicle per day. Camp Kern will attempt to provide each family with one free parking pass, however, supplies are limited. *Plan on bringing cash for each vehicle parked in the parking lot.* Upon arrival staff members direct each vehicle to the appropriate place to park. DO NOT park in the Rancheria Marina parking areas. Your vehicle may be ticketed or towed at the owner's expense. If not arriving on-time due to travel arrangements, car troubles, traffic, or other reasons, please notify Donivan Crawford (661) 431-8750.

## Upon arrival

From the parking lot, Camp Kern is located across the lake and a barge is needed to get there. After parking your family will walk down to the docks, where a staff member will be waiting to greet you. You will then, load up all your belongings into our giant totes on the barge, put on a provided life vest and be boated across to camp. Upon arrival at the scout docks you will have a hill to climb that is approximately 70 vertical feet and then there's another 600 approximate feet of fairly level ground to walk before you arrive at your campsite. Prepare accordingly. You will be carrying your belongings uphill so be sure not to overpack.