

Frequently Asked Questions

GSME Troop Camp Sessions

Who can sign up for Troop Camp Opportunities?

- Any Girl Scout troop leader and their troop.
- A minimum of two adults required, plus follow *Girl Scout Safety Activity Checkpoints* ratios for your group size.
- Adults must be GSME members.
- No special leader training is required. Troop Camp Training is needed if troops want to have a unit campfire.

For S'more Fun* sessions, Troop Camp Training part 2, including Overnight Training, is required as troops will prepare all their own meals.

What will we do at camp?

- Troop Mini Camps and Short Camp Sessions are short sessions at both overnight camps.
- Designed so girls and trusted leaders can together experience exciting activities such as:

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| • Archery | • Games & songs |
| • Swimming | • Evening all-group campfires, scavenger hunts & more! |
| • Boating (kayaks, canoes, paddleboards) | • Lots of smiles & laughter |
| • Arts | • Spontaneous, and any fun! |
| • Rock Climbing (Natarswi) | |
| • Challenge courses & bouldering wall (Pondicherry) | |



Camp is so much fun!

- Sites are rustic—in beautiful outdoor settings.
- Girls experience outdoor fun with trusted adults.
- Set the stage for a love of the outdoors, and a desire to want to have a overnight summer camp experience.
- Girls develop an appreciation of outdoor experiences they can pursue for a lifetime.

What is the leader's role during the weekend?

- Troop leaders always supervise their group, including morning prep activities, rest time & bedtime. Adhere to behavioral agreement.
- Leaders must accompany their girls to all activities and be active participants.
- Leaders must stay on the property with their girls for the duration of the program.

Who teaches the activities?

- Qualified camp staff, often young adults, run the skills programs and are in charge of safety, instruction, and group logistics at activities.
- Please set a good example for your girls by modeling respect, adhering to the rules set up by the staff person, and following her instructions.
- Weather and other factors can affect the programs offered. Alternate activities will be provided.
- Camp directors make final decisions about any safety concerns. We trust that leaders can help their girls navigate through schedule changes.
- We try to have as many programs running as possible. Due to time constraints, leaders may not be able to participate in certain skills activities.

Where will we sleep?

- Platform tents or tent shelters with 4 beds.
- Natarswi: metal camp cots.
- Pondicherry: built-in wooden bunks.
- Units assigned to keep your group together.
- Mosquito nets for bunks-request at check-in.



For questions about sessions or about any special circumstances, the camp directors are always happy to talk with you.

- **Barbara Irleand, Camp Natarswi**
bireland@gsmaine.org | 888-922-4763
- **Tonia Stewart, Camp Pondicherry**
tstewart@gsmaine.org | 888-922-4763

How about meals?

- For all Troop Camp Sessions, the Friday Evening meal is on your own. Eat before arrival or bring packed sack dinners.
- All other meals and snacks are provided in our dining halls, unless outdoor cooking is part of the program.
- Except for Friday evening, troops should not bring food to camp, unless by prior arrangement.
- No food is allowed in the sleeping quarters; it will attract woodland creatures.

****For S'more Fun all meals are to be provided by the Troop.***

****Registration information for each camp will have specifics regarding meals. Please read & plan accordingly. Some camp opportunities may not have meals provided.***

Are there toilets and showers?

- Camps have outdoor latrines, porta-potties, and flush toilets in shower houses.
- Hot showers available during established times.

What else should I know?

Camp life is the best life!

- Plan to get a little grubby as you have fun with your girls.
- Plan to walk-cars are parked in a central lot and all transportation is on foot.

How do we register?

- Troop Camping registration opens on January 15, 2025.
- Register your troop in CampInTouch at www.girlscoutsofmaine.org/campregistration
- Register for other Troop Short Camp Sessions <https://www.girlscoutsofmaine.org/en/discover/activities/event-calendar.html>

Cancellations

Before Monday July 7, 2025: refund of camp fees paid minus 10% not to exceed \$120.

After Monday July 7, 2025: no refund.

Exception: if cancellation is for health reasons, a refund fee can be considered if a verified note by doctor is given, minus 10% not to exceed \$120.