



Weekend Camp

TROOP CABIN CAMPING CONFIRMATION PACKET

Welcome to Camp Scherman!

Hello Weekend Camper,

We are thrilled you have chosen to spend a weekend at Camp Scherman. You will find it is a vital and memorable aspect to your groups outdoor experience. This packet contains important information about your weekend camp. Please read all the information in the packet and share it with anyone else who will accompany you to camp. If there will be children attending without their adult, please also share this with all adults who are not coming to camp, so they can talk with their child about what to expect at Camp Scherman. Please make sure that you view the online orientation prior to your visit to Camp Scherman.

COVID Protocols: At this time, there is no mandated requirement for testing or mask wearing at Camp Scherman. Please note that guidelines may change to help keep everyone safe at camp. Camp Staff are here to ensure the health and safety of all participants.

Check In/Out Details:

Friday Check In: 5:30-8:00PM at Massey Hall (see enclosed map)

Friday Night Activity: 8PM at Massey, led by camp staff (optional participation)

Sunday Check Out: 12PM at your sleeping area by Camp Staff

Parking: 101 Ranch Parking Lot (parkcar facing out)

Meals: Friday: Bring your own dinner to enjoy in sleeping area. Alternatively, you can dine in Temecula. Please plan to arrive at Camp Scherman by 8:00PM
Saturday: Provided by Troop
Sunday: Provided by Troop

Optional Activities: Canoeing, hiking, low ropes course, climbing tower (Brownies and up) archery, arts and crafts, and fun!

Accommodations: Enclosed cabins that sleep 6-12 on bunk beds. Cabins are not heated and do not have electricity. Fully equipped restrooms are a short walk away. Bring your own flashlight, sleeping bag or bedding of your choice.

Weather: Activities will be held rain or shine, and will be adjusted to accommodate the weather.

Be sure to check the weather for the area under "Mountain Center, 92561" on any weather website for current temperatures and prepare for sudden changes in temperature. Pack for warm and cold weather and plan to wear layers. If snow or rain is in the forecast bring additional clothes so that each participant has dry clothes to change into throughout the day. Be prepared for cold weather at night—very important.

Preparing Your Camper/Troop

Progression is an important part of the Girl Scout Program – especially in the outdoors. It's best to start small and build on each success. Hopefully by the time your troop or group comes to camp, they've had the opportunity to spend the night together away from home – in a leader's backyard, at a Program Center, etc. This gives you the chance to see how each child functions away from home and family, and gives child the chance to experience a new type of group. In this

spirit of progression, a trip to Camp Scherman should not be the first overnight.

If you have any questions regarding your upcoming weekend at Camp Scherman, please email Erin Johnson at ejohnson@girlscoutsoc.org.

Driving to Camp

The drive to Scherman can take anywhere from 2.5 - 4 hours, depending on the route you take and when you leave. Please remember that afternoon traffic between Orange County and Riverside can be quite heavy, particularly on Fridays. We recommend leaving for Camp Scherman between 2 and 3 p.m. You may want to stop for your dinner in Temecula on your way to camp. **Should traffic cause you a considerable delay or if you will be arriving after 8 pm, please call Camp Scherman at (951) 659-8540 and select #2 for weekend camp/Massey Dining Hall. If no one answers please leave your name, troop number, your location, time of call and phone number. This number is only operational on the weekend and is not regularly monitored.**

Highways 79 and 371 is a few miles longer, but is usually ideal due to the lack of serious curves. This route is recommended if you have individuals with a tendency to get car sickness. This route is included in this packet. This is also the route that our buses travel for summer camp.

There are no signs marking "Camp Scherman" on Highway 74. Look for the Morris Ranch Road turnoff to get to camp. Fire Station #53 is on the corner. (See attached map for specific directions.) As you get to the top of Morris Ranch Road., you will see the orange signs on the sides of Morris Ranch Road. Follow the orange Camp Scherman signs to the "Turn Here" sign the end of Morris Ranch Road.

