Frequently Asked Questions – GSME Troop Mini-Camps & DIY* Troop Camps

We will be following the CDC COVID-19 precautions that are in place when camp takes place.

Who can sign up for Troop Mini-Camps or DIY?
- Any Girl Scout troop leader and her troop.
- A minimum of two adults required, plus follow GS 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 DIY* 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 camps and Mini-Camps are the same thing – they are short sessions (usually 2 nights) at both resident camps.
- Designed so girls and trusted leaders can together experience exciting activities such as:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Archery</th>
<th>Swimming</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Boating (kayaks, canoes, paddleboards)</td>
<td>Arts</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rock Climbing (Natarswi)</td>
<td>Challenge course &amp; bouldering wall (Pondi)</td>
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<td>Games &amp; songs</td>
<td>Evening all-group campfires, scavenger hunts &amp; more!</td>
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<td>Lots of smiles &amp; laughter</td>
<td>Spontaneous, zany fun!</td>
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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 resident 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?
- Monitor troop for adherence to Covid precautions.
- Troop leaders supervise their group at all times, 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.
- Units assigned to keep social distancing (unit may be shared depending on group size)
- Mosquito nets for bunks-request at check-in.

How about meals? (N/A for Troop DIY Cooking events.)
- 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 a program.
- Except for Friday evening, troops should not bring food to camp, unless by prior arrangement.
- No food is allowed in sleeping quarters; it will attract woodland creatures.

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?
- Mini-Camp registration opens on April 25, 2022.
- Register your troop in CampInTouch at http://www.girlscoutsofmaine.org/en/camp/camp-registration.html
- If desired, specific troop registration steps can be downloaded, on the same web page.
- Payment in full is required at registration. Plan to make one payment for the group. The system cannot take individual payments from families.

For questions about sessions or about any special circumstances, the camp directors are always happy to talk with you.
- Contact Treasa Wheeler, Camp Natarswi twheeler@gsmaine.org 888-922-4763
- Sarah Davenport, Camp Pondicherry sdavenport@gsmaine.org 888-922-4763

Cancelations:
- Entire troop or individual - 3 weeks or more prior: $10 per person cancelation fee. Less than 3 weeks prior – no refund.