There are several different ways to get to camp. The I-91 Freeway through Riverside to the Ramona Expressway and Highway 74 is generally shortest, but does involve a good deal of twisting mountain driving. The I-15 Freeway through Lake Elsinore and Temecula to

Once you arrive at camp, please check in first, then unload. Your car should be parked where instructed and left there for the duration of the weekend. Camp guests are not permitted to drive around camp.

Medical Needs

In general, as leaders or parents, you are responsible for providing minor first aid, administering any prescription or over-the-counter medications, and providing any needed care for all illnesses/injuries that may occur. Following Safety Activity Checkpoints each troop or parent **must** bring their own well-stocked first aid kit and any medications their campers will need while in camp.

Medications: If you are a leader, you should collect and hold campers medications during the weekend. You should have Health History and Permission Slips from each parent giving you permission to dispense any medication to their camper. You should also record on the back of the girl's permission slip any time medication is administered. Medications needed for the weekend should be in original containers with instructions for dispensing. They should be collected from the parent before leaving and given back to the parent upon return.

Medical Assistance: Our Health Center is located near the Dining Hall. The Health Center will be staffed by a Level 2 First Aider, EMT or RN. A Health Staff is available to assist leaders with health concerns, assist with more advanced first aid situations and handle emergency medical as needed.

The troop leader/adult cannot leave a camper at the health center for care/observation. If there is an emergency at camp, we will activate our emergency system and call 911. Emergency response from Station 53, is approximately 5- 10 minutes. Transporting to a hospital in Hemet, Temecula or Palm Desert is approximately one hour away from camp.

Health Center staff will be present and available by radio at all times for the duration of the weekend.

If your troop requires our Health Center's assistance, please note that you are still the primary responsible adult and the person who will be in contact with your parents to help make medical decisions for the girls in your troop.

If there is an emergency at home and those at home need to contact a camp participant, please contact Camp Scherman's Weekend Camp Director at **(951) 659-8540**. This number will only be operational from Friday at 5:00PM to Sunday at 12 noon, and is not regularly monitored.

Meals

Troops that are troop cabin camping are responsible for providing their own food for the weekend-unless otherwise indicated, in which case, additional information will be provided. Troops will need to bring all of their own cooking supplies including but not limited to propane stoves, utensils, cookware... Troops should bring their food in coolers. Community refrigerators are available in the shelters for troops to use. The refrigerators are to be shared by the troops sleeping in that area. Troops will also need to bring their own dishwashing supplies- washing tubs, sponges, dish soap. Water will be provided by camp. Due to the high fire danger, open fire cooking is not permitted at Camp Scherman- only propane stoves should be used.

First Night's Stay at Camp

After everyone has arrived, checked in and has eaten, the camp staff will have optional Friday night activities available for all to participate in. Activities can include a night hike, stargazing, games and more. You will also have the opportunity to ask the Weekend Director any questions. Please make sure that you and other adults have viewed the online orientation prior to coming up to Camp Scherman.

Check-in: Please plan to arrive between 5:30 and 8:00PM. Be prepared to give the staff your accurate count of participants with your group. You will receive your cabin assignment, be directed where to park, your vehicles. You may drive your vehicle near your sleeping area to unload gear. Please stay on the road. Once unloaded, all vehicles must be taken to the designated parking lot and backed in. After parking, return to your sleeping area/unit to eat dinner or come to Massey Dining Hall for the optional evening programming.

Because camp is located in the mountains, cell phone service may not work. Be prepared to disconnect and enjoy the weekend experience with your troop.

Please note that there is no wifi access.

Sleeping Arrangements: Each troop/group will be assigned cabin space. Cabins sleep 6-12 in bunkbeds. There is no electricity in the cabins. The bathrooms are a short walk from the cabins and have flush toilets, and showers and electrical outlets for your use.

Darkness/Night Sounds: Because there are no street lights or flashing neon signs nearby, Scherman becomes very dark at night. Flashlights/headlamps are strongly encouraged. This darkness, coupled with various night sounds, can be worrisome for first time visitors (young and seasoned campers alike) to camp. Sounds made by crickets, owls, coyotes and frogs are all a part of Scherman's "night music." If your group is frightened by these sounds, sit down with them and help them identify the different sounds once you arrive at camp.

Animals/Reptiles: Camp Scherman is located in chaparral country. We have many different lizards, mice, deer, coyotes, raccoons, birds, ants, scorpions and snakes.

Altitude/Weather: Camp Scherman is located 5,500 feet above sea level, and requires an adjustment in a few habits. It is important to wear a hat with a brim to protect your head and face from the strong sun. It is also necessary for everyone to drink lots of water to help prevent headaches and stomach cramps caused by dehydration. You'll enjoy Camp Scherman's delicious mountain spring water all weekend long. Be sure to bring a reusable water bottle from home that can be filled up during your stay at camp.

Day 2 & 3

All participants should be able to carry anything they may need for the day with them. It is recommended that each participant bring their own backpack to carry water bottle, sunscreen, chapstick, sweatshirt additional clothing layers etc. Your group may have some free time during the day. Many use this time to rest, but some leaders/adults try to bring some type of quiet activity just in case. This is also a good time to practice your skits for campfire after dinner.

Campfire: Campfire will be held on Saturday night. Please plan to share a skit or song. If you need assistance, any of the camp staff can help with skit and or song ideas.

Participants should be prepared to take flashlights and wear clothing appropriate for after dark activities (long pants, sweatshirts or jackets). Campfire may be held indoors or outdoors depending on the weather. Campfire is a program at camp, regardless if there is a "real" fire or not. Actual fire will be determined on the weather and the approval of the Fire Department.

LAST DAY: The program on the last day will include at least 1 activity rotation after breakfast and *Scouts' Own*. This is a traditional Girl Scout ceremony to close out an event and is arranged by one of the troops (with camp staff support) or camp staff and is an opportunity to quietly reflect on your time at Camp Scherman. Troops will be able to volunteer for this like other kapers over the weekend.

Each troop is responsible for cleaning their own sleeping/living area, including the bathrooms and the surrounding grounds before check out. After this is done, camp staff will come by to check out of your cabin. The staff will do an exchange of Camp Scherman patches for all in attendance for the weekend evaluation that is part of the weekend packet received on Friday night. Check out time on Sunday is approx. 12PM and most troops are packed and ready to depart by 12:30PM.

What is Expected of the Group Leader (and other adults with Group)

You are responsible for your group participants and the children while at camp. Camp staff will facilitate program activities and be available to assist you and answer questions as needed. Please speak with Weekend Director or camp staff about concerns or questions.

The camp staff will facilitate the weekend program and may ask for assistance from the adults as needed. If you see a specific need and would like to volunteer to help, please do so. Please understand that there will be no one assigned to specifically assist you in your living area. At night the camp staff will be sleeping in a separate area, and will be available via hand held radio should there be an issue during the night.

You are responsible for:

- Ensuring that all adults have watched the online weekend orientation video prior to attending the weekend camp.
- Ensuring that each child is accompanied by an adult at all times while at camp.
- Following all Safety Activity Checkpoints as they relate to your troop level, camp and the activities.
- Making sure the sleeping area and surroundings are left as clean or cleaner than you found it.
- Ensuring that the children and adults are being safe at camp.
- Bringing your group to program areas on time.
- Ensuring that your cooking and eating area is properly cleaned and food and supplies are stored before departing after meal times.
- Supervising your group at all times, day and night. Maintaining proper girl: adult ratios during the weekend.
- Ensuring that all participants (girls and adults) are behaving in a respectable Girl Scout manner while at camp.
- Helping program staff when your assistance is needed.
- Refraining from and ensuring that the group is not consuming or in possession of alcohol or drugs while at camp.
- Handling minor first aid. Bring serious injuries to the attention of the Health Center/First-Aid staff.
- Bring any questions or concerns to the attention of the Weekend Director.
- Filling out an evaluation of the weekend camp, using your own feedback as well as that of the girls.
- Participate in the activities, and have FUN and memorable experience at Camp Scherman.

General Camp Information

- Please be sure to watch the online weekend orientation video prior to attending your scheduled weekend camp.
- Smoking is allowed **only** in the area designated by the Weekend Director– this includes but is not limited to e-cigarettes and vapes. **DO NOT** smoke in the cabins, bathrooms, tents, shelter ! Please use the provided containers for proper disposal. Keep in mind that we are in high fire danger areas.
- The use of alcohol is **strictly** prohibited at all times while at Camp Scherman
- Leaders/Adults must always be with their campers. All camp participants should always use the buddy system
- Adults should keep their ID and car keys in their backpack and with them during the weekend.
- Everyone must wear closed toe shoes and socks at all times, unless they are swimming, sleeping or showering. We are a sandal free zone for the duration of the weekend.
- After checking in with the Weekend Director, you will then be able to unload your vehicle near your cabin. Please stay on the road. Once you have unloaded you will then need to move your vehicle to the parking lot . Be sure that your vehicle is backed in, so that in case of an emergency all vehicles are able to exit quickly and safely. Your vehicle must remain parked in the parking lot until the designated time on Sunday.

Health Center

- Troop Leaders and or designated adult are responsible for the medication, first aid and health concerns of each child.
- The camp first aider (Level II, RN or EMT) will be available to provide additional first aid for leaders, parents and campers in case of an emergency.

Meal Times *** Troop Cabin Camping is on their own for all meals during the weekend unless otherwise indicated

** If meal service is provided for your weekend camp:

- Breakfast is served from 7:30-8:30AM, Dinner is served from 5:30-6:30PM.
- Food may be served in a “Buffett or Family Style” as the leader/adult, please try to keep your group together and assist and supervise campers as needed.
- When your troop/group is done eating, please wipe down “bus” your table and scrape your dishes and place items in the proper crate.
- Coffee and tea are for adults only. “Hot” beverages may be provided for campers at a safe temperature

WHAT IF...

THERE IS AN EMERGENCY? Camp Staff will be with you at program areas will direct you to safety.

- At that time please gather all of your entire group (children and adults) and report to the following area:
- 101 Parking lot if you are near Massey Dining Hall or in Massey Cabins
- 101 Parking lot if tent camping in the Meadow
- Tack House if in Wanish or Adoette
- Museum if you are at the lake, pool, archery or A&C

THERE IS A LOST CAMPER?

- If you find a camper, please bring her immediately to the nearest camp staff or the Weekend Director.
- If you lose a camper, please notify the nearest camp staff or the Weekend Director immediately. Your girls should be in the buddy system, so you should be missing 2 girls not just one!

LOST & FOUND (clothing item or equipment)

- Lost and found will be located in the Dining Hall, all items that are left over after the event will be taken to the Girl Scout Center in Irvine and if unclaimed it will be donated.

IF YOU SEE A SNAKE

- DON'T PANIC!! Walk quietly and quickly way and contact camp staff and they will take care of it.
- Remember 2 Q's: QUIETLY AND QUICKLY!!

Camp Packing List

Please be sure to label items with your name.

The following list will help you and your group pack for Camp Scherman. This is a general list and is not meant to be exact for every situation. You and your group need to decide what is appropriate for each of your individual needs.

Throughout the year, it can get very cold at camp, please come prepared to dress in layers depending on the weather. Make sure to bring a warm sleeping bag and extra blanket!!! Camp Scherman can be warm during the day and very cold at night! There have been times it has snowed in June and has been 90° in November

Don't forget dinner on the first night is on your own, feel free to bring dinner or stop on the way up and eat prior to your arrival to camp. **Also bring** a first aid kit for your groups use while at camp and on the road.

Regardless of the weather, be prepared to dress in layers...

If you are interested in purchasing Camp Scherman apparel, items available at www.GirlScoutsOC.org and shop in Irvine. With notification, your order can be delivered to camp for your scheduled weekend camp.

November—April

- T-shirts, long pants (shorts optional)
- Warm sweater or sweatshirt
- Warm jacket
- Hat with a brim
- Gloves, beanie, scarves
- Warm pajamas
- Sturdy sneakers or snow boots
- Thick warm socks, underwear
- Towel, toiletries and soap
- Reusable Water bottle
- DAY PACK—TO CARRY ITEMS DURING THE DAY**
- Warm sleeping bag & extra blanket, no character bags
- Pillow, twin fitted sheet for mattress (optional)
- Flashlight/ headlamp, battery powered lantern only

May—October

- T-shirts, long pants
- Shorts
- Sweatshirt, jacket
- Bathing suit, towel, sunscreen (*pending weather*)
- Hat with a brim
- Warm Pajamas
- Sturdy sneakers or lightweight hiking boots
- Socks, underwear
- Towel, toiletries and soap
- Reusable Water bottle
- DAY PACK—TO CARRY ITEMS DURING THE DAY**
- Warm sleeping bag & extra blanket, no character bags
- Pillow, twin fitted sheet for mattress (optional)
- Flashlight/headlamp, battery powered lantern only

October 1 through May 15

Winter and early spring weekend camps at Camp Scherman can provide various weather patterns, keep that in mind to ensure that you are prepared for those possible sudden changes in weather. Here are a few guidelines to help you and your girls learn the importance of prepared:

If local weather reports indicate approaching storms, either in Orange County or Riverside County, check for conditions at camp (Mountain Center). It may be raining in Orange County but beautiful at Camp Scherman—or the opposite may be true. The established weather and road conditions' hotline from the Highway Patrol for Camp Scherman is (800) 427-7623. The mountain roads leading to Camp Scherman are Highways 74 and 371.

Be prepared—ALWAYS carry snow chains that fit your tires and know how to put them on your car. It is required by the California Highway Patrol that you carry chains in your car between October 1 and May 15.

Camping in inclement weather can provide an excellent learning experience for you and your girls. Make the experience a positive one. Be prepared... Be Flexible... and you will have fun!

If you have any further questions about Camp Scherman, please email: ejohnson@girlscoutsoc.org

Outdoor Cooking and Dishwashing at Camp Scherman

- Create a checklist of what cooking items/supplies will be needed for each meal.
 - Each troop is responsible for bringing all of their own cooking supplies for the weekend camp.
 - All cooking should be done on propane stoves, no charcoal.
 - **SCRAPE DISHES CLEAN INTO TRASH BAGS.** Camp Scherman has no garbage disposals. **DO NOT** put food in sinks or drains. The unit shelters have sinks but you should **NOT** use them for dishwashing. Please use the following "3 bucket" outdoor camping method for dishwashing. You should plan to bring your own dishwashing supplies.
1. RINSE IN BUCKET OF COLD WATER (IF DESIRED - DISH WATER STAYS NICE LONGER).
WASH WELL IN **HOT SOAPY WATER**.
Tongs are useful to "fish" dropped dishes out of hot water.
 2. RINSE IN HOT WATER - DUMP OUT CUPS AND BOWLS
Heat water while you eat...this will help you save time.
 3. RINSE IN BLEACH WATER - USE LAUNDRY BLEACH (ABOUT 1/8 CUP LIQUID).
This disinfects - again dump out cups and bowls.
DISPOSE OF SCREENED DISHWATER IN AN APPROPRIATE PLACE!!! PUT FOOD SCRAPS IN A TRASH BAG.
- Ask somebody if you're not sure where!
 - All trash needs to be tied in bags, and placed in the brown box with yellow string hanging out.
 - DISPOSE OF GREASE IN CONTAINER (CAN, FOIL) - PUT IN TRASH BAG AFTER IT HAS COOLED.

DISHWASHING "NO-NOs:

- **NEVER** IN JUST COLD WATER
- **NEVER** IN WASH TUBS IN BUILDINGS (*THEY ARE FOR WASHING DISHES*)
- **NEVER** IN THE RESTROOM (*YOU KNOW WHAT THAT'S FOR*)
- **NEVER** AT A WATER FAUCET OR DRINKING FOUNTAIN
- **NEVER** IN OUTSIDE SINKS (*THEY ARE ONLY FOR FILLING CONTAINERS WITH WATER*)
- **NEVER** IN A STREAM (*IF A STREAM IS USED AS A WATER SOURCE, DIP OUT WATER NEEDED WITH A CLEAN BUCKET AND WHEN DISHES ARE DONE, DISPOSE OF DIRTY WATER IN A DRAIN HOLE AWAY FROM THE STREAM*)

Equipment Available to Troops

- Enclosed cabins with bunk beds and mattresses which are assigned to Troops
- Bunk beds that sleep 6-12
- Cabins do **NOT** have heat or electricity. Participants will need to bring their own bedding. See suggested packing list.
- Restrooms have flushing toilets, heat and electricity
- Restrooms with flushing toilets, hot water and showers
- Cooking area and shelter to **share** with other troops in the same unit, including:
 - a. Tables and benches
 - b. Electric overhead lighting
 - c. Refrigerator (space is very limited). You can opt to bring an ice chest for most of your food.

Camp Programming (weather permitting)

Camp programming is open to weekend participants. There may be some areas that are designated at certain times for specific programming.

Please do not enter a program areas unless a camp staff is there. Leaders/Adults must accompany all campers to the program areas and help supervise and/or participate in each program area.

Camp Scherman has an open program schedule, which means there is not a set schedule for rotating. Camp staff will create a master schedule Friday evening and this schedule will be ready Saturday AM. Some program areas may be open in the morning only, and some open just in the afternoon, while others will be open all day. Activities will be held on Sunday after breakfast, before Scouts Own.

Pool Swimming	Canoeing	Archery	Low Ropes Course
Songs & games	Nature/museum	Arts & crafts	Climbing Tower (Brownies and Up)
Rock Scrambling	Campfire and skits - enjoy ours or prepare one to share!		

These activities are available for you to enjoy *at any time*, on your own:

Hiking	Stargazing	Troop Time
Trail exploration	Nature activities	Campfire Skit/Song Prep

* Some activity areas are seasonal and may be dependent on staffing availability and weather conditions and only open during certain times of the year.

Driving to Camp Scherman

- Take the 91 East towards Riverside (17.9 miles)
- Take the I-15 South towards San Diego (38.2 miles)
- Take the **second** 79/Temecula Parkway exit to Indio, head East toward Aguanga (17.8 miles)
- Turn left onto the 371 at the stop sign (21 miles)
- Turn left at the 74 (3.9 miles)
- Turn right on Morris Ranch Road
- The gate to Camp Scherman is approx. 3 miles up the road.
- Massey Hall Check In: Turn LEFT at the 4th gate/driveway. Follow “**Training Center**” signs
- Massey Hall Check In: follow the signs down a slight hill, veer left from the parking lot to Massey Hall.
- Camp Staff will be there to check you in

Please note that if you opt for your navigation, the directions will most likely take you through Hemet and a significantly windy route to camp.

Should traffic cause you a considerable delay or if you will be arriving after 8 pm, please call Camp Scherman at **(951) 659-8540**. If no one answers please leave your name, troop number, your location, time of call and phone number. This number is only operational on the weekend and is not regularly monitored.

Troop/Group Evaluation– Troop Cabin Camping

Group/Troop # _____

Participant Name _____

Your opinion on how this weekend went is important to us, please discuss this with your troop/group and help us evaluate and improve future weekend camps. Please let us know how we did on the following:

Activities:

Scheduling:

Camp Staff:

Meals:

Preparation for weekend:

Overall, how satisfied are you with your experience at Camp Scherman this weekend?

Extremely Dissatisfied Dissatisfied A little Dissatisfied A little Satisfied Satisfied Extremely Satisfied

How likely are you to recommend Camp Scherman Weekend camp?

Not at all likely

Extremely likely

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Please tell us why you would or would not recommend Camp Scherman Weekend camp?

Can we contact you regarding your experience at Camp Scherman?

Email _____

Thank You